

# American International University-Bangladesh

## Sustainable Development Goals Report



### SDG 1: No Poverty

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# Support Services for Low-Income Students at AIUB

## Food Services

AIUB does provide support to address food insecurity among its students and staff. The university runs **food assistance programs, such as on-campus food pantries**, to help those experiencing difficulty affording meals [aiub.edu](http://aiub.edu). These food pantry initiatives offer **free food staples or meals** to low-income students and employees in need, ensuring no one on campus goes hungry. In addition, AIUB emphasizes **affordable dining options** at its campus cafeterias – all university food outlets offer reasonably priced, healthy meals (including vegetarian and vegan choices) [aiub.edu](http://aiub.edu). While standard cafeteria meals are not free, their low cost makes them accessible, and the presence of the food pantry program means **needy students can receive free meals or groceries**. Overall, **food support at AIUB is subsidized/free for those in need** (via the pantry), and regular campus dining is kept affordable for all.

American International University-Bangladesh (AIUB) actively supports Sustainable Development Goal 2 by addressing food security, promoting sustainable agriculture, and reducing hunger on campus and in the community. AIUB hosts workshops and seminars like "Agriculture and its Prospects for Sustainable Development in Bangladesh" and "Prospects of Local Products for MSMEs in Bangladesh", which provide students and local farmers with insights into sustainable agricultural practices.

The university emphasizes sustainable food choices by offering healthy, affordable vegetarian and vegan options in all its food outlets. To combat hunger, AIUB provides food assistance programs such as food pantries, benefiting both students and staff experiencing food insecurity. These initiatives align with efforts to ensure access to nutritious food on campus.

AIUB also contributes to agricultural innovation through research and technology. Projects like IoT-Based Smart Poultry and Fish Farming and Potato Leaf Disease Detection Using Image Processing aim to enhance sustainable farming techniques. These technologies are shared with local farmers through free workshops and access to university facilities, promoting sustainable agriculture.

## Cafeteria



In-house cafeteria and food carts bustling with variety of delicious and healthy options, catering to the needs of students and staff, from breakfast, lunch, and snacks throughout the day. The university cafeteria serves as a vital hub for students, faculty, and staff,

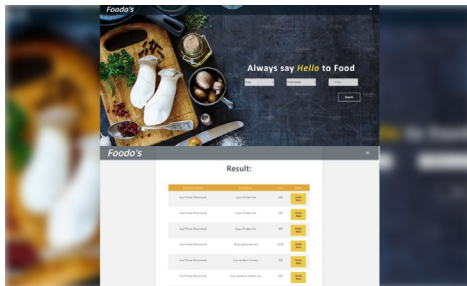
providing not just sustenance but also fostering social interactions and promoting a sense of community.

## Foodo's

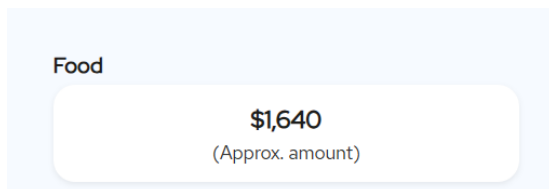
A website for food lovers where anyone can find food price, restaurant locations and details for selected food item or cuisine within given prize range and also can compare those. You can search in any specific area within Dhaka or in the whole Dhaka city.

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## American International University-Bangladesh (AIUB)



## Canteens that keep campus buzzing!

<https://www.facebook.com/aiub.edu/videos/>



## Transportation Support

AIUB **currently does not provide free daily transportation** for students, but it has recently taken steps toward offering a shuttle service. In response to student requests, the university administration announced plans to **“arrange student transportation facilities at the earliest possible”** [aiub.edu](http://aiub.edu). This indicates that a dedicated student bus or shuttle service is being introduced. Indeed, a new *“AIUBian’s Shuttle”* service has been launched as a **paid** transportation option for commuting students (advertised as a secure, convenient shuttle across Dhaka). The shuttle is offered at an **affordable fee (not free)** – meaning it is likely **partly subsidized by the university to keep costs low**, but riders still pay a fare. As of now, there is **no completely free transport** provided by AIUB for daily commutes. The transportation support comes in the form of a soon-to-be operational shuttle bus service at a budget-friendly rate, rather than a free service.

