# American International University-Bangladesh Sustainable Development Goals Report

# SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GALS







































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# AIUB's Initiatives (2020–2025) to Support Low-Income and Disadvantaged Students

Over the past five years, American International University–Bangladesh (AIUB) has implemented a range of schemes to assist financially poor students – both local and international – from low-income countries and disadvantaged backgrounds. Below we outline the key support programs in place, including scholarships, subsidized services, welfare initiatives, and international partnerships.

# Scholarships and Financial Aid for Disadvantaged Students (2020–2025)

AIUB has expanded its **scholarship and financial aid programs** to ensure that students from underprivileged backgrounds can access higher education. Notable initiatives include:

### • Full Tuition Scholarships:

AIUB complies with national policy mandating that at least 6% of its student body receive full scholarships, with special quota for children of freedom fighters <u>aiub.edu</u>. For example, the Dr. Anwarul Abedin Scholarship (for top-performing female undergraduates) and the Hasna Abedin Scholarship (for outstanding postgraduates) each cover 100% tuition fees for eligible students <u>aiub.edu</u> <u>aiub.edu</u>. These merit-based grants require high CGPAs (≥3.8) and good conduct, and are renewed every semester if strict criteria are maintained <u>aiub.edu</u> <u>aiub.edu</u> <u>aiub.edu</u>.

#### Private University Act Guidelines:

Minimum 6% students of the total population must be given full scholarship. In these 6%, freedom fighter category scholarship recipients must be minimum 3%; and rest of the other categories should cover the other minimum 3% students.

Grants are subject to AIUB Policy. AIUB reserves all the rights to update the policy at any time without any prior notice. AIUB also reserves all the rights to approve/disapprove any grant at any time without any prior notice.

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.

## Anwarul Abedin Scholarship for female Undergraduate Students:

This scholarship grant is established in honor of the late Founder and Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the American International University-Bangladesh (AIUB), Dr. Anwarul Abedin. His vision in providing opportunities for female students to have greater access to university education augurs well to the national and international concern of narrowing the gender gap in the university. The grant covers only the tuition fee (100%)

given to qualified female student every regular semester, Fall and Spring, based on the number of slots to be declared by the Scholarship Committee. (One per faculty)

Criteria for the Selection of Recipients (For Undergraduate Female Students Only)

- CGPA OF 3.8 and above
- No grade below B+
- Regular Full Time/Full Credit, 12-15 credits with no semester gap
- Certification of No Disciplinary Action (to be issued by OSA)
- Certification of Good Moral Character (to be issued by OSA)
- Membership in any AIUB Club
- Certification of Active Participation in Department/Course Extra Curricular Activities (e.g., volunteer, organizer of seminars, workshops, competitions, etc.)
- Not a recipient of any kind of scholarship/financial assistance provided by the university or any other organization.

The renewal of the Grant every regular semester is subject to maintaining the CGPA and other criteria prescribed above.

### Hasna Abedin Scholarship: (Proposed)

This scholarship grant is established in honor of the late Founder and Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the American International University-Bangladesh (AIUB), Mrs. Hasna Abedin. Her vision in strengthening higher education and concentration in specialization and research. The grant covers only the tuition fee (100%) given to qualified post graduate student every regular semester, Fall and Spring, based on the number of slots to be declared by the Scholarship Committee. (One per faculty)

Criteria for the Selection of Recipients (For Postgraduate Students Only)

- CGPA OF 3.8 and above
- No grade below B+
- Regular Full Time/Full Credit, 12 credits with no semester gap
- Certification of No Disciplinary Action (to be issued by OSA)
- Certification of Active Participation in Department/Course Extra Curricular/ Social Welfare/ Research Activities.
- Not a recipient of any kind of scholarship/financial assistance provided by the university or any other organization.

The renewal of the Grant every regular semester is subject to maintaining the CGPA and other criteria prescribed above.

### • Need-Based Tuition Waivers:

AIUB offers general financial aid and tuition waivers targeted at students from low-income households. After completing two regular semesters, financially needy students with good academic standing (e.g. CGPA ≥3.5) can apply for a *General Need-Based Tuition Fee Waiver* aiub.edu aiub.edu. The scholarship committee reviews applications (including a viva voce interview) to grant tuition discounts or waivers for one semester at a time aiub.edu aiub.edu. These need-based waivers help bridge the financial gap for students in the bottom 20% income bracket, enabling them to continue their studies aiub.edu aiub.edu.

