

DISABILITY AND ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES REPORT

Campus Accessibility Features and Support Services for People with Disabilities

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Introduction

In line with Saudi Vision 2030, which promotes an inclusive society and an improved quality of life for all, Alfaisal University is committed to ensuring that its campus is fully accessible and welcoming to People with Disabilities (PwD). The university recognises that accessibility is a fundamental right — one that enables every member of the university community to participate fully in academic, professional, and social life without barriers.

The Alfaisal University campus was purposefully designed and built to provide unhindered access to a wide range of facilities. The university has implemented comprehensive physical accessibility infrastructure across its buildings and outdoor spaces, and continues to invest in new technologies that remove barriers for PwD. This includes Braille-enabled elevators for visually impaired users and smart sensor-equipped water faucets that eliminate the need for manual buttons.

This report, prepared by the Sustainability and Strategic Planning Office in collaboration with the Facility Department, provides a comprehensive overview of the accessibility services and facilities currently available at Alfaisal University. It covers physical infrastructure, assistive technologies, and academic and administrative support, and situates these efforts within the framework of Saudi Vision 2030 and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

The primary objectives of the university's disability and accessibility programme include:

- Ensuring equitable physical access to all campus buildings, facilities, and services for PwD.
- Providing assistive technologies and infrastructure that support independence and dignity.
- Offering academic and administrative support that enables PwD to participate fully in university life.
- Promoting a culture of inclusion, respect, and equal opportunity across the entire university community.
- Aligning campus accessibility practices with national and international disability rights frameworks.

1. Physical Accessibility Infrastructure

Alfaisal University has invested in comprehensive physical accessibility infrastructure across its campus, ensuring that People with Disabilities can move freely and safely between all facilities. The following features are currently in place:

Ramps

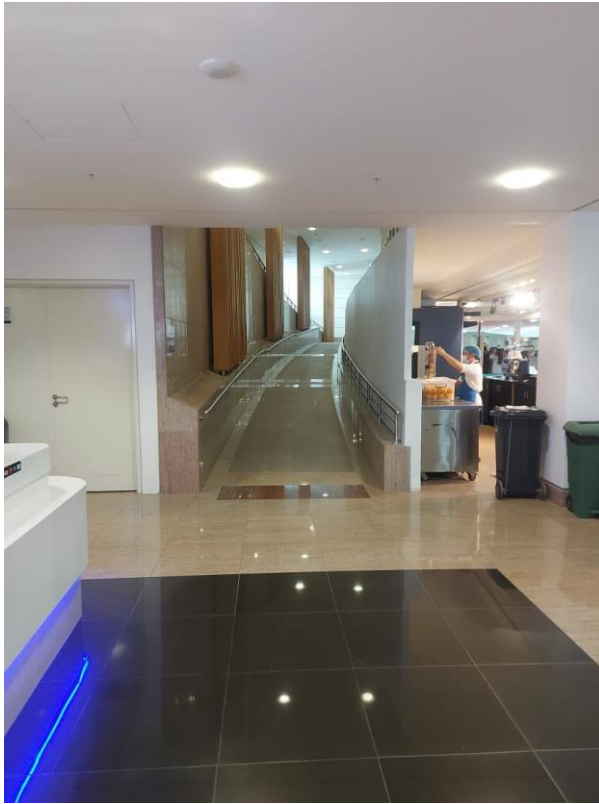
Ramps are built across the campus at key access points to enable PwD to enter buildings and access facilities without obstruction. Ramps are installed at building entrances, connecting walkways, the basement car park, and key service areas including the mosque, clinic, food court, and library.



