

# **UTTARANCHAL UNIVERSITY**

(Established vide Uttaranchal University Act, 2012) (Uttarakhand Act No. 11 of 2013) Arcadia Grant, P.O. Chandanwari, Premnagar, Dehradun, Uttarakhand

# **Uttaranchal University Meal Assistance Program Policy**

(As approved by the Academic Council in its meeting held on 12 July 2021)

# Objective:

Uttaranchal University is committed to fostering an inclusive and supportive environment for all members of its academic community. Recognizing the importance of addressing food insecurity among our students, faculty members, and staff, the university has established the Meal Assistance Program. This policy outlines the framework for providing facility support to those facing food insecurity.

# Scope:

The Meal Assistance Program is available to all registered students, faculty members, and staff of Uttaranchal University.

# **Program Options:**

Participants in the Meal Assistance Program may choose from the following options based on their individual needs:

- Dining Assistance: Eligible participants can receive support to cover the cost of meals in the
  university dining facility. The amount and duration of assistance will be determined on a case-bycase basis.
- 2. Accommodation Assistance: Eligible participants can receive support to cover the cost of university accommodation. This option is available for students, faculty members & staff who reside on campus.
- 3. **Dining and Accommodation Assistance:** This option combines **both dining and accommodation assistance** for those who require support for both.

# Eligibility:

To be eligible for the Meal Assistance Program, participants must meet the following criteria:

- 1. Be currently enrolled as a student, employed as faculty or staff at Uttaranchal University.
- 2. Demonstrate financial need and food insecurity.
- 3. Provide documentation to support their application.

# Note:

Eligibility is assessed through a confidential application process, administered by the university's financial aid office.

# **Application Process:**

- 1. Applicants must submit a Meal Assistance Program application form.
- 2. Applications will be reviewed by a designated committee responsible for determining eligibility.
- 3. The committee may request additional information or documentation if necessary.
- 4. Decisions regarding assistance will be communicated to the applicants within a reasonable time frame.

# **Terms and Conditions:**

- 1. Assistance provided under the Meal Assistance Program is subject to the **availability of funds** and may vary based on individual circumstances.
- 2. The program is intended to serve as a **philanthropic solution**. Recipients are encouraged to seek additional resources and support for long-term food security.
- 3. All information submitted as part of the application process will be treated as confidential and used solely for program administration.
- 4. Participants must report any changes in their financial status that may affect their eligibility.
- 5. Any misuse or misrepresentation of information may result in disqualification from the program.

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# Review and Approval:

- 1. Applications will be reviewed and assessed by a committee or designated personnel responsible for determining eligibility.
- 2. The committee will prioritize cases based on severity and urgency.

#### Disbursement:

- 1. Approved meal assistance will be disbursed in a manner that ensures privacy and minimizes stigma.
- 2. The community receiving meal assistance will be provided with clear information on how to access meals or vouchers.

# **Confidentiality:**

The university will ensure the confidentiality of individual's personal information and financial circumstances throughout the application and assistance process.

# **Review and Reporting:**

- 1. The University Meal Assistance Program will be subject to periodic review and evaluation to assess its effectiveness and make any necessary improvements.
- 2. The university will maintain records of meal assistance disbursements for reporting and accountability purposes.

# **Review Cycle:**

This policy will be reviewed and, if necessary, updated on an annual basis.

### **Amendments:**

Any amendments to this policy will be subject to approval by the relevant university authorities.

## **Responsible Office:**

The financial aid office is responsible for the implementation and administration of the University Meal Assistance Program.

#### **Contact Information:**

For inquiries and to obtain the Meal Assistance Program application form, please contact the Office of Student Affairs.

Uttaranchal University is committed to supporting its students, faculty, and staff in their pursuit of academic and personal success, and the Meal Assistance Program is an essential component of this commitment.



S. C. Sharma Registrar