### AIUBian’s Shuttle

AIUBian’s Shuttle is a new venture offering secure and convenient transportation for AIUB students across Dhaka city for an affordable daily fee of 1000 Tk. The service provides both pickup and drop-off options, ensuring students can safely reach home after a long day at the university.

Each vehicle is equipped with:

- A CIA Security Officer onboard for enhanced safety.
- Experienced Drivers committed to a smooth ride.
- A Smoking Zone located at the back.
- Air Conditioning for a comfortable journey.



## Transportation at American International University-Bangladesh (AIUB)

### Transportation

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#### Transportation

College provides transportation facility to the students who require bus service to commute to and from the school. Our buses are well serviced and the staffs are well trained to provide safe and comfortable commute to the students.

## Free transport service for the graduates and the guests to go to the 16th convocation venue.

Dear Graduates of 16th Convocation of AIUB,

AIUB is going to arrange a free transport service for you and your guests to go to the convocation venue.

Please visit following link and complete the small survey before 4:00 pm (9th february, 2016) to allow us to make better decision about the transportation.

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1\\_f7xDkteRHm-lb3PmCG-aVDUAvDsUF5c7R\\_vUs1wMWY/viewform?c=0&w=1](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1_f7xDkteRHm-lb3PmCG-aVDUAvDsUF5c7R_vUs1wMWY/viewform?c=0&w=1)

## Health Clinic Access

AIUB maintains an **on-campus Health Center** that provides **free basic healthcare** to students and staff. The medical center (located in Annex 1 of campus) is open on weekdays and staffed by medical professionals (including nurses and a physician). According to AIUB, the campus clinic offers “*medical advice and free medication*” to all students and employees [aiub.edu](http://aiub.edu). The facility is a fully equipped six-bed clinic that can handle routine check-ups as well as minor emergencies [aiub.edu](http://aiub.edu). **No consultation fee is charged** for visiting the campus doctor/nurse, and essential medicines are provided at no cost for common ailments [aiub.edu](http://aiub.edu). The Health Center also provides specialized support – for instance, it gives special care to pregnant women and lactating mothers, monitors chronic conditions (like diabetes or hypertension) for students/staff, and even supplies free hygiene products to women in emergencies [aiub.edu](http://aiub.edu). An ambulance is on standby for serious cases [aiub.edu](http://aiub.edu). In summary, **health services at AIUB are free or very low-cost** for students: basic medical consultations, first aid, and many medicines are provided **completely free of charge on campus** [aiub.edu](http://aiub.edu), ensuring that low-income students have access to healthcare without financial burden.

## AIUB Medical Facilities

For ensuring good health, AIUB holds a medical center which is located in Annex 1. The medical center of AIUB is accessible to all students and employees of AIUB where medical advice and free medication are given by medical professionals. The medical center is open in weekdays (9 am-5pm). Following facilities are available at the AIUB medical center:

- Fully equipped 6-bedded medical center.
- Routine and emergency medical services to students, teachers, officers and staff.
- Full time Medical Professionals are available to provide medical assistance.
- Special care is given to pregnant women and lactating mothers.
- Regular monitoring of hypertensive and diabetic patients including blood glucose screening.
- Oxygen therapy and nebulization are given if necessary.
- Free hygiene products are provided to women in case of emergency.
- The medical center has an air-conditioned ambulance which is well equipped for carrying emergency patients to hospitals.
  - Regular deep-cleaning and full-disinfection done throughout the buildings in the campus premises.

## General Student Services (Counseling, Legal, Financial Aid)

AIUB provides several general support services for student welfare, **especially targeting those from low-income or disadvantaged backgrounds**:

- **Counseling Services:**

**Free counseling and mentoring** are available to all students. AIUB’s on-campus *Mental Health Support Service*, in partnership with wEvolve, offers professional counseling

(individual therapy sessions, group workshops on stress management, etc.) at no cost [aiub.edu](http://aiub.edu). Faculty members also serve as academic mentors, providing guidance and counseling hours each week for students' academic or personal development [aiub.edu](http://aiub.edu). These counseling programs are accessible to every student and are offered confidentially and free of charge. (AIUB does not list any dedicated **legal advisory service** for students, so **free legal aid is not provided** as a campus service.)