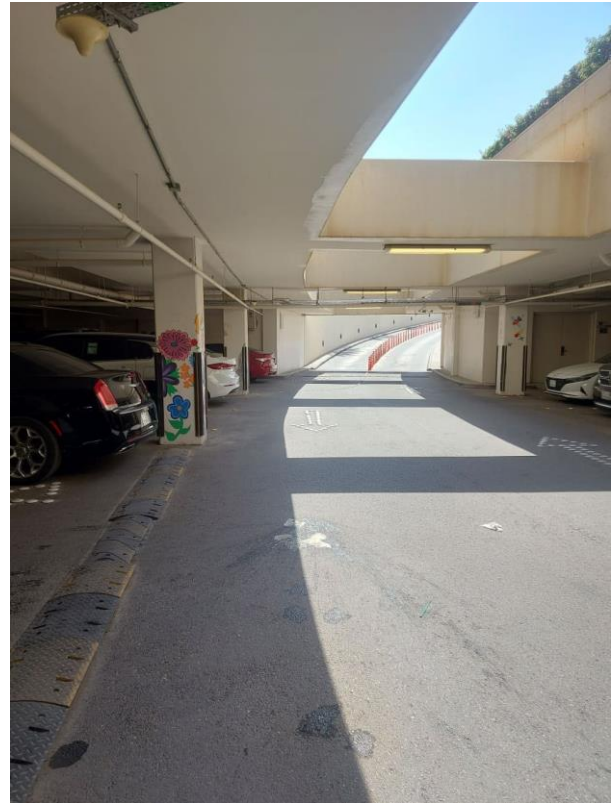
Ramp @ Building's entrance



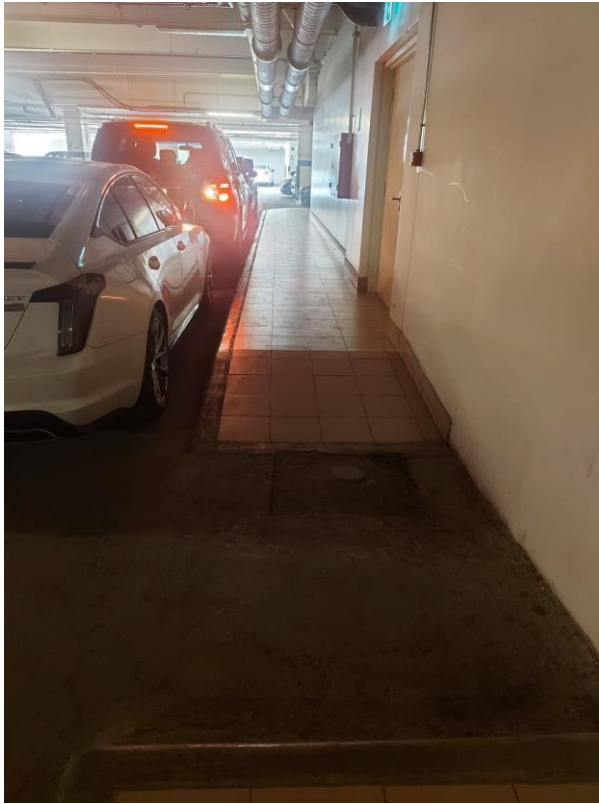
Ramp leading to a building



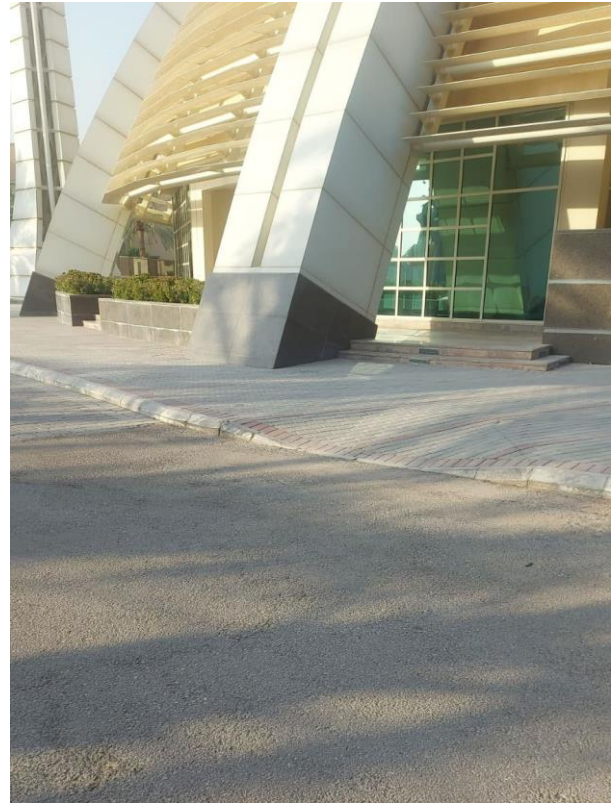
Ramp to go to 1st floor from GF



Ramp going to the Basement carpark



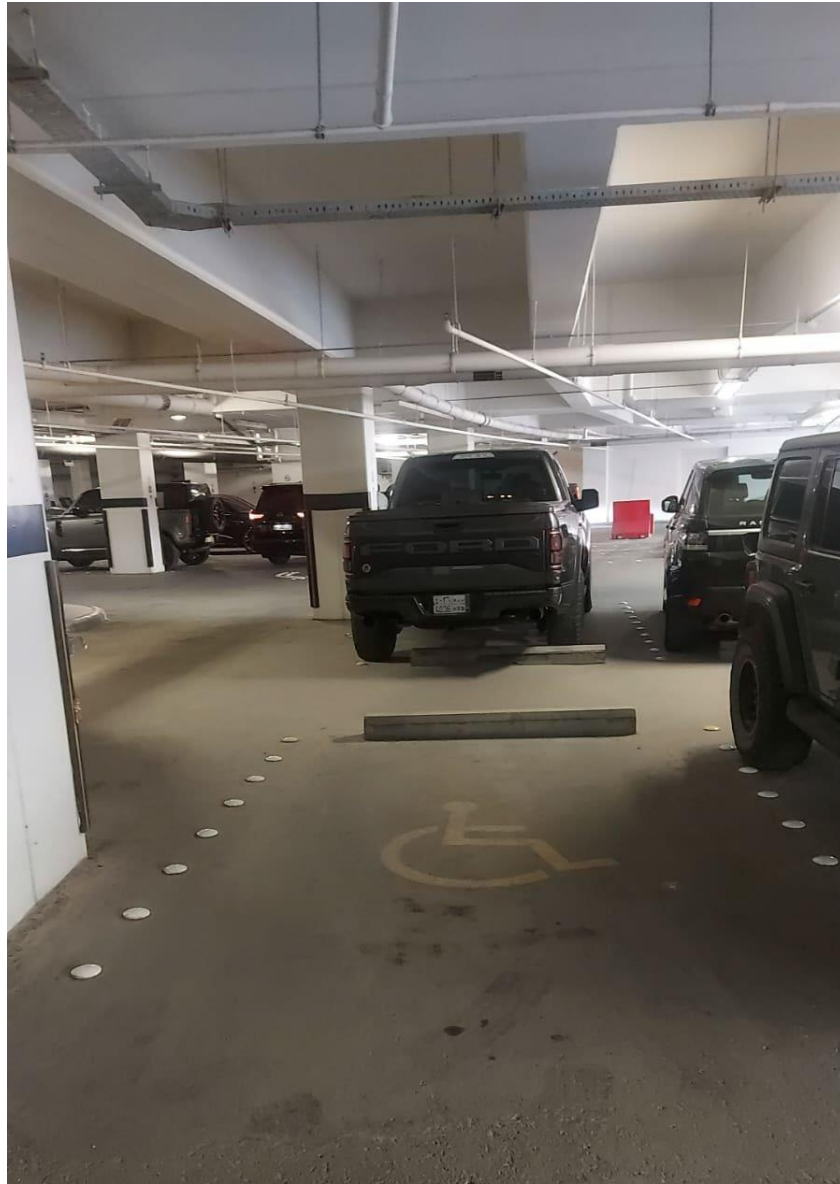
Ramp to be used to go to an elevator in carpark



Ramp going to Mosque and Clinic

Designated Carpark Bays

Designated accessible carpark bays are provided for PwD in both the basement car park and the outdoor surface parking lots. These bays are clearly marked with the international accessibility symbol and positioned in proximity to building entrances to minimise travel distances for users with mobility limitations.



Designated accessible carpark bay in basement

Accessible Toilets and Washrooms

Fully fitted accessible toilets are available across all campus buildings, equipped with appropriate fixtures, grab rails, and sufficient space to accommodate wheelchair users, ensuring that PwD have access to appropriate sanitary facilities in every building on campus.



Fully fitted accessible toilet

Elevators

All elevators across the Alfaisal University campus are suitable for use by People with Disabilities and are sized to accommodate wheelchair users. The elevators provide access between all floors of campus buildings, enabling PwD to reach classrooms, laboratories, offices, libraries, and all other facilities without reliance on stairways.



Elevator suitable for use by PwD

Braille-Enabled Elevators

