

DPU

Dr. D. Y. PATIL VIDYAPEETH, PIMPRI, PUNE

(Deemed to be University)

(Accredited (3rd Cycle) by NAAC with a CGPA of 3.64 on four point scale at 'A++' Grade)

(Declared as Category - I University by UGC Under Graded Autonomy Regulations, 2018)

(An ISO 9001:2015, ISO 14001:2015 Certified University)

Food Policy Zero Hunger



March 2024

NOTIFICATION

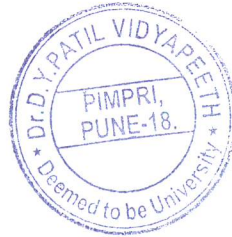
In pursuance of the resolution passed by the **Academic Council** at its meeting held on **15th March, 2024** vide **Resolution No. AC-14 (xi)-24** and by the **Executive Council** at its meeting held on **22nd March 2024** vide **Resolution No. EC-14(xi) -24**.

It is hereby notified for the information of all concerned that Dr. D. Y. Patil Vidyapeeth, Pune has published "**Food Policy Zero Hunger**" for the staff of the Vidyapeeth.

This Policy comprises of the following parts:

1. Introduction
2. Vision
3. Mission
4. Policy Statement
5. Implementation Guidelines
6. Assessment Mechanism

The "**Food Policy Zero Hunger**" will serve as a detailed guideline and will be useful to all concerned. This will come into force with immediate effect.




(Dr. Narendra M. Kadu)
Registrar

Copy to;

1. P.S. to Chancellor for the Kind information of Hon'ble Chancellor, Dr. D. Y. Patil Vidyapeeth Pune.
2. P.S. to Vice Chancellor for the Kind information of Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Dr. D.Y. Patil Vidyapeeth, Pune.
3. P.S. to Pro Vice Chancellor for the Kind information of Hon'ble Pro Vice Chancellor, Dr. D.Y. Patil Vidyapeeth, Pune.
4. Director (IQAC), Dr. D.Y. Patil Vidyapeeth, Pune.
5. Director (Administration: Quality Assurance, Faculty Development & Research), Dr. D. Y. Patil Vidyapeeth, Pune
6. Director (Research), Dr. D.Y. Patil Vidyapeeth, Pune.
7. Controller of Examinations, Dr. D.Y. Patil Vidyapeeth, Pune.
8. Finance Officer, Dr. D.Y. Patil Vidyapeeth, Pune.
9. All the Heads of the Colleges / Institutes of DPU
10. Webmaster for uploading on DPU website.

Encl: As above

FOOD POLICY ZERO HUNGER FOR DPU

WHEREAS, Dr. D. Y. Patil Vidyapeeth, Pune popularly known as ‘DPU’, managed by **Dr. D.Y Patil Vidyapeeth Society, Pune**, was declared as “Deemed-to-be University, **under section 3 of UGC Act 1956** in 2003. To start with, there was one constituent college i.e., Dr. D.Y Patil Medical College, Hospital and Research Centre, Pune. Later, a few more constituent colleges were established and/or brought under the ambit of the DPU.

AND WHEREAS today the Vidyapeeth has 14 constituent institutions under its umbrella. All the institutions have the approval / recognition of the relevant statutory bodies to offer UG, PG Degree/Diploma, Super-specialty and Ph.D. programmes in relevant and emerging disciplines, specializations, and super specializations.

AND WHEREAS the primary legislation for food safety in India is the Food Safety and Standards Act of 2006. This act established the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), which is responsible for setting science-based guidelines for food production, distribution, retailing, and consumption.

AND WHEREAS, as per the provisions of University Grants Commission (Institution Deemed to be University) Regulations, 2019 in Sub Clause Nos. 10.07 sub-sub clauses 10.07.1 and 10.07.2 provides that the Board of Management shall be the Principal Organ of Management and the Apex Executive Body of the Institution Deemed to be University, with powers to make rules and shall be the final decision-making body in respect of every matter including academic, administrative, personnel, financial, development matters of institution Deemed to be Universities.

