



Waste Management and Recycling Policy

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Introduction

The Al-Ayen Iraqi University recognizes that waste management and recycling constitute an essential part of its commitment to environmental sustainability and social responsibility. Based on its vision to be a leading university in applying best environmental practices, the university establishes this comprehensive policy for waste management and recycling to achieve a clean and sustainable university environment and reduce the negative environmental impact of its various activities.



Vision and Mission



Vision

To achieve leadership among Iraqi universities in the field of sustainable waste management, reach a stage free of untreated waste, and transform the environmental challenge into a model to be emulated in environmental responsibility.

Mission

To establish a culture of "Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle" among all members of the university community, by providing the necessary infrastructure for waste sorting, launching effective awareness campaigns, building strategic partnerships with specialized entities for recycling, and transforming the environmental challenge into an opportunity for innovation and community participation.

Objectives



General Objective

This policy aims to establish a comprehensive framework for managing solid and liquid waste on campus in an environmentally responsible manner, maximize recycling rates, reduce the amount of waste sent to landfills, and gradually reach the concept of "Zero Waste University."

Specific Objectives

■ Waste Reduction:

Reduce total waste generated on campus by **40%** over five years

■ Increase Recycling:

Achieve a recycling rate of no less than **75%** of total recyclable waste

■ Plastic-Free Campus:

Implement the "Plastic-Free University" initiative and ban single-use plastic materials

■ Environmental Awareness:

Raise the level of environmental awareness among university members about the importance of waste management

■ Circular Economy:

Apply circular economy principles in all waste management processes

Fundamental Principles

Source Waste Sorting

RECYCLING BINS



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Colored Container System:

- **Blue Container:** For paper and cardboard (newspapers, magazines, books, office papers)
- **Yellow Container:** For metal and plastic materials (bottles, bags, containers)
- **Gray Container:** For metals (aluminum cans, iron, copper)
- **Green Container:** For organic waste (food scraps, tree leaves)
- **Red Container:** For hazardous waste (batteries, chemicals, medicines)
- **Black Container:** For general non-recyclable waste

Container Locations:

- Distribute sorting containers in all university facilities at a rate of one set per 50 meters
- Place specialized containers in laboratories for hazardous waste
- Designate central collection points in each building for large-sized waste

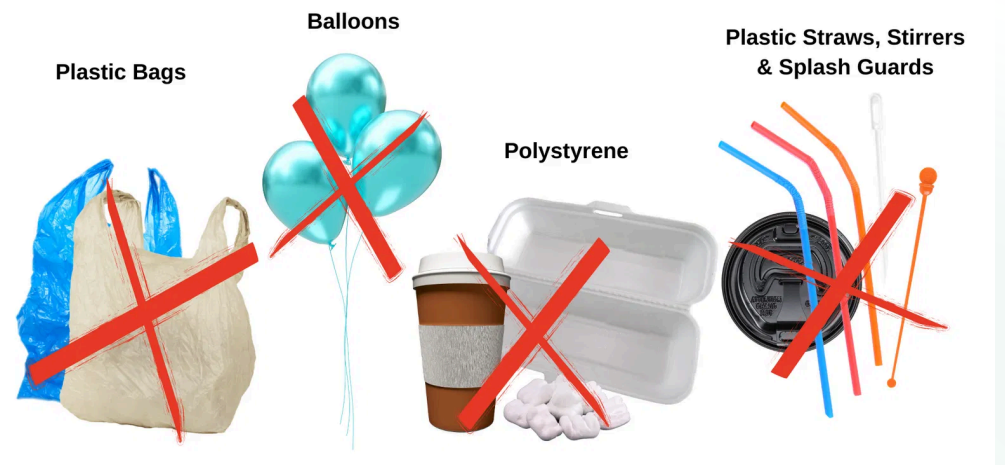
Plastic-Free University Initiative

Ban on Single-Use Plastic Materials:

- Prohibit the use of plastic bags in campus cafeterias and stores
- Ban plastic plates and cups at all university events
- Prohibit the sale of beverages in single-use plastic bottles
- Replace plastic tools with biodegradable or reusable alternatives

Sustainable Alternatives:

- Provide refillable water containers in all buildings
- Use plates and cups made from biodegradable materials
- Encourage the use of metal or wooden stationery instead of plastic



Organic Waste and Paper Management



Natural Compost Production:

- ● Establish a unit responsible for converting organic waste into compost within the campus
- ● Collect food scraps from campus cafeterias and restaurants
- ● Use pruning waste, garden waste, and fallen leaves
- ● Produce natural compost for use in gardens and green spaces

Food Waste Reduction:

- ● Organize awareness campaigns about the importance of reducing food waste
- ● Donate surplus food to local charities
- ● Develop programs to distribute surplus meals to needy students

Paperless Campus Program:

- ● Encourage the use of digital means in all administrative procedures
- ● Implement electronic document management systems
- ● Use double-sided printing and only when necessary
- ● Reuse single-sided printed paper for drafts

Paper Collection and Recycling:

- ● Place paper collection boxes in all offices and classrooms
- ● Contract with specialized paper recycling companies
- ● Organize periodic campaigns to collect old books and magazines
- ● Establish a "Book Bank" for exchanging used books among students

Electronic and Hazardous Waste Management



Collection of Used Electronic Devices:

- Establish collection points for electronic devices in each college
- Organize annual campaigns to collect old smartphones and laptops
- Collect used batteries, chargers, and cables
- Place special boxes for storage disks and portable memory

Utilization and Recycling:

- Contract with certified companies for electronic waste recycling
- Extract precious metals from old devices
- Refurbish repairable devices and utilize them in educational activities
- Donate refurbished devices to needy students or local schools

Hazardous Waste:

- Place special containers for chemicals in all laboratories
- Apply strict protocols for handling hazardous materials
- Contract with specialized companies for chemical waste treatment
- Train laboratory workers on safety procedures
- Use sealed containers for medical waste
- Implement a tracking system for hazardous waste from source to final treatment
- Treat biological waste in environmentally safe ways
- Comply with international standards for medical waste management

Awareness and Educational Programs

Student Awareness Programs:

- Organize lectures and workshops on waste management and recycling
- Include "Environmental Waste Management" course in university requirements
- Organize competitions and exhibitions on creative ideas in recycling
- Involve students in research projects on waste treatment technologies

Staff Training Programs:

- Organize periodic training courses for all university employees
- Train cleaning workers on proper sorting and collection techniques
- Prepare a guidance manual for waste management in various units
- Present certificates of appreciation to distinguished employees in policy implementation

Awareness Campaigns:

- Organize the annual "Green University Week" for environmental awareness
- Launch media campaigns through social media
- Place instructional boards and awareness posters in all facilities
- Organize "University Cleaning Day" events with participation of all members



Governance and Organizational Structure

University Presidency:

- General supervision of policy implementation and approval of executive plans
- Provide necessary financial and human resources for program implementation
- Approve contracts with specialized waste management companies
- Follow up on periodic reports and policy implementation results

Waste and Environment Management Committee:

- Develop detailed plans for policy implementation in all units
- Follow up on implementation of various environmental programs and projects
- Prepare periodic reports on waste quantities and recycling rates
- Submit recommendations for developing and improving waste management programs

College Deanships and Academic Departments:

- Implement the policy in all their activities and facilities
- Raise awareness among faculty members and students about the importance of waste management
- Integrate environmental sustainability concepts into curricula
- Submit monthly reports on policy implementation status

Governance and Organizational Structure - Part 2

Services and Maintenance Department:

- Supervise waste collection and transportation operations within campus
- Maintain waste containers and ensure their cleanliness and safety
- Coordinate with contracted companies for waste collection and transportation
- Apply safety procedures in handling hazardous waste

All University Members:

- Commit to sorting waste and placing it in appropriate containers
- Apply waste reduction principles in daily activities
- Actively participate in environmental programs and events
- Report any violations or problems in waste management

Partnerships and Periodic Review

Local Partnerships:

- ● Contract with specialized local recycling companies
- ● Cooperate with local municipalities in waste management programs
- ● Partner with neighboring schools in awareness programs
- ● Work with environmental civil society organizations

Academic Cooperation:

- ● Exchange experiences with other universities in waste management
- ● Conduct joint research on waste treatment technologies
- ● Participate in environmental conferences and seminars
- ● Develop joint training programs

International Partnerships:

- ● Cooperate with international organizations in the environmental field
- ● Benefit from global experiences in waste management
- ● Obtain funding and grants for environmental projects
- ● Apply international best practices

Periodic Review and Update:

- ● Review and update the policy every three years
- ● Update procedures and mechanisms based on results and experiences
- ● Integrate new technologies in waste management