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Tantia University

Policy title	Policy on Minimisation of Plastic Use and Disposable Items Across University Operations, Services and the Supply Chain
Effective date	11-02-2025
Next scheduled review	Three years after the effective date, or earlier if applicable rules change

The University is committed to reduce the use of disposable products across all campus operations and integrating sustainability principles into services delivered on its behalf. This policy extends the University's commitment to minimise plastic use and disposable items to all outsourced service providers, contractors, suppliers, vendors, and concessionaires operating on campus or providing goods and services to the University. All such parties are expected to adopt environmentally responsible practices, minimise single-use plastics and disposable materials, and prioritise reusable, recyclable, and sustainable alternatives wherever practicable.

Scope

This policy applies to all outsourced services, including but not limited to:

- Food and catering services
- Cafeteria and canteen operations
- Housekeeping and cleaning services
- Facility management services
- Event management providers
- Landscaping and maintenance contractors
- Hospitality and guest services
- Temporary vendors and concessionaires operating on campus

Policy Requirements

All outsourced service providers shall actively support the University's efforts to minimize disposable products and transition toward reusable, recyclable, compostable, and environmentally responsible alternatives.

Service providers are required to:

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- Minimize the use of single-use disposable items in their daily operations.
- Replace disposable cups, plates, cutlery, straws, stirrers, and food containers with reusable or environmentally sustainable alternatives wherever feasible.
- Avoid unnecessary packaging and reduce waste generated during service delivery.
- Use biodegradable or compostable materials when disposable products are unavoidable due to operational, hygiene, or safety requirements.
- Encourage customers and campus users to utilize reusable containers, bottles, cups, and bags.
- Support campus waste-segregation systems and ensure proper disposal of generated waste.

Contractual Compliance

The University shall incorporate sustainability and waste-reduction requirements into relevant service contracts, tender documents, and vendor agreements.

Service providers may be required to:

- Demonstrate efforts to reduce disposable-item consumption.
- Comply with University sustainability guidelines.
- Participate in waste audits and sustainability reviews.
- Provide information regarding materials and packaging used in their operations.

Repeated non-compliance with this policy may result in corrective actions as permitted under contractual agreements and University regulations.

Awareness and Continuous Improvement

The University shall work collaboratively with service providers to promote best practices, increase awareness, and identify opportunities to reduce disposable-item usage over time.

Service providers are encouraged to adopt innovative solutions that support waste reduction, resource conservation, and sustainable service delivery.

Review

This policy shall be reviewed every three years or earlier if required by changes in legislation, University sustainability objectives, or operational requirements.

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Tantia University

Policy title	Policy on Minimisation of Plastic Use and Disposable Items: Extension to Suppliers and Manufacturers
Effective date	11-02-2025
Next scheduled review	Three years after the effective date, or earlier if applicable rules change

The University is committed to reduce waste generation, minimising plastic consumption, and promoting sustainable procurement practices throughout its supply chain. Recognising the critical role of suppliers and manufacturers in achieving its environmental sustainability objectives, the University extends its commitment to waste minimisation and plastic reduction to all suppliers, manufacturers, contractors, and vendors providing goods, materials, equipment, packaging, or services to the University. The University encourages the adoption of environmentally responsible manufacturing, packaging, transportation, and supply practices, prioritising reusable, recyclable, and environmentally preferable alternatives wherever practicable.

Scope

This policy applies to all suppliers, manufacturers, distributors, contractors, consultants, and service providers engaged by the University for the supply of products, materials, equipment, furniture, stationery, information technology assets, construction materials, packaging materials, and other goods or services.

Policy Requirements

Suppliers are expected to support the University's sustainability goals by adopting environmentally responsible practices and minimizing waste throughout the product life cycle.

Suppliers shall:

- Reduce unnecessary packaging and avoid excessive use of plastic materials in product delivery.
- Prioritize reusable, recyclable, biodegradable, or compostable packaging alternatives wherever feasible.
- Minimize the use of single-use plastics and disposable components in products supplied to the University.
- Supply products with longer service life, repairability, and durability to reduce waste generation.

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- Promote the use of recycled and environmentally preferable materials where quality and safety requirements permit.
- Implement waste-reduction practices within their manufacturing, storage, transportation, and distribution processes.
- Support product take-back, recycling, refurbishment, or recovery programs whenever practical.

Sustainable Procurement Expectations

The University shall give preference, where feasible, to suppliers that demonstrate:

- Environmental responsibility and regulatory compliance.
- Reduced plastic packaging and material efficiency.
- Waste minimization and recycling initiatives.
- Sustainable sourcing practices.
- Commitment to circular economy principles.
- Environmental certifications or sustainability-related management systems.

Suppliers may be requested to provide information regarding packaging materials, recycled content, disposal requirements, and sustainability initiatives as part of procurement and vendor evaluation processes.

Monitoring and Compliance

Compliance with this policy may be considered during supplier selection, contract renewal, procurement reviews, and sustainability assessments. The University reserves the right to encourage corrective actions where supplier practices are found to be inconsistent with the principles of waste minimization and environmental sustainability.

Review

This policy shall be reviewed every three years or earlier if required by changes in legislation, procurement requirements, environmental standards, or University sustainability commitments.

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