AND WHEREAS, as per the provisions of University Grants Commission (Institution Deemed to be University) Regulations, 2023 Clause 11 and Sub Clause No. 11 (3) and 11 (4), Clause 13 and Sub Clause No. 13 (1) and 13 (2) of the Regulations provides that the Executive Council shall be the Principal Organ of Management and the Apex Executive Body of the Institution Deemed to be University, with powers to make rules and shall be the final decision making body in respect of every matter including academic, administrative, personnel, financial, development matters of institution Deemed to be University.

AND WHEREAS, in exercise of the powers conferred under UGC (Institution Deemed to be Universities), Regulations 2023, the Dr. D. Y. Patil Vidyapeeth, Pune (Deemed to be University) hereby makes the following **Food Policy Zero Hunger for DPU**, a set of guidelines, regulations, and initiatives governing food-related practices within our educational Institutes.

Food Policy

1. INTRODUCTION:

Dr. D. Y. Patil Vidyapeeth, Pune (Deemed to be University) is dedicated to fostering and ensuring access to sufficient, safe, and nutritious food for all people, especially vulnerable groups such as children, women, and the elderly and is designed to promote a healthy, sustainable, and equitable food environment within our institution and across the DPU Campuses. This policy aims to establish guidelines that prioritize nutrition, support local and sustainable food systems, and ensure food safety for all. DPU is committed to enhancing the quality of life for students, staff, and faculty while minimizing our environmental impact. This policy reflects our dedication to health, sustainability, and social responsibility in all aspects of food service and consumption.

2. VISION:

Dr. D.Y Patil, Vidyapeeth, Pune (Deemed to be University) promises to create a community where everyone, regardless of their background, can access and benefit from our Zero Hunger Policy, through improved nutrition, availability of all time canteens & good quality food at reasonable prices, cost effective. Address disparities in food access, ensuring that vulnerable populations, including low-income families and students, have equal access to nutritious food thus Fostering Food Equity throughout.

3. MISSION:

Dr. D.Y Patil, Vidyapeeth, Pune (Deemed to be University) mission is to provide and strengthen our Global Partnerships by establishing collaboration between governments, private sectors, NGOs, and international organizations to achieve the Zero Hunger goal. We aim to actively promote zero waste policy and foster equal access, eliminating discrimination, and empower underprivileged and marginalized groups accessibility for good quality food across canteen within DPU community. Through these efforts, we contribute to a better healthier society and Guarantee access to affordable, safe, and nutritious food for all individuals associated/working/visiting the DPU community.

4. POLICY STATEMENT:

Dr. D.Y Patil, Vidyapeeth, Pune (Deemed to be University) is committed to fostering a diverse and inclusive nutritious environment and sustainable food options on campus. As a Higher Education Institution (HEI) we aim to promoting and providing all our students, staff, and faculty with access to nutritious, affordable, and sustainable food options on campus regardless of ethnicity, religion, or any statuses. Discrimination based on these factors will not be tolerated anywhere on and in and around all our Campuses or Institutes and colleges. We believe in promoting healthy eating habits, reduction in food wastage, and in supporting local and ethical sourcing. DPU's Food Policy fosters a culture of environmental responsibility and food security while ensuring inclusivity and accommodating diverse dietary needs. It encourages collaboration with local suppliers and stakeholders to enhance the overall well-being of the campus community.

5. DPU FOOD POLICY GOALS:

- Ensure prohibition of the sale of unhealthy foods at Dr. D.Y. Patil Vidyapeeth University & its Constituent Colleges/Institutes & encourage healthy food options in canteens thereby promoting prohibition of sales of unhealthy food & beverages.
- Promoting and ensuring at Dr. D. Y. Patil Vidyapeeth, Pune (Deemed to be University) food outlets, canteens, and messes adhere to strict quality and hygiene standards is our core intention. This

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includes ensuring that food is certified by an expert doctor through hygiene test reports, thus emphasizing on Food, Safety & Hygiene for consumption.

- Dr. D. Y. Patil Vidyapeeth, Pune (Deemed to be University) policy typically aims to address issues such as nutrition, sustainability, food security, waste reduction, and overall community health. It serves as a framework for decision-making in areas related to food procurement, preparation, consumption, and efficient disposal.

6. GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

- **Health and Nutrition:** DPU aims to promote healthy eating habits by providing balanced, nutritious, and diverse food options for students, staff, and faculty.
- **Sustainability:** DPU shall commit to environmentally responsible and friendly practices, including the reduction of food waste, minimizing single-use plastics, adopting plant-based diets and sourcing food locally and sustainably to reduce food wastage & maintain a balance in surplus receivables.
- **Dietary Inclusion and Accessibility:** DPU is working to make its **Zero Hunger Policy** physically and practically accessible to all by ensuring inclusive, affordable food options that meet the campus community's diverse cultural and dietary needs, making healthy choices accessible to all, including vegetarians and vegans, and offering diverse options to accommodate different dietary needs to promote inclusivity among students, faculty, and staff.
- **Reducing Food Waste and Loss:** DPU aims at minimizing food waste through proper portioning, donations of surplus food to local charities, or composting. Minimize food loss throughout the supply chain, from production to consumption, through education, innovation, and strategic management. To achieve this, we aim to Implement strategies to minimize food waste across all stages of procurement and consumption.
- **Food Education and Public Awareness:** DPU aims at raising awareness about food-related issues such as hunger, nutrition, and sustainability through educational campaigns and community engagement through promotion of education on nutrition, sustainability, and food security through programs, events, and partnerships that empower the campus community to make informed food choices.

These principles help guide food policies that promote health, sustainability, and inclusivity on campus.

7. IMPLEMENTATION GUIDELINES:

7.1. Improved Access to Nutritious Food and Healthy Standards:

DPU has set certain nutritional guidelines to ensure that the food served in cafeterias or vending machines meets certain health standards, such as offering balanced meals, thereby ensuring Healthy Meals Standards across University/College/Institute levels.

We are offering subsidized and affordable meal programs for students and staff to ensure affordable access to healthy food, especially for low-income members of the community. We have implemented initiatives and partnerships with local organizations to provide nutritious food options for vulnerable groups.

7.2. Cultural Sensitivity and Education

Culturally Relevant Foods: DPU is promoting the inclusion of culturally diverse food options that reflect the multicultural nature of the institution's population for specific events, cultural programs, festive seasons, during Convocations & equivalent.

Food Literacy: DPU undertakes educational initiatives across campuses that aim to teach students and staff about nutrition, sustainable eating habits, and the environmental impacts of food choices including Workshops, events, and courses focused on food policy.

7.3. Food Safety and Hygiene/Regulations:

DPU ensures that all in-house food services follow local and national food safety guidelines, including regular inspections and proper food handling and storage. Our primary focus is on mandatory training for all of our kitchen staff in safe food preparation and storage practices, as well as ground staff training in hygiene and foodborne illness prevention practices.

7.4. Community Events and Food Festivals:

As part of our extracurricular activities DPU Organizes food-related events local, seasonal, or sustainably sourced food events, such as farmer's markets, cooking demonstrations, or cultural food festivals, to engage the community in nourishment.

7.5. Equity and Social Responsibility:

DPU Food Policy aims at supporting ethical sourcing of products such as coffee, tea, and chocolate by offering Fair Trade product options in cafeterias and catering services and ensuring that food service workers on campus receive fair wages and benefits, promoting equity in the institution's food supply chain within and across DPU Campuses.

7.6. Sustainable Farmed Food on campus:

DPU is dedicated to promoting agricultural systems with minimal environmental impact. Food is sourced from suppliers and producers with a focus on sustainable practices such as organic farming, biodiversity conservation, and climate-friendly farming techniques such as organic farming, water conservation, soil health management, and pesticide and chemical reduction. DPU will prioritize purchasing food from local, sustainable farms for campus dining.

By promoting organic and eco-friendly farming practices, we hope to reduce our carbon footprint while also promoting health and nutrition on campus. The Institution is committed to fostering partnerships with small-scale food producers to boost the local economy and reduce transportation costs. We also promote small-scale food producers and host educational programs to promote local agriculture. We will collaborate with certified sustainable farms to ensure that food meets high ethical and environmental standards. This initiative is a step toward encouraging environmental stewardship and educating our community about the value of sustainable food choices.