### General Need Based Tuition Fee Waiver

The Applicant must have:

- Complete two (2) regular semesters (Spring & Fall)
- Can apply only in a regular semester.
- Fresh application is not allowed for summer semester.
- After submission of application concern department will arrange VIVA for the deserving candidates.
- The number of recipients may vary from time to time depending on the availability of slots.
- The grant shall be for one (1) semester and shall include waiver of tuition fees only.
- Regular academic load of at least 14-15 credits (Undergraduate Degree Program),
   12 credits (Graduates Degree Program),
   4 Courses (EMBA Degree Program) per regular semester.
- CGPA of 3.50 or above.
- No 'Fail (F)', no 'Incomplete(I), no 'Withdrawn (W)', no 'Unofficial Withdrawn (UW)', no dropping course(s) or no Retake Course(s)
- No Disciplinary Action Taken
- Scholarship Committee has the full authority to take any decision on this matter.

### • Special Category Scholarships:

Several dedicated scholarships support underrepresented and vulnerable groups. AIUB has a policy of *no discrimination* in admissions or aid on the basis of gender, race, disability, or income <u>aiub.edu aiub.edu</u>. It offers tuition waivers for students with disabilities and those from underrepresented groups (including ethnic minorities, low-income backgrounds, third-gender, or refugee status) <u>aiub.edu aiub.edu</u>. Eligible students must document their status and meet minimum academic standards to qualify <u>aiub.edu aiub.edu</u>. Additionally, the university provides *Freedom Fighter Waivers* (for descendants of national freedom fighters) and **Sibling Waivers** (discounts when siblings are concurrently enrolled) as forms of financial relief <u>aiub.edu aiub.edu</u> aiub.edu.

### Scholarship for Students with disability

The American International University–Bangladesh (AIUB) is committed to provide equal opportunity to the qualified and deserving candidates regardless of age, gender, sexual orientation, race, disability, color, religion, underrepresented groups, and national or ethnic origin.

AIUB promotes academic freedom among students with disability as a commitment towards inclusive society.

Scholarship is awarded to students with disabilities based on the following criteria:

- Must be a full-time student of AIUB
- Must have a disability as defined by the 'Bangladesh persons with disabilities rights and protection act 2013' and must provide documentation to verify this.
- Applicants must meet the minimum standards to qualify (number of credits/semester, GPA, CGPA, continuity of studies)
- Must submit application at the Registrar's Office within the given deadline of every semester.
- Percentage of scholarship will depend on the recommendation made by the scholarship committee based on their assessment of the application and/or an interview process.
- The final decision of the scholarship is at the discretion of the AIUB Management.

# Scholarship for Students from Underrepresented Group

The American International University–Bangladesh (AIUB) is committed to provide equal opportunity to the qualified and deserving candidates regardless of age, gender, sexual orientation, race, disability, color, religion, underrepresented groups, and national or ethnic origin.

AIUB promotes academic freedom among students coming from the underrepresented group (i.e., ethnic minorities, low-income, non-traditional\*, 3rd Gender, newly settled refugee) as a commitment towards inclusive society.

Scholarship is awarded to students coming from the underrepresented group based on the following criteria:

- Must be a full-time student of AIUB
- Must have proper documentation to verify underrepresented group status as applicable.

- Applicants must meet the minimum standards to qualify (number of credits/semester, GPA, CGPA, continuity of studies)
- Must submit application at the Registrar's Office within the given deadline of every semester.
- Percentage of scholarship will depend on the recommendation made by the scholarship committee based on their assessment of the application and/or an interview process.
- The final decision of the scholarship is at the discretion of the AIUB Management.

\*Non-Traditional Students (Definition): An applicant who has completed a degree that is equivalent to the requirement but not specifically mentioned in the University Grants Commission (UGC)'s list of requirements. [But the degree that is exclusively barred in the UGC list of requirements will not be acceptable]. The equivalency of the degree must be recommended by the admission interview committee/ faculty dean/ administration based on verification of relevant documents. The final decision of the admission is at the discretion of the AIUB Management.