The university's new elevators have been equipped with Braille-labelled control panels and audio announcements, making them fully accessible to visually impaired users. This enhancement ensures that individuals with visual disabilities can operate the elevators independently and safely, without requiring assistance from others.



Braille-labelled elevator control panel

Smart Sensor-Equipped Water Faucets

All water faucets across campus facilities have been upgraded to smart sensor-operated systems, eliminating the need for manual buttons or handles. This technology is particularly beneficial for individuals with limited hand mobility, dexterity impairments, or upper limb disabilities, enabling them to access running water independently and hygienically.



Smart sensor faucet

Accessible Receptions

Easily accessible reception points are located at various locations across campus, providing PwD with convenient access to administrative support and information services. Reception staff are available to assist PwD in navigating campus services and addressing their specific needs.



Easily accessible reception

Food Court and ATMs

The campus food court and all ATM machines are positioned and designed to be conveniently accessible to PwD. The ground-floor food court layout provides sufficient space for wheelchair manoeuvrability, and ATM machines are installed at accessible heights.



Accessible food court and ATM area

Classrooms, Laboratories, Library, and Clinic

All academic and support facilities — including classrooms, laboratories, the Hassan Abbas Sharbatly e-Library, and the campus clinic — provide unhindered access for PwD. Doorways are free of obstructions, pathways are cleared for wheelchair access, and the library is directly accessible from the elevator without steps or barriers.



