



AVICENNA
Batumi Medical University

*„Approved by“
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**Avicenna - Batumi Medical University
Internationalization Policy**

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Article 1. General Provisions

1.1. The rationale Internationalization Policy of Avicenna – Batumi Medical University (hereinafter "University" or "Avicenna") is based on Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG), Bologna Process and normative documents of European Higher Education Area, Law of Georgia on "Higher Education", Law of Georgia on "Education Quality Improvement," Statute of University, Regulation, Mission, Vision, Strategic Development Plan, legal acts of University governing bodies.

1.2. The rationale behind elaboration of internationalization policy is to facilitate efficiency of management and quality assurance mechanisms and to determine internationalization of learning, teaching and research as one of the main priorities of strategic development plan of University.

1.3. The main objective of implementation of internationalization policy is to integrate the University into international medical educational space and raise institutional recognition through internationalization of learning, teaching and research.

1.4. The main goal of internationalization policy is to facilitate internationalization of learning, teaching and research through planning and implementing student and staff international mobility, planning, developing and implementing joint programs and extra-curricular academic activities.

1.5. Internationalization policy is based on strategic development plan of University and determines directions for internationalization of learning, teaching, research and cooperation mapped out in the strategic development plan.

Article 2. Principles of Internationalization Policy

2.1. The main principles of internationalization policy are as follows:

- a) to ensure dynamics, transparency, academic honesty and accountability to University Rector and Academic Council;
- b) to assess efficiency of learning, teaching and research internationalization mechanisms;
- c) to involve stakeholders (students, academic, scientific, invited, administrative, support staff and others) into internationalization process;
- d) to use internationalization outcomes efficiently in University performance in order to enhance the quality of learning, teaching and research activities.

Article 3. Objectives of Internationalization Policy

3.1. Objectives of internationalization policy are as follows:

- a) to facilitate integration of University students and staff in educational exchange programs, qualification improvement courses and professional development trainings so that higher medical education meets both the region-specific medical challenges and global healthcare demands;
- b) to invite and involve foreign professors and teachers, field specialists and experts in the process of planning, elaboration, development and implementation of the programs in the framework of agreement and memorandum of international collaboration between universities;

- c) to plan, elaborate, implement and develop educational programs, scientific-research projects, international conferences, summer schools, international forums and other academic events;
- d) to schedule and organize workshops, conferences and meetings with the academic and administrative staff from partner institutions in distant, hybrid and non-distant format periodically with a view to sharing good clinical practice experiences as well as disseminating knowledge on recent achievements and innovations in the medical area.
- e) to promote University membership process in leading international medical associations and professional organizations in order to build and increase international visibility and recognition of University.

Article 4. Mechanisms for Implementation of Internationalization Policy

4.1. Mechanisms for Implementation of internationalization policy are as follows:

- a) to facilitate internationalization of educational program curriculum and contribute to planning, developing and implementing joint programs;
- b) to support planning and promote implementation of joint research and innovative projects with international partners;
- c) to facilitate international mobility of students and personnel;
- d) to attract international students and promote their integration in the university space through providing academic as well as administrative support services and offering intercultural environment;

4.2. In line with the mechanisms for implementation of internationalization policy, University internationalizing tasks are set out and described in the appendix of this document of Policy.

4.3. For internationalization tasks, all structural units and involved persons of University responsible for implementation of internationalization policy within their competence as well as implementation period and the target benchmarks by which accomplishment of the tasks and objectives shall be evaluated are determined.

Article 5. Responsible Persons and Structural Units

5.1. International Relations and Strategic Planning Service, Research Centre of Health and Longevity, Quality Assurance Service, Public Relations and Marketing Service, Rector, Deputy Rectors and structurally subordinated basic units are responsible for elaboration and implementation of Internationalization Policy of Avicenna – Batumi Medical University. The responsible persons and structural units are obliged to coordinate under the principles of cooperation, transparency, respect and responsibility in accordance with the legal acts of Avicenna and this policy.

Article 6. Monitoring of Implementation of Internationalization Policy Objectives

6.1. Monitoring of implementation of internationalization policy objectives implies the control and accountability of task fulfilment set by the internationalization policy with a view to assuring achievement of internationalization goals;

6.2. Monitoring of implementation of internationalization policy objectives is carried out by International Relations and Strategic Planning Service;

6.3. Within one month after the end of each academic year, the heads of structural units responsible for coordinating internationalization policy tasks, shall submit information about completed, ongoing and uncompleted tasks to the International Relations and Strategic Planning Service, as well as the information on involvement of other structural units in task accomplishment, quality and efficiency of their cooperation and evidence to assess benchmark achievement for the relevant task;

6.4. International Relations and Strategic Planning Service evaluates all the reports prepared by structural units and prepares the corresponding conclusion, on the basis of which the Deputy Rector for Academic and Strategic Development Affairs reports about monitoring results including completed, ongoing and uncompleted tasks of internationalization policy to Rector and Academic Council;

6.5. After reviewing the report, Academic Council is authorized to make a decision about the change in the Achievement Plan of Internationalization Action Mechanisms in relation to specific strategic task.

Article 7. Conclusive Provisions

7.1. In accordance with the Statute of University, the first edition of the Policy is approved by the General Meeting of Partners of University and is in effect upon approval by the Board of Partners.

7.2. Amendments to the present Policy document or approval of a new edition are carried out by the Academic Council resolution, upon submission by International Relations and Strategic Planning Service, Quality Assurance Service or the Rector.

*Avicenna – Batumi Medical University
Internationalization Policy
Appendix №1*

The Achievement Plan of Internationalization Action Mechanisms

Internationalization Action Mechanisms and Tasks:

Mechanism 1 – to facilitate internationalization of educational program curriculum and contribute to planning, developing and implementing joint programs

Tasks for the Mechanism 1

1. To find international universities for establishing partnership;
2. To involve international partners in the curriculum assessment;
3. To invite the personnel from international partner universities for implementing separate courses of the curriculum;
4. To organize extracurricular activities with the partner universities.

Mechanism 2 – to support planning and promote implementation of joint research and innovative projects with international partners

Tasks for the Mechanism 2

1. To find international universities and research organizations/centers for partnership;
2. To sign bilateral cooperation agreements with various universities worldwide to implement joint research activities;
3. To form research consortium with international partners with a view to planning grant projects;
4. To implement international research activities with co-funding by the University.

Mechanism 3 – to facilitate international mobility of students and personnel

Tasks for the Mechanism 3

1. To find international partners;
2. To sign bilateral cooperation agreement with international partners to implement student exchange programs;
3. To sign bilateral cooperation agreements with international partners to implement personnel exchange programs;
 1. To form the consortium in the framework of Erasmus+ for student and personnel exchange programs;
 2. To send University students to partner universities;
 3. To receive/host students from partner universities;
 4. To send University personnel to partner universities;

5. To receive/host personnel from partner universities.

Mechanism 4 – to attract international students and promote their integration in the University space through providing academic as well as administrative support services and offering intercultural environment

Tasks for the Mechanism 4

1. To find partner agencies in the target countries;
2. To advertise online in the target countries;
3. To participate in international educational exhibitions in the target countries.