### Freedom Fighter Waiver:

After successfully passing in admission test exam, applicant must sit for Freedom Fighter test exam. Scholarship Committee select them on the basis of appropriate Freedom Fighter papers (as per the guideline of ministry), Freedom Fighter exam result and University Quota policy (as per the guideline of UGC).

- The grant shall be for one (1) semester and shall include waiver of tuition fees only.
- Regular academic load of at least 14-15 credits (Undergraduate Degree Program),
   12 credits (Graduates Degree Program),
   4 Courses (EMBA Degree Program) per regular semester.
- CGPA of 3.50 or above.
- No 'Fail (F)', no 'Incomplete (I), no 'Withdrawn (W)', no 'Unofficial Withdrawn (UW)', no dropping course(s) or no Retake Course(s)
- No Disciplinary Action Taken

15. Sibling Waiver

Sibling of a current student will be entitled to a percentage of tuition fee waiver as decided by the Scholarship Committee. Siblings must be registered in the same semester to be eligible for the waiver. The scholarship will only continue as long as siblings are registered students.

### • Merit Scholarships and Entry Grants:

To attract talented students regardless of finances, AIUB offers **merit-based scholarships for high achievers**. Top scorers in admission exams or national talent competitions may receive tuition waivers under the *National Talent Scholarships*, as determined by an MOU with relevant authorities or per scholarship committee decision <u>aiub.edu</u> <u>aiub.edu</u>. Likewise,

**entrance scholarship exams** are held (e.g. for Summer/Fall intakes) where new applicants can earn tuition discounts based on merit <u>aiub.edu</u>. These grants reward academic excellence while easing the financial burden on deserving students.

5. National Talent Scholarships:

Awarded to students based on their achievements in the national level recognized by the relevant national authority. Based on the application and supporting documents, Scholarship Committee will recommend the eligibility and percentage of tuition fee waiver.

Scholarship for National talents under the MOU between AIUB and National Level Organizations will be awarded as per the clause mentioned in the MOU.

Scholarship Grant for National Talent recipients are selected by the Scholarship Committee. However, the decision to extend scholarship to any individual student remains at the complete Discretion of the Scholarship Committee.

### • On-Campus Employment and Grants:

Beyond tuition waivers, AIUB enables students in need to support themselves through part-time work and stipends. The university offers on-campus job opportunities in various departments, allowing students to earn an income alongside their studies <u>aiub.edu aiub.edu</u>. There is also a structured *Volunteer Scheme* managed by the Office of Student Affairs, where students can assist in university events; while largely voluntary, certain events provide a nominal daily allowance to student volunteers as compensation <u>aiub.edu</u>. These measures not only provide financial relief but also give students work experience. (Note: Students may only receive one scholarship/discount even if they qualify for multiple, as per university policy <u>aiub.edu</u>.)

### Volunteer Scheme

Office of Student Affairs (OSA) maintain a pool of student volunteers after they are selected through a selection process. Volunteers are engaged in various university events for a specific period of time. Most of these engagements are completely voluntary. For some specific events, if required a nominal compensation can be given to the volunteering student as a daily allowance.

#### Renewal of Grant:

Recipient of any of the Academic Scholarship/Grant or Tuition Fee Waiver mentioned above has to comply with the underlying rules consistently. The student:

- Must be enrolled with regular academic load of at least 14-15 credits (Undergraduate Degree Program) OR 12 credits (Graduate Degree Program) per regular semester.
- Must be enrolled in all academic courses during the preceding and subsequent semesters.
- Must not have any disciplinary record.
- Must have a CGPA of 3.75 or above with No 'Fail (F)', no 'Incomplete (I), no 'Withdrawn (W)', no 'Unofficial Withdrawn (UW)', no dropping course(s) or no Retake Course(s)
- And must have an attendance of more than 80% at all times.

Note: In case a student is eligible of more than one scholarship/discount, only one scholarship/discount will be applicable; whichever is higher.

### **Application Procedures:**

Information and application forms for these waivers and aid programs are typically available through the Registrar's Office or AIUB's administration notices. Students must apply within announced deadlines each semester (for example, need-based and sibling waivers often require filling out a form at the start of term <a href="mailto:aiub.edu">aiub.edu</a>). All financial aid is managed by AIUB's Scholarship Committee, which reviews eligibility and has discretion in final approval <a href="mailto:aiub.edu">aiub.edu</a>. Students are advised to maintain good academic standing and conduct, as most waivers demand a clean disciplinary record and consistent attendance <a href="mailto:aiub.edu">aiub.edu</a>.