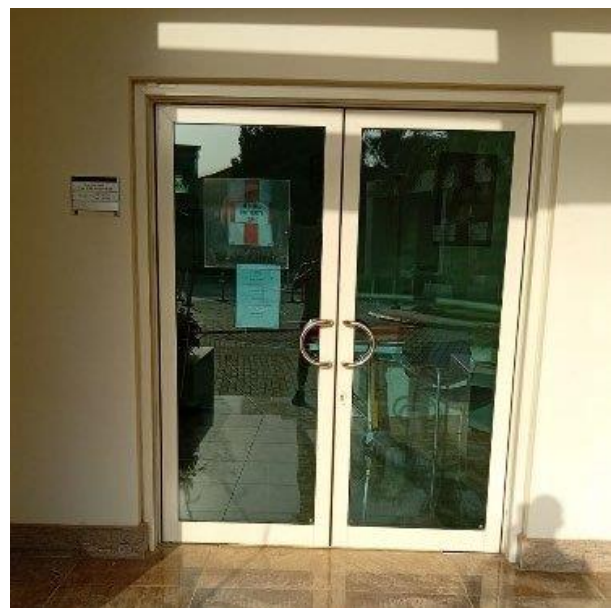
No obstruction @ the door to enter the classrooms



No obstruction @ the door to enter the laboratories



Trouble free access to library from elevator



Clinic entrance

2. Academic and Administrative Support for PwD

Beyond physical infrastructure, Alfaisal University provides a range of academic and administrative services designed to support students and staff with disabilities in their academic journey and day-to-day campus life.

Non-Discrimination Policy

Alfaisal University does not discriminate in admissions, educational programmes, or activities on the basis of disability or any other personal characteristic. The university's Student Harassment and Discrimination Policy explicitly prohibits discrimination and harassment of any form, affirming that every member of the university community has the responsibility to maintain an inclusive and respectful environment.

Counselling and Skills Development

The Counselling and Skills Development Unit (CSDU) provides pastoral and psychological support to students, including those with disabilities. The unit offers individual and group sessions as well as workshops, promoting a welcoming atmosphere conducive to student well-being, personal growth, and psychological health.

King Salman Center for Disability Research — Academic Partnership

Alfaisal University maintains an academic relationship with the King Salman Center for Disability Research, one of the leading scientific institutions in the Arab world dedicated to disability research, rehabilitation, and advocacy. Faculty members of the College of Medicine at Alfaisal University are affiliated with the center, and the university has participated in the International Conference on Disability and Rehabilitation organised by the center. This partnership positions Alfaisal as an active contributor to disability research and policy development at the national level.

Annual Forum for Families of People with Disabilities

Alfaisal University has participated in the annual forum for families of people with disabilities, which focuses on the integration of educational institutions and civil society organisations that support individuals with disabilities. The fourth forum, under the theme 'Comprehensive Quality Education for All — An Ambitious National Vision,' directly addressed the role universities play in ensuring inclusive and equitable access to education for PwD.

3. Alignment with Sustainability and Saudi Vision 2030

Alfaisal University's disability and accessibility services align with the objectives of Saudi Vision 2030 and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, reinforcing the university's commitment to an inclusive, equitable, and barrier-free campus environment. The table below summarises this alignment:

Framework	Contribution
SDG 3 – Good Health and Well-being	Supports the health and well-being of PwD through accessible clinic services, accessible washrooms, and counselling support.
SDG 4 – Quality Education	Ensures that students with disabilities have unhindered access to classrooms, libraries, laboratories, and academic support services.
SDG 10 – Reduced Inequalities	Reduces inequality by providing accessible infrastructure, assistive technology, and equal opportunity policies for PwD.
SDG 11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities	Contributes to an inclusive and accessible built environment through ramps, accessible parking, elevators, and Braille systems.
Saudi Vision 2030 – Quality of Life	Enhances the quality of life for PwD by ensuring equal access to education, services, and campus facilities.
Saudi Vision 2030 – Inclusive Society	Promotes social inclusion by removing physical, sensory, and administrative barriers for individuals with disabilities.
Saudi Disability Rights Framework	Aligns with national obligations to guarantee the rights of PwD to access education, public services, and built environments.

4. Conclusion

Alfaisal University is committed to providing a fully accessible, inclusive, and barrier-free campus environment for all People with Disabilities. The university has put in place a comprehensive range of physical infrastructure — including ramps at all key access points, designated parking bays, accessible toilets, PwD-suitable elevators, Braille-enabled elevator panels, and smart sensor faucets — that together ensure independent and dignified access to all campus facilities.

Beyond physical infrastructure, the university provides academic and administrative support through its non-discrimination policies, counselling unit, and active partnerships with national disability research institutions.

Through these services, Alfaisal University reinforces its commitment to the principles of Saudi Vision 2030 and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals — particularly those relating to quality education, reduced inequalities, and inclusive communities. The university will continue to invest in and expand its accessibility provisions, ensuring that every member of its community has an equal opportunity to learn, work, and thrive.