



Student Safety Policy

Sumgayit State University

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1. Purpose and Principles

Sumgayit State University is committed to providing a **safe, secure, and supportive learning environment** for all students.

The purpose of this policy is to ensure the protection of students from **physical, emotional, and digital harm** while promoting a healthy academic environment that supports personal well-being and academic success.

This policy establishes principles and procedures for:

- preventing safety risks and hazards
- protecting students' physical and psychological well-being
- responding effectively to emergencies and safety concerns
- supporting students affected by safety incidents.

The University recognizes that student safety is a **shared responsibility** among university leadership, staff, and students.

2. Legal and Institutional Framework

This policy is implemented in accordance with:

- the Constitution of the Republic of Azerbaijan
- the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan on Education
- national regulations related to student welfare and safety
- the Charter and internal regulations of Sumgayit State University.

This policy also complements other University policies, including:

- **Anti-Harassment Policy**
- **Anti-Discrimination Policy**
- **Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Policy**
- **Inclusive Education and Accessibility Policy Framework**
- **Disability Accommodation Policy**
- **Policy on Ethical Values.**

These policies collectively support a **safe and inclusive university environment**.

3. Scope of the Policy

This policy applies to:

- all students enrolled at Sumgayit State University
- university premises including classrooms, laboratories, dormitories, libraries, and recreational facilities
- university-organized events and activities conducted on or off campus
- university digital platforms and online learning environments.

The policy also applies to student interactions with university services, facilities, and systems.

4. Key Principles of Student Safety

The University's approach to student safety is guided by the following principles.

Prevention

The University actively identifies and mitigates risks to prevent safety incidents before they occur.

Inclusivity

All students are treated equally and respectfully regardless of gender, race, nationality, religion, disability, or other personal characteristics.

Transparency

Safety procedures, emergency protocols, and reporting systems are clearly communicated to students and staff.

Responsiveness

The University responds promptly and effectively to safety concerns, incidents, or emergencies.

Confidentiality

All safety-related concerns and reports are handled with respect for privacy and confidentiality.

5. Campus Safety Measures

The University implements a comprehensive system to ensure the safety of students on campus.

Physical Security

The University maintains a secure campus environment through:

- trained security personnel available across campus
- surveillance systems monitoring public spaces
- controlled access to buildings and restricted areas
- identification systems for authorized entry.

Emergency Infrastructure

University buildings are equipped with:

- clearly marked emergency exits
- fire safety equipment
- evacuation plans and safety signage.

Facilities are regularly inspected and maintained to comply with national safety standards.

6. Health, Well-Being and Psychological Support

Student well-being is an important component of campus safety.

Medical Support

The University provides:

- first aid facilities on campus
- access to medical assistance
- cooperation with local healthcare providers.

Hygiene and Public Health

Regular sanitation and hygiene measures are implemented across campus facilities.

Health protocols may be introduced during public health emergencies to prevent the spread of communicable diseases.

Psychological Support

The University provides counseling and mental health support services for students experiencing:

- stress or anxiety
 - emotional challenges
 - academic pressure or personal difficulties.
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7. Digital and Online Safety

The University recognizes the importance of safety in digital learning environments.

Measures to ensure digital safety include:

- protection of student data and personal information
- secure university digital platforms
- prevention and response to cyberbullying or online harassment
- education on safe digital practices and cybersecurity threats.

Digital safety measures align with university policies addressing **harassment, discrimination, and ethical behavior online**.

8. Off-Campus and Field Activity Safety

The University recognizes that student safety extends beyond campus.

Field Trips and Academic Activities

All university-organized off-campus activities must include:

- risk assessments
- supervision by authorized university staff
- appropriate safety measures.

Online Learning

Virtual learning environments must follow security standards that protect students from unauthorized access and misuse of digital systems.

9. Student Responsibilities

Students play an important role in maintaining a safe campus environment.

Students are expected to:

- comply with university safety rules and procedures
- report unsafe conditions or incidents promptly
- participate in safety training and emergency drills
- respect the safety and well-being of others

- use university facilities and digital platforms responsibly.

Failure to comply with safety regulations may result in disciplinary measures under the University's **Student Code of Conduct and internal regulations**.

10. Reporting and Support Mechanisms

The University provides accessible and confidential mechanisms for reporting safety concerns.

Students may report safety incidents through:

- campus security services
- university administrative offices
- confidential reporting systems
- counseling or student support services.

Students affected by safety incidents may receive:

- counseling and psychological support
 - guidance and assistance from university services
 - referrals to relevant external support organizations when necessary.
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11. Institutional Responsibilities and Governance

The implementation of this policy involves multiple university units.

University Administration

University leadership is responsible for:

- ensuring institutional commitment to student safety
- allocating resources for safety initiatives
- supporting campus safety infrastructure.

Security and Facilities Units

Responsible for:

- campus security operations
- emergency preparedness
- maintenance of safety equipment and infrastructure.

Student Affairs and Support Services

Responsible for:

- student welfare programs
- counseling services
- responding to safety concerns affecting students.

12. Monitoring and Continuous Improvement

The University regularly evaluates safety practices to ensure continuous improvement.

Monitoring activities include:

- review of safety incidents and responses
- feedback from students and staff
- evaluation of campus safety systems
- periodic policy reviews.

These measures ensure that student safety policies remain effective and responsive to emerging risks.

13. Policy Authority and Review

This policy is approved by the governing bodies of Sumgayit State University.

The policy will be reviewed periodically to ensure alignment with:

- national legislation
- international safety standards
- institutional strategic priorities.