



Ashti Taluka Shikshan Prasarak Mandal's
Adv. B. D. Hambarde Mahavidyalaya Ashti

Community Engagement & Outreach Policy

Aims:

- Excellence in higher education
- Empowerment through knowledge
- Inclusive Growth for socio- Economic change
- To empower students with relevant knowledge
- To achieve innovation in teaching, learning and research
- To facilitate optimum use of human and natural resources
- To create awareness on human right and value system

Objectives:

- To improve personality of the student
- To inculcate civic responsibilities and social awareness among students
- To identify and improve the potential in culture, sports and work to uplift them
- To create national integration among the students
- To create professional attitude
- To create social awareness among the students
- To inculcate discipline and moral values
- To pursue the social and democratic values
- To make them aware of national and socio-economic problems
- To inculcate the values of patriotism, humanism, secularism and communal harmony for national integration

Preamble:

The community engagement policy (CEP) of Adv. B. D. Hambarde Mahavidyalaya Ashti is inspired by the vision of the college

- Empowerment through knowledge
- Inclusive Growth for socio- Economic change
- To empower students with relevant knowledge
- To facilitate optimum use of human and natural resources
- To create awareness on human rights and value system

This policy, besides being one of the key instruments of the college to realize its vision and mission, is designed to focus more specifically on the following two missions:

1. To support the learning experiences of students with participative projects and extra-curricular activities, which contribute to the development of their social consciousness, empathy and interpersonal communication and relationship skills
2. To be conscious of the social responsibilities towards the rural and semi urban communities in the surrounding and for meeting the higher education aspirations and needs of the girl students of the region

This policy is also integral to the setting of 'NSS Unit, the functional mechanism of the Our College, which would be responsible for implementing this policy. It also recognizes the need for providing an integrated organizational structure for coordinating all activities of the college aimed at community outreach and engagement. In view of this, the community engagement policy of the college also embraces the motto and objectives of the National Service Scheme (NSS) of the Govt. of India.

Global Context:

Around the world, HEIs are being encouraged to foster social responsibility and community engagement in their teaching and research activities over the past decade. The declaration from the second UNESCO Conference on Higher Education held in Paris in July 2009 stated explicitly that, 'Higher education has the social responsibility to advance our understanding of multifaceted issues and our ability to respond them through its core missions of teaching, research and service, it should lead society in generating global knowledge to address global challenges, inter alia, food security, climate change, water management, intercultural dialogue, renewable energy and public health.

Objectives of the Community Engagement Policy:

1. To enable the students to understand themselves in relation to the community and imbibe social values as well as to develop a sense of social and civic responsibility;
2. To create opportunities for the students to understand the community and develop sensitivities towards community issues such as gender disparities, social inequity, ecological sustainability, etc.
3. To assist the students in identifying the needs and problems of the community and learning to work with them in problem solving processes;
4. To generate and utilize the knowledge as well as the societal concerns of the students in finding practical solutions to individual and community problems;
5. To develop the competence of students for group living, team work, sharing of responsibilities, and mobilizing community participation;
6. To inculcate leadership qualities and instil democratic values among the students and enable them to live as good citizens who contribute to national integration and social harmony;
7. To enhance the preparedness and skills of the students to assist the community in times of emergency and natural disasters;
8. To establish the broad principles for planning, implementing, monitoring and evaluating community engagement and outreach activities and institute processes and strategies for their success;
9. To set up and streamline mechanisms/structures for promoting, coordinating, monitoring and improving the community engagement and outreach activities of the college;
10. To integrate curriculum-based community engagement with teaching, learning and research activities and create extended learning opportunities for students by understanding the problems of others, doing actual help and learning from such experiences;
11. To enter into sustainable co-operative partnerships with beneficiary communities and collaborative arrangements with governmental agencies and non-governmental organizations to improve the outcomes and enrich the learning opportunities;
12. To drive the Institutional Social Responsibility of the college and regulate the community engagement and outreach activities of the college for its fulfillment

Implementation Mechanism

Community Engagement and Outreach Cell of the college will be the internal institutional mechanism for planning, guiding and monitoring the Community Engagement and outreach activities of the college, including those of Sankalp project, NSS and Society for Institutional Social Responsibilities. Community engagement will include all extension activities arising out of different course curricula. Outreach is defined to be all other voluntary community services, which are not the part of the curriculum.

Community Engagement and Outreach Cell will have the following composition

- Principal – Chairperson
- Coordinator – Member Secretary
- NSS Coordinator – Member
- Coordinator, Society for Institutional Social Responsibility - Member
- Two teachers – Members
- NGO representative - Member
- Two student representatives - Members

Community Engagement and Outreach Cell may be expanded with the inclusion of more members as necessary. It may also set up and promote 'Action Groups' for managing specific projects/activities.

Learning Outcomes:

- Gain an understanding of rural life, culture and social realities
- Develop a sense of empathy and bonds of mutuality with local community
- Appreciate significant contributions of local communities to Indian society and economy
- Learn to value the local knowledge and wisdom of the community
- Identify opportunities for contributing to community's socio-economic improvements

References:

1. <http://www.naac.gov.in/docs/Best%20Practices/Best%20Practise%20in%20Community%20Engagement.pdf>
2. http://www.bhagininiveditacollege.in/page.php?page_id=155
3. Fostering Social Responsibility & Community Engagement in Higher Education Institutions in India



Principal

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