Information for exam participants with special needs

The Goethe Institutes and examination cooperation partners endeavour to address the special needs of impaired or (severely) disabled exam participants and their specific needs individually. Modifications of the exam administration are currently possible for:

- visually-impaired or blind exam participants;
- hearing-impaired or deaf exam participants;
- exam participants with permanent or temporary motor disabilities (e.g. arm or hand used for writing is broken);
- exam participants with reading disabilities and/or difficulties spelling (dyslexia);
- exam participants with attention deficit disorder/attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADD/ADHD);
- exam participants with speech disorders (e.g. stuttering).

Accessible exam material

For blind exam participants, the Goethe-Institut provides a printed set of exam documents in Braille for every examination level (A1 to C2). In addition, the sets of exam documents can also be provided as PDF documents for use with braille lines on computers.

For visually-impaired exam participants, the set of exam documents can be provided in the appropriate enlarged print version (i.e. enlarged font). In addition, for every exam, a version can be made available on the computer which can be used with a braille line or screen reader. Exam participants bring a laptop equipped with the required software and hardware on the exam date.

For deaf exam participants, the Listening section is available in sign language. The Goethe-Institut provides lip-reading videos for hearing-impaired exam participants.

We strive to find individual solutions for all further types of impairment or severe disability not listed above.

Accessible exam training

For practice purposes, certified accessible sample sets are available on the Internet for every examination level. These sample sets are interactive, which means that participants can access the evaluation immediately.

For visually-impaired people interested in taking exams, the accessible sample sets offer an ideal training option, as the font can be adjusted to the size required for the participant’s specific needs without losing formatted specifications. The display is customised and can be adjusted for every monitor (“stretchable”). Those interested in exams can call up the texts and program navigation of the online versions via the screen reader (e.g. JAWS) or read them in via the braille line.
The Listening section is also made accessible to deaf or hearing-impaired interested parties in sign language and lip-reading video format.

The accessible training offering features standard-compliant colour contrasts in accordance with the Accessible Information Technology Ordinance (BITV) and display options without style sheets. Of course, the program can be navigated solely using the keyboard and independently of the mouse, which is important in particular for disabled interested parties or those with motor disabilities.

The programme is rounded off by an automatic evaluation, which allows all trainees to have immediate access to the points achieved.

By the way, the exam training can also be used on any Internet-enabled mobile phone!

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