#### | Mentoring and Counselling

Academic Consultation and mentoring are unique methods of supporting students (both male and female) to improve their learning and leadership skills, motivating them towards their future career and professional development. At AIUB faculty members are also serving as role of a mentor/counsellor for students. Faculty counselling hours are posted on the office door of the faculty members, and in addition it is also available to student Virtual University Expert System (VUES) portal. The standard allocation is twenty (20) hours per week for academic counseling and mentoring where approximately 50% students participate. This scheme is available for all students, regardless of religion, race, color, age, disability, nationality, marital status, sexual orientation including gender identity.

## Mental health support

To take care of all student's and employee's (both male and female) mental health, AIUB has started providing professional mental health services in collaboration with wEvolve. wEvolve is a holistic organization geared towards promoting, enabling, and improving mental health for all those who are struggling alone(<https://wevolvebd.org/about/>). In this day and age, when we deal with so many complexities even at a young age, seeking expert counseling when in need should no longer be a stigma and that is precisely the narrative that AIUB and wEvolve is attempting to change.

From October 11, 2022, mental health support services have been available for AIUB students and employees (both male and female) at the AIUB Campus. One counsellor from wEvolve will be available from 10 AM – 4 PM on weekdays (except government holidays) at 3rd Floor, Building D, AIUB permanent campus.

**Exclusively for  
AIUB Students and  
Employees**

- Stress Management
- Anger Management
- Exam Phobia
- Dealing with depression
- Dealing with anxiety
- Mindfulness
- Relationship skills
- Sleep hygiene
- The science and art of parenting
- Emotional literacy
- And many more...

*It's okay to not be okay*

**MENTAL  
HEALTH  
SUPPORT**

wEvolve

**AIUB**

Room DN0327 (North Zone)  
3rd Floor, Building D, AIUB

- **Financial Aid Assistance:**

**Robust financial aid and scholarship programs** are in place to support low-income students. “*AIUB offers various scholarships and financial aid options to support students from low-income backgrounds, helping them overcome financial barriers*” [aiub.edu](http://aiub.edu). This includes **need-based tuition waivers and merit scholarships**. For example, AIUB has general need-based tuition fee waivers for students who demonstrate financial hardship (often requiring a good academic standing as well) [aiub.edu](http://aiub.edu). There are also special scholarships targeting underrepresented or disadvantaged groups – **some cover 100% of tuition**. Notably, the *Dr. Anwarul Abedin Scholarship Grant* awards full tuition coverage each semester to a high-achieving female student [aiub.edu](http://aiub.edu), and other full scholarships exist for postgraduate students (e.g. the Hasna Abedin Scholarship) and students with disabilities or minority backgrounds [aiub.edu](http://aiub.edu). Additionally, AIUB offers **on-campus part-time jobs and volunteer stipends** to help students earn income while studying [aiub.edu](http://aiub.edu). All these measures mean that **financial aid is available and often substantial (up to full tuition)** for students from low-income families, effectively subsidizing their education.

*(Legal services such as free legal counsel are not mentioned in AIUB's resources, implying the university **does not provide legal assistance** as a dedicated student service.)*

## Financial support for students at AIUB

Through tailored scholarship programs, American International University-Bangladesh (AIUB) helps students from the lowest income bracket overcome financial challenges and successfully pursue their studies.

AIUB offers various scholarships and financial aid options to support students from low-income backgrounds, helping them to overcome financial barriers and complete their studies successfully. These initiatives aim to bridge the financial gap for deserving students, especially those from the bottom 20% of the income distribution.

The support programs include merit-based scholarships for freshmen, such as academic awards based on entrance scores and grades, and need-based tuition waivers tailored for students from low-income households. Additionally, the General Need-Based Tuition Fee Waiver program is available for students with proven financial hardship, requiring a high CGPA and completion of specified academic loads.

AIUB also offers specialized scholarships for female students, students with disabilities, and those from underrepresented groups, including ethnic minorities and low-income backgrounds. These include the Anwarul Abedin Scholarship for female undergraduates and the Hasna Abedin Scholarship for postgraduate students, both covering 100% of tuition fees for students who meet strict academic and character standards.

Other unique aids include the Freedom Fighter Waiver and Sibling Waiver , alongside opportunities for part-time on-campus jobs and a volunteer scheme that provides temporary employment and experience for students. These programs, managed by AIUB's Scholarship Committee, allow the university to support students in financial

need, offering them a pathway to achieve academic success despite economic challenges.