Ref. No. Date.....

Tantia University

Policy title	Policy for Minimisation of Plastic Use
Effective date	04-02-2025
Next scheduled review	Three years after the effective date, or earlier if applicable rules change

The University is committed to reduce plastic pollution and promoting sustainable consumption practices across its campus. Recognizing the environmental impacts of plastic waste on ecosystems, biodiversity, natural resources, and human health, the University seeks to minimize the use of plastic products, particularly single-use plastics, and encourage environmentally responsible alternatives.

This Policy establishes a framework for reducing plastic consumption, supporting sustainable procurement, promoting responsible waste management, and creating a culture of environmental stewardship within the University community.

Objectives

The University aims to:

- Minimize the use of single-use plastic products across campus.
- Promote reusable, recyclable, compostable, and biodegradable alternatives.
- Reduce plastic waste generation and environmental pollution.
- Encourage sustainable procurement practices.
- Increase awareness among students, staff, and visitors about responsible consumption.
- Support national environmental regulations and sustainability goals.
- Foster a cleaner, healthier, and more sustainable campus environment.

Scope

This Policy applies to:

- Students
- Faculty and staff
- Contractual employees
- Visitors
- Vendors and suppliers
- Service providers operating on behalf of the University

The Policy covers all University facilities, including classrooms, offices, laboratories, hostels, cafeterias, libraries, event venues, sports facilities, and outdoor campus spaces.

Policy Statements

Reduction of Single-Use Plastics

The University shall progressively reduce and, where feasible, eliminate the use of single-use plastic products on campus.

Office of the Registrar TANTIA UNIVERSITY

These products include, but are not limited to:

- Plastic carry bags
- Plastic straws
- Disposable plastic cups and plates
- Plastic cutlery
- Plastic stirrers
- Plastic water bottles
- Thermocol (Styrofoam) products
- Plastic packaging materials

The University shall encourage the use of sustainable alternatives that have lower environmental impacts.

Promotion of Reusable Alternatives

The University shall promote reusable products as the preferred option for everyday campus activities.

Examples include:

- Refillable water bottles
- Cloth and jute bags
- Stainless-steel or glass containers
- Reusable crockery and cutlery
- Durable event materials and decorations

Departments and campus units shall prioritize reusable solutions whenever operationally feasible.

Sustainable Procurement

The University shall integrate plastic reduction considerations into procurement decisions.

Procurement practices shall:

- Prefer products with minimal plastic packaging.
- Prioritize recycled and recyclable materials.
- Encourage suppliers to reduce unnecessary packaging.
- Support environmentally responsible suppliers and manufacturers.
- Promote sustainable and durable products with longer service lives.

Environmental considerations may be included in vendor evaluations and purchasing decisions.

Food Services and Events

Campus dining facilities, food vendors, and event organizers shall contribute to plastic-use reduction by:

- Avoiding single-use plastic serving materials whenever feasible.
- Encouraging reusable utensils and containers.
- Using biodegradable or compostable alternatives where disposables are necessary.
- Supporting refill stations for drinking water.
- Minimizing packaging waste during events and catering services.

Special events organized on campus should aim to follow environmentally responsible practices and minimize plastic waste generation.

Awareness and Behavioral Change

Office of the Registrar TANTIA UNIVERSITY

The University recognizes that lasting change requires active participation from the campus community.

The University shall:

- Conduct awareness campaigns on plastic pollution and sustainable consumption.
- Promote environmentally responsible behavior through workshops and training programs.
- Encourage student-led sustainability initiatives.
- Display educational signage supporting waste reduction and responsible disposal practices.
- Observe environmental awareness days that highlight the importance of reducing plastic waste.

Students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to contribute actively towards the University's plastic reduction objectives.

Waste Management and Recycling

Plastic reduction efforts shall be supported through effective waste management practices.

The University shall:

- Promote segregation of waste at source.
- Facilitate the collection of recyclable plastic materials.
- Collaborate with authorized recycling agencies where appropriate.
- Encourage responsible disposal of unavoidable plastic waste.
- Monitor opportunities to increase recycling and reduce dependence on landfill disposal.

Waste management systems shall support the University's broader sustainability and circular economy goals.

Responsibilities

Sustainability Committee

The Sustainability Committee shall:

- Oversee implementation of this Policy.
- Promote awareness and engagement activities.
- Monitor progress and recommend improvement measures.

Administrative and Procurement Departments

These departments shall:

- Consider sustainable alternatives during purchasing decisions.
- Encourage suppliers to reduce plastic use.
- Support implementation across their respective functions.

Students, Faculty, and Staff

All members of the University community shall:

- Minimize unnecessary plastic consumption.
- Use reusable alternatives wherever possible.
- Practice responsible waste segregation and disposal.
- Support University sustainability initiatives.

Policy Review

This Policy shall be reviewed at least once every three years or earlier if required by changes in regulations, institutional priorities, technological developments, or sustainability commitments.

REGISTRAR
TANTIA UNIVERSITY
Sri Ganganagar (Rajasthan)