

Rehabilitation Council of India Act



Rehabilitation Council of India

Proposed Amendments in RCI Act 1992

Preamble

- Act with amendment 2000
- An act to provide for the constitution of the rehabilitation council of India for regulating the training of rehabilitation professionals and monitoring the training of rehabilitation professionals and personnel, promoting research in rehabilitation and special education and the maintenance of a central rehabilitation. Register and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

For change

- Insert 'development' before regulating
- Substitute special education for 'education of persons with disability'
- Include 'habilitation' along with rehabilitation.
- Include "early intervention" alongwith rehabilitation

What is the Rehabilitation Council of India Act?

The Rehabilitation Council of India Act was meant to regulate the training of rehabilitation professionals in India, who work with persons with disabilities. In 2000, the Act was amended to increase the scope to include monitoring of the training of rehabilitation professionals and to promote research in special education and rehabilitation.

Who is a rehabilitation professional as per this Act?

- Audiologists and Speech Therapists
- Clinical Psychologists
- Hearing and Ear Mould Technicians
- Rehabilitation Engineers and Technicians
- Special Teachers for Educating and Training persons with disabilities
- Vocational Counsellors, Employment Officers and Placement Officers
- Multi-purpose Rehabilitation Therapists, Technicians
- Speech Pathologists

What constitutes the Rehabilitation Council of India?

The Rehabilitation Council of India is headed by a Chairperson with experience in the field of social work or rehabilitation as appointed by the Central Government. It also has a wide membership of Central Government representatives of the Ministries of Health, Welfare and Finance, civil society representatives, the University Grants Commission, the Indian Council for Medical Research, members of Parliament, and the State Governments.

What are the functions of the Council?

- The Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI) approves of any university qualification pertaining to rehabilitation professionals. As and when any establishment makes a representation to the Central Government for recognition of any qualification, the Council shall be consulted on the matter
- The RCI may also enter into negotiations with other countries for reciprocal recognition of the respective qualifications offered by them
- The RCI can appoint inspectors and visitors to conduct inspections of the institutions and universities where training of rehabilitation professionals take place for the purpose of advising the Central Government on certification or ensuring the quality of the same
- The RCI can withdraw recognition if they are of the opinion that the quality of education does not match up to standards
- The RCI can prescribe minimum quality standards of education, as also the standards of professional conduct, etiquette and code of conduct for rehabilitation professionals

Summary

- Audiologists and speech therapists
- Clinical psychologists
- Hearing aid and ear mould technicians
- Special educators
- Vocational counselors, employment officers and placement officers working with persons with disability
- Multi-purpose rehabilitation therapists, technicians or

- Other categories of professionals that the Central government may include in consultation with the Council
- The main aims of the Rehabilitation Council of India are:
- To regulate training policies and programs in the field of disability rehabilitation.
- To standardize training courses for professionals working with people with disabilities.
- To prescribe minimum standards of education and training of various categories of professionals working with people with disabilities.
- To recognize institutions/universities running degree/diploma/certificate courses in the field of disability rehabilitation.
- To recognize foreign degree/diploma/certificates awarded by universities/institutions on a reciprocal basis.
- To maintain a Central Rehabilitation Register of Institutions possessing the recognized rehabilitation qualification.