



Bahauddin Zakariya University, Multan

BZU Anti-Poverty Policy

Year 2024

Policy created on: October 08, 2024

Section-1: Definitions

In this policy document, unless otherwise specified, or anything repugnant to the Act and Statutes of Bahauddin Zakariya University, the following expression shall have the meaning as follows:

Poverty

“Poverty is about not having enough money to meet basic needs including food, clothing, and shelter. However, poverty is more, much more than just not having enough money.”

The World Bank Organization describes poverty in this way:

“Poverty is hunger. Poverty is a lack of shelter. Poverty is being sick and not being able to see a doctor. Poverty is not having access to school and not knowing how to read. Poverty is not having a job, is fear for the future, living one day at a time.

Poverty has many faces, changing from place to place and across time, and has been described in many ways. Most often, poverty is a situation people want to escape. So poverty is a call to action -- for the poor and the wealthy alike -- a call to change the world so that many more may have enough to eat, adequate shelter, access to education and health, protection from violence, and a voice in what happens in their communities.”
(World Bank Organization-2009).

Section-2: Policy

BZU Anti-Poverty Policy

1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy document is to demonstrate how the Bahauddin Zakariya University (BZU) providing opportunities for quality education to poor and underprivileged students. BZU offers various Scholarships for students to encourage excellence in studies through rewarding high academic achievers through various types of Advance Merit /Merit scholarships and also to support less privileged student(s) to attain their goals/target by offering purely Need Based Scholarships. BZU believes that no one should be deprived of getting an education merely on the grounds of inability to pay.

2. Objectives of the Policy

- a. To provide financial support to academically talented and less privileged students to empower them to acquire quality education at the Higher Education level.
- b. To elevate the socio-economic status of the students by enabling them to get modern education and career opportunities for their brighter future.
- c. To improve access to higher education, especially for those belonging from far-flung areas of Pakistan.
- d. To assist students who fall into the bottom quartile of household income group in the country to successfully complete their studies.

3. Scope

This policy applies to the whole University including its main campus and sub campuses i.e Lodhran & Vehari Subcampus.

4. Anti-Poverty Measures

BZU shall take following measures in order to address the poverty:

- a. Research on Poverty: BZU shall encourage the proportion of a university's academic output on poverty where one or more co-author is associated with a university that is based in a low or lower-middle income country.
- b. BZU shall establish Support Center aims to increase the proportion of students receiving financial aid to attend university because of poverty in undergraduate programs.

- c. BZU shall introduce anti-poverty programs/initiatives to facilitate the admitting students from backgrounds where poverty is a factor and ensuring that these students have the support necessary to complete their studies.
- d. BZU shall introduce Community anti-poverty programs to relieve the poverty by providing assistance in the local community supporting the start-up of sustainable businesses through relevant education or resources (e.g. mentorship programs, training workshops, access to university facilities).

5. Scholarships and Procedures

Scholarship Cell/Financial Aid Office Was established to facilitate the needy and talented students in meeting up their financial crises. The aim of Scholarship Cell/Financial Aid Office is to support the deprived and low income families to promote the education of their children. The office is providing resources to the students to complete their studies without any financial burden. About 5000 students of BZU, Multan are being awarded Scholarship Aid annually.

List of all scholarships/financial aids and respective office to be contacted are as under:

#	Name of Scholarship	Concerned Branch
1.	Punjab Educational Endowment Fund (PEEF)	Scholarship Cell
2.	Banazir UG Scholarships	Scholarship Cell
3.	British Council Scottish Scholarships	Scholarship Cell
4.	HEC Need Based Scholarships	Scholarship Cell
5.	USAID Merit & Need Based Scholarships	Scholarship Cell
6.	HUNHAR Scholarship	Scholarship Cell
7.	Confiz Limited Scholarships	Scholarship Cell
8.	UBL Scholarships	Scholarship Cell
9.	BZU, Financial Assistance Program	Scholarship Cell
10.	NBP Loan Scheme	Scholarship Cell

The eligibility criteria including the procedures of all financial aids /scholarships for students are available with the dedicated Scholarship Cell and a student can easily get any information from that cell.