7.7. Climate-Resilient Agriculture and Food Systems:

DPU advocates the adoption of climate-resilient agricultural practices strategically along with food systems to ensure long-term sustainability. This includes promoting adaptive strategies that protect food security in the face of climate variability.

7.8. Local Sourcing:

DPU aims to tie-up with Local suppliers who Encourage & use Eco-friendly Packaging and Transportation by reducing the use of non-recyclable packaging and minimize the carbon footprint through local and seasonal food sourcing.

By implementing a comprehensive Food Policy, Dr. D.Y. Patil Vidyapeeth hopes to create a healthier, sustainable, and equitable food system that benefits both the campus community and the environment at large.

8. DPU CENTRAL LEVEL FOOD POLICY ASSESSMENT MECHANISM

8.1. Measuring the amount of food waste generated from food served within the university:

Dr. D.Y. Patil Vidyapeeth, (Deemed to be University) SDG-2- Food Policy Zero Hunger for DPU aims to significantly reduce food waste generated on campus through prevention, recycling, and responsible disposal methods. It encourages portion control, promotes food recovery programs to redistribute surplus food, and supports composting initiatives.

It emphasizes educating students, staff, and food service providers on reducing food waste and fostering awareness of the environmental and social impacts inclusive of collaborations with local organizations to manage food donations and sustainable waste practices. Regular monitoring and reporting on food waste levels ensure accountability and continuous improvement in reducing waste across the campus.

DPU Follows below mentioned within the University and across campuses:

- **Pre-consumer Waste:** Includes food discarded during preparation (e.g., trimming, spoilage, overproduction). and **Post-consumer Waste:** Food left uneaten by students, staff, or guests after being served.
- **Expired or Unused Inventory:** Includes food that was ordered but never used before it expired.\
- **Segregation:** Includes separation of pre-consumer and post-consumer waste for accurate data.
- **Audits:** Conducting Periodic Waste Audits where waste is collected, sorted, and measured over a designated period (e.g., monthly).
- **Sampling:** Waste to be sampled from individual diners by analysing the contents of trays and plates after meals to measure how much food was not eaten also called as Plate Waste Study.

8.2. Program/Policy Addressing Student Food Insecurity/Hunger:

At DPU, we are currently implementing our SDG-2 Zero Hunger approach for our policy, ensuring a comprehensive, supportive, and accessible solution for students, visitors, and staff, Faculty, and every Individuals' food insecurities on campus, these are:

- **Establishing a Campus Food Pantry:**
We are establishing an accessible on-campus food pantry where students experiencing food insecurities are obtaining nutritious food items and have access to complimentary or low-cost food essentials at on-campus food pantries. The pantry is being regularly stocked through donations, partnerships with local food banks, and university contributions.
- **Implementing a Meal Voucher Program:**
We are implementing a meal voucher system for students facing food insecurity, those in need are currently being allowed to receive complimentary or subsidized meals at campus dining facilities through Implemented Meal Voucher Programs or swipe systems. In addition, we also provide

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subsidized Meal Plans for students from low-income backgrounds, ensuring they have continuous access to nutritious meals throughout the semester. These programs receive support through contributions from alumni, staff, or external sponsors.

- **Launching Awareness Campaigns:**

We are launching targeted campaigns to raise awareness about food insecurity and the resources available to students. Students are being informed through social media, campus newsletters, and peer outreach. We are working closely and striking collaborations with Student Unions and organizations to raise awareness about food insecurity and advocate for further resources and policy changes.

- **Collaborating with Local Meal Providers:**

We collaborate and partner with Local Food Providers, and non-profit organizations and sustainable sources on priority to provide additional resources and fresh produce for students through steady supply of food resources to campus pantries and student programs. This includes organizing regular food distribution events or weekly food drives along with initializing Mobile Food Distribution or food trucks that visit campus regularly, distributing fresh produce and meals to students who may not have access to regular dining facilities.

