# Barrier-free environment for educational institutions

## **Barrier-free or universal environment**

- **Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities on a barrier-free environment:**
- it is an environment that allows all people, including people with disabilities, to use the surrounding space regardless of any help;
- it is an opportunity for people with disabilities to participate in the social, industrial, cultural and sports spheres of the country's life;
- to get a decent education and skilled work, to have a full and eventful life

#### **Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities** (Article 9, Accessibility)

•should provide people with disabilities with the opportunity to have an independent lifestyle and fully participate in all aspects of life and the development of society

•The National Action Plan for the implementation in Belarus of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities for 2017-2025 is called upon to take appropriate measures to ensure that persons with disabilities have access to all aspects of society on an equal base with others, as well as to identify and remove obstacles and barriers interfering with accessibility

# **Barrier-free environment is:**

•architectural accessibility: ramps, low sills, wide doors, specially marked walkways;

•universal design of rooms: handrails and supports, wide doors and elevators, signs and signs;

#### psychological atmosphere:

>absence of over-protection and emphasis on restriction,

understanding and acceptance

>assistance upon request

communication parity (at eye level of a person with a disability)

#### **Barrier-free environment assessment**

For this, special **criteria of accessibility and safety** (architectural, informational, material, psychological, etc.) are used. **assessment system** - level of equipment facility

## Criteria for a barrier-free environment

	Criteria	mark
1	Parking places (their marking)	
2	Ramps outside the building	
3	Ramps in the building	
4	Handrails	
5	Low curbs or absence of curbs	
6	Gentle slopes	
7	Special tracks	
8	Door width	
9	Absence of door sills	
10	Service lift	
11	Accessible building navigation (labels and signs)	
12	Accessibility of public places inside the building (toilet, cafe / buffet)	
13	Safety of public places around the building (fences, warnings)	
14	Personnel attentive to the needs of people with disabilities	

#### **Criteria Evaluation System**

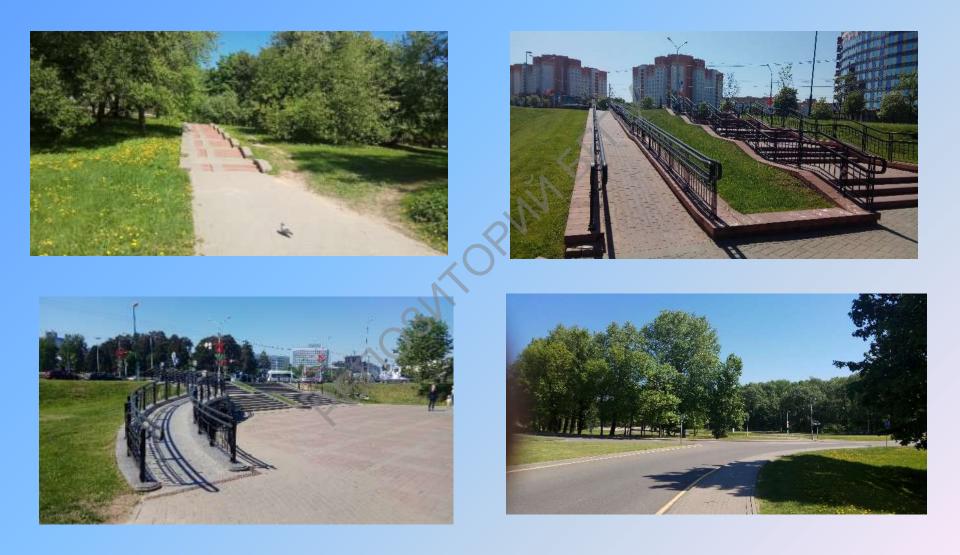
point	criterion indicator
0	not expressed or absent
1	presented in fragments or to a minimum
2	minimal but noticeable
3	does not meet the requirements of the accessibility standard
4	has some minor flaws
5	meets all requirements of a barrier-free environment

high - 70 to 56 points; average - from 55 to 28 points; low - below 27 points.

#### An example of a competent barrier-free urban environment



#### An example of a competent barrier-free urban environment



## The barrier-free environment at school is:

- •not only ramps and handrails;
- not only the availability of classes, corridors and other rooms;
- not only a special regime of learning, nutrition and rest;
- understanding by adults of the problems of a child with a disability;
- acceptance by children surrounding a child with a disability of his problems and hopes;
- •overall friendly and tolerant background throughout the school: from doorstep to class.

# **EXAMPLE OF A BARRIER-FREE ENVIRONMENT AT SCHOOL**

#### **Ramp options outside and inside the building**



## Handrail Options



## Lift Options





### Track and navigator for the visually impaired and blind



## "Adaptive" school desk



## Symbols in school navigation



# **Information sources**

On the state program for creating a barrier-free environment for the life of physically weakened people for 2011 - 2015: Resolution of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus. Belarus November 1, 2010 N 1602 (as amended on 09.07.2011 N 936, dated 04.09.2014 N 864) [Electronic resource] / Mintrud.gov.by. - URL:

http://www.mintrud.gov.by/system/extensions/spaw/uploads/files/Progra mma-po-sozdaniju-bezbarjernoj-sredy-1.pdf. (Date of treatment: 02.02.2019).

 Declaration on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, adopted by General Assembly resolution 3447 of December 9, 1975 [Electronic resource] / URL: http://www.un.org/en/documents/ods.asp?m=A/RES (accessed: 12.02 .2019).

 National Action Plan for the implementation in Belarus of the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities for 2017 - 2025 [Electronic resource] / Government.by. - URL: http://www.government.by/upload/docs/file6550643e5a4dcc7d.PDF. (Date of treatment: 02.02.2019).

# THANKS FOR ATTENTION!

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