



Sustainable Disposable Item Use Policy	Action number	-----
	Release Date	<b>01/2023</b>
	Review and modification date	<b>09/2022</b>
	Review and modification number	<b>01</b>
	number of pages	<b>03</b>
	Date the procedure was approved	<b>12/2022</b>
	Deans Council Resolution No.: 2023/46	
Policy Statement	<p>AAU is committed to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Minimizing Single-Use Disposables: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Actively reducing the use of single-use disposable items (e.g., cutlery, plates, cups, napkins, and packaging materials) and replacing them with reusable, biodegradable, or compostable alternatives.</li> <li>▪ Implementing programs and practices that discourage the unnecessary use of disposables and encourage a culture of reuse and waste reduction.</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Sustainable Procurement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Prioritizing the purchase of products that are reusable, made from recycled materials, or are capable of being recycled or composted.</li> <li>▪ Working with suppliers and contractors to reduce packaging and to preferentially select products that have minimal environmental impact.</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Waste Reduction and Recycling: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Promoting recycling and proper waste segregation on campus to ensure effective management of disposable items.</li> <li>▪ Facilitating initiatives such as composting programs to manage biodegradable waste responsibly.</li> </ul> </li> <li>4. Education and Awareness: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Raising awareness among the university community about the environmental impacts of disposable items and the importance of reducing waste.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>	



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Providing education and resources to promote sustainable practices and support the transition away from disposable items.</li> </ul> <p>5. <b>Events and Meetings:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Encouraging the use of sustainable materials and practices at university-sponsored events and meetings, including the use of reusable dishware, bulk dispensers for condiments, and digital materials instead of printed handouts.</li> </ul> <p>6. <b>Monitoring and Reporting:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Regularly assessing the university’s use of disposable items and monitoring the effectiveness of waste reduction initiatives.</li> <li>▪ Setting and publicly reporting on targets for the reduction of disposable item use and waste generation.</li> </ul> <p>7. <b>Continuous Improvement:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Continually reviewing and updating this policy and related practices to leverage advancements in sustainable materials and waste management technologies.</li> <li>▪ Encouraging innovation and research in sustainable materials and waste reduction strategies within the university community.</li> </ul>
<p>Policy Purpose</p>	<p>The purpose of this policy is to articulate AAU's commitment to reducing the environmental footprint associated with the use of disposable items. This policy aims to minimize the consumption of single-use disposables, encourage the use of sustainable and reusable alternatives, and ensure responsible waste management, reflecting the university’s dedication to environmental sustainability and resource conservation.</p>
<p>Policy Scope</p>	<p>This policy applies to all university operations, including dining services, campus events, office supplies, and facilities management. It covers the procurement, use, disposal, and recycling of disposable items, with a particular focus on reducing the use of single-use and non-biodegradable products.</p>
<p>Policy Responsibilities</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Sustainability Office is responsible for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Coordinating the implementation of this policy.</li> <li>▪ Providing support and guidance to departments and units in reducing the use of disposable items and managing waste responsibly.</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Procurement Services is responsible for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Ensuring that procurement practices align with this policy and prioritize sustainable and minimal use of disposable items.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>



	<p>3. All university departments and units are responsible for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Implementing practices that align with this policy in their operations.</li><li>▪ Encouraging sustainable use of resources and proper waste management among employees and students.</li></ul> <p>4. All members of the university community are responsible for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Actively participating in and supporting initiatives aimed at reducing the use of disposable items and promoting sustainability on campus.</li></ul>
Policy Compliance	Non-compliance with this policy may result in a review of operations and procedures to identify areas for improvement. Continuous non-compliance may lead to further actions as deemed necessary by the university administration.
Policy Review	This policy will be reviewed and, if necessary, revised every year or as needed to ensure it remains effective, reflects best practices in the sustainable use of disposable items, and aligns with the university's sustainability goals.