Regis College Customer Service Policy

<u>Customer Service Policy Statement:</u> <u>Providing Services to People with Disabilities</u>

1. Our mission

Inspired by the charism of St. Ignatius of Loyola and faithful to the Roman Catholic tradition, Regis College serves women and men called to minister to people of many faiths and cultures. Our community seeks: an integrated spirituality; a faith that does justice; critical dialogue and academic excellence.

2. Our commitment

In fulfilling our mission, Regis College seeks at all times to provide its services in a way that respects the dignity and independence of people with disabilities. We are also committed to giving people with disabilities the same opportunity to access our services and allowing them to benefit from the same services, in the same place and in a similar way as other customers.

3. Providing goods and services to people with disabilities

Regis College is committed to excellence in serving all customers (generally students and visitors) including people with disabilities and we will carry out our functions and responsibilities in the following areas:

3.1 Communication

We will communicate with people with disabilities in ways that take into account their disability.

We will train staff who communicate with customers on how to interact and communicate with people with various types of disabilities.

3.2 Telephone services

We are committed to providing fully accessible telephone service to our customers. We will train staff to communicate with customers over the telephone in clear and plain language and to speak clearly and slowly.

We will offer to communicate with customers by mail, email or FAX if telephone communication is not suitable to their communication needs or is not available.

3.3 Assistive devices

We are committed to serving people with disabilities who use assistive devices to obtain, use or benefit from our services. We will ensure that our faculty and staff are familiar with various assistive devices that may be used by customers with disabilities while accessing our goods or services.

3.4 Billing

We are committed to providing accessible invoices to all of our customers. For this reason, invoices will be provided in the following formats upon request: hard copy, large print, and email.

We will answer any questions customers may have about the content of the invoice in person, by telephone or email.

3.5 Classrooms are outfitted with projectors, amplifiers, and wireless for computers.

4. Use of service animals and support persons

We are committed to welcoming people with disabilities who are accompanied by a service animal on the parts of our premises that are open to the public and other third parties. We will also ensure that all faculty, staff, volunteers and others dealing with the public are properly trained in how to interact with people with disabilities who are accompanied by a service animal.

We are committed to welcoming people with disabilities who are accompanied by a support person. Any person with a disability who is accompanied by a support person will be allowed to enter Regis College's premises with his or her support person. At no time will a person with a disability who is accompanied by a support person be prevented from having access to his or her support person while on our premises.

Fees will not be charged for support persons for admission to Regis College's premises.

5. Notice of temporary disruption

Regis college will provide customers with notice in the event of a planned or unexpected disruption in the facilities or services usually used by people with disabilities. This notice will include information about the reason for the

disruption, its anticipated duration, and a description of alternative facilities or services, if available.

The notice will be placed at all public entrances and service counters on our premises.

6. Training for staff

Regis College will provide training to all employees, volunteers and others who deal with the public or other third parties on their behalf, and all those who are involved in the development and approvals of customer service policies, practices and procedures. Individuals in the following positions will be trained:

- Faculty
- Staff
- volunteers

This training will be provided in the first month after faculty or staff commence their duties.

Training will include the following:

- The purposes of the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act,
 2005 and the requirements of the customer service standard
- How to interact and communicate with people with various types of disabilities
- How to interact with people with disabilities who use an assistive device or require the assistance of a service animal or a support person
- What to do if a person with a disability is having difficulty in accessing Regis's services
- Regis's policies, practices and procedures relating to the customer service standard.

Applicable faculty and staff will be trained on policies, practices and procedures that affect the way services are provided to people with disabilities. Faculty and staff will also be trained on an ongoing basis when changes are made to these policies, practices and procedures.

7. Feedback process

The ultimate goal of Regis College is to meet and surpass customer expectations while serving customers with disabilities. Comments on our services regarding how well those expectations are being met are welcome and appreciated.

Feedback regarding the way Regis College provides goods and services to people with disabilities can be made verbally or by the suggestion box in the Student Lounge. All feedback should be directed to The Dean of Students. Customers can expect to hear back in a fortnight.

8. Modifications to this or other policies

We are committed to developing customer service policies that respect and promote the dignity and independence of people with disabilities. Therefore, no changes will be made to this policy before considering the impact on people with disabilities.

Any policy of Regis College that does not respect and promote the dignity and independence of people with disabilities will be modified or removed.

9. Questions about this policy

This policy exists to achieve service excellence to customers with disabilities. If anyone has a question about the policy, or if the purpose of a policy is not understood, an explanation should be provided by, or referred to the Dean of Students of Regis College.

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