- **Offering Nutritional Support and Education:**

We are offering Nutrition and Cooking workshops and online resources about affordable, nutritious meal planning, healthy meals and eating habits, and budgeting for food. These resources are being made accessible to all students, particularly those experiencing food insecurity for imparting nutritional guidance to optimally utilize food resources effectively.

- **Ensuring an Anonymous Application Process:**

We are ensuring that students can confidentially apply for food assistance, can access food support programs, Resources, meal vouchers, or emergency financial aid anonymously and without fear of stigma. The process is being streamlined, respectful, and easy to access encouraging more students to seek help without fear of judgment.

- **Establishing an Emergency Food Assistance Fund:**

We are establishing an Emergency Food Assistance Funds or Grants specifically for students facing food insecurity. This fund is providing short-term financial assistance for students in urgent need of meals or groceries, especially during crises or unexpected financial hardships. We have Introduced Flexible Payment Options (such as pay-per-meal or installment plans) to make Dining Services more accessible to students with varying financial capabilities.

- **Establishing Food Recovery Initiatives and Surveys:**

We are carrying out Food Recovery Initiatives where leftover, unsold, or surplus food from dining halls and campus events is safely redistributed to students in need. Students who live off-campus or in high-cost areas have their financial aid packages supplemented with Food Stipends or Allowances to cover the ongoing cost of food.

8.3. Data Collection and Analysis:

DPU Conducts surveys among students and staff and takes their feedback to understand their preferences, food portions, and reasons for discarding food. Feedback can help in adjusting meal planning. Feedback also helps in Portion Control and Menu Design to Record and adjust portion sizes based on food waste data. We are also conducting Student Surveys and Assessments to assess food insecurity and identify at-risk students and use that data to tailor support programs. Offering

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flexible portion sizes or "pay-as-you-go" models help minimize excess food wastage within the DPU campuses and across Colleges / Institutes connected.

Implementing these methods allows universities to quantify food waste and develop strategies to reduce it, contributing to sustainability goals and reducing financial loss and ensuring that campus dining services offer affordable, sustainable, and culturally appropriate inclusive meal options to meet the diverse dietary needs of the student population.

9. ACCOUNTABILITY

At DPU, we are emphasizing on the responsibilities and holding accountable all individuals and entities currently involved with DPU's food system, including dining services, vendors, staff, and students, all are responsible for adhering to established standards and goals. Every Individual connected to the University/Campus/College/Institution must adhere to established food standards and goals. This includes ensuring food safety, adhering to nutritional guidelines, sourcing food responsibly, and reducing food waste. Accountability also entails ongoing monitoring, transparent reporting, and corrective action when standards are not met. It ensures that everyone helps to achieve the policy's goals, such as promoting health, sustainability, and equity in food access and to uphold the highest standards of integrity to maintain nutritional excellence and contribute to the institution's mission of **Zero Hunger for DPU**.

10. REVIEW AND AMENDMENT

The Zero Hunger for DPU Policy is formally annually being reviewed, amended, and updated regularly to maintain its relevance and effectiveness in meeting the organization's goals and evolving needs. Stakeholder feedback, changes in regulatory standards, or new insights into food safety, sustainability, and nutrition may all lead to proposed amendments. Significant updates are communicated to all employees and relevant parties on a timely basis by the policy committee. When immediate issues arise, emergency amendments may be made subject to a streamlined approval process.

11. CONCLUSION

DPU's **Zero Hunger for DPU** aims at eliminating food insecurity by ensuring that all members of the campus community have consistent access to nutritious, affordable, and sustainable food. Our policy emphasizes the need for collaboration among food services, students, staff, and external partners to create a supportive food ecosystem. By addressing issues such as food waste, equitable food distribution, and nutrition education, DPU aims at promoting a healthy, inclusive, and environmentally responsible culture. Regular reviews and updates within & amongst the Constituent colleges / Institutes ensures that the policy is relevant and adapts to changing needs and resources. Finally, Dr. D.Y Patil Vidyapeeth's' zero-hunger policy demonstrates our commitment toward social responsibility and the well-being of the entire community.

Implementation Date: 22/03/2024

Sd/-
Dr. Narendra. M. Kadu
Registrar