

Hearing-impaired medical student gets 'special stethoscope'

Because of the fact that the hearing-impaired medical student Temen at the Medical Faculty of Trakya University cannot auscultate patients due to his hearing aid, he received a special stethoscope from U.S.A.

Hearing-impaired medical student Alpaslan Temen at the Medical Faculty of Trakya University who cannot auscultate patients due to his hearing aid, got a special stethoscope from U.S.A thanks to Sabancı Foundation (Cihan Demirci - Anatolia Agency)

EDİRNE - CİHAN DEMİRCİ (The name of the correspondent is Cihan Demirci and the interview with Alpaslan Temen was made in Edirne. It is a city in Turkey.)

Senior student Alpaslan Temen at the Medical Faculty of Trakya University, who was told to change the faculty because of being hearing-impaired, overcame the problem of 'auscultating patients' by a special stethoscope brought by Sabancı Foundation from abroad.

Temen told the correspondent of AA that his teacher noticed his hearing impairment when he was in the second grade of primary school. Since then, he has been using a hearing aid and he entered the university admission exam with the hearing aid.

He said that although he showed a medical report for his impairment, one supervisor in the exam kept a report for the usage of hearing aid and his exam was cancelled. He added that:

"While I should have been among the first 10,000 examinees, I was the 56,000th. I got zero score in the math exam; my exam was cancelled. It was distressing for a young person who lived and breathed with the dream of becoming a university and medical student. I didn't give up and demanded justice. We brought a lawsuit claiming that all other lessons should also be cancelled due to the fact that I entered all exams with a hearing aid or that the math exam should not be cancelled. In the upcoming days, although I won the case, I preferred to re-enter the university admission exam.

I took the exam in the special class for disabled people and when the results came, I learned that I was among the first 7,000 examinees. Meanwhile, they called me from Sabancı Foundation and I learned that I was the first examinee among the disabled people in Turkey. Under the sponsorship of Sabancı Foundation, I continue my education at the Medical Faculty of Trakya University. While everything was quite good, I noticed that as a medical student at the start of my education, I could not use a stethoscope with my hearing aid. I was very upset at the thought that I could not treat patients when I began my career. Because the stethoscope cannot be used along with the hearing aid."

Temen also added that upon his advice, a friend with the same impairment got an electronic stethoscope from the U.S.A. thanks to Trakya University.