### **Subsidized Services and Facilities for Low-Income Students**

AIUB recognizes that supporting disadvantaged students goes beyond tuition assistance. The university has introduced **subsidized services** and facilities to ease students' living costs and provide a conducive learning environment:

### • Food and Basic Needs Assistance:

To ensure no student goes hungry, AIUB provides "food assistance" on campus <u>aiub.edu</u>. The university cafeteria and food carts offer affordable, healthy meal options for students throughout the day <u>aiub.edu</u>. For low-income students, the university has programs to support their nutrition needs – effectively **discounted or free meals** in cases of hardship <u>aiub.edu</u>. Similarly, "digital services assistance" is available, which includes access to computers, internet, and software resources so that economically disadvantaged students can complete assignments and online coursework without extra cost <u>aiub.edu</u>.

# Student support at AIUB

AIUB provides essential services, such as food assistance and digital services assistance to support low-income students in completing their university education.

American International University-Bangladesh (AIUB) provides multifaceted support to help students, particularly from low-income backgrounds, achieve academic success and personal growth. Initiatives include mentoring and counseling programs accessible through faculty and the Virtual University Expert System (VUES), which support students' academic and leadership skills. Financial assistance is offered through various scholarships, including the Dr. Anwarul Abedin Scholarship Grant for Female Students, covering tuition for eligible female students each semester. AIUB also facilitates access to basic health services, offering free medical care,

### • Healthcare and Well-being:

AIUB facilitates access to **basic health services** at little or no cost for its students. On-campus medical services provide **free basic medical care** and even specialized support (such as maternal health services for female students) <u>aiub.edu</u>. Recognizing mental health as a vital aspect of student welfare, AIUB launched an on-campus counseling center in 2022 in partnership with *wEvolve*. A professional counselor is available weekdays to offer **mental health support and confidential counseling** to students and staff, free of charge <u>aiub.edu</u>.

This initiative has made psychological support easily accessible to all students, ensuring that stress or personal challenges do not derail academic progress.

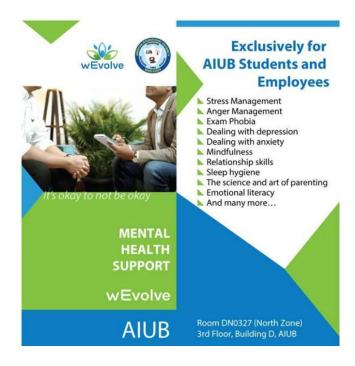
AIUB provides essential services, such as food assistance and digital services assistance to support low-income students in completing their university education. American International University-Bangladesh (AIUB) provides multifaceted support to help students, particularly from low-income backgrounds, achieve academic success and personal growth. Initiatives include mentoring and counseling programs accessible through faculty and the Virtual University Expert System (YUES), which support students' academic and leadership skills. Financial assistance is offered through various scholarships, including the Dr. Anwarul Abedin Scholarship Grant for Female Students, covering tuition for eligible female students each semester. AIUB also facilitates access to basic health services, offering free medical care, specialized maternal support, and mental health counseling on campus. Accommodation options for students, including separate housing for female students, ensure safe and accessible living spaces near the university. AIUB has signed an MoU with Super Hostel to provide accommodation for both male and female students separately. Employment and part-time work opportunities on campus allow students to gain work experience and support their finances while studying. The university encourages female student participation in clubs and sports, supporting them with dedicated facilities, leadership roles, and scholarships. Through these comprehensive programs, AIUB fosters an inclusive environment that addresses the academic, health, financial, and personal needs of low-income students, helping them thrive.

### Introducing Mental Health Support - wEvolve at AIUB

From Tuesday, October 11, 2022, mental health support services will be available for AIUB students and employees at the AIUB Campus.

A counsellor from wEvolve will be available from 10 AM – 4 PM on weekdays (except government holidays) at 3rd Floor, Building D.

AIUB students and employees, who require mental health support, are advised to visit the wEvolve office at AIUB, Room DN0327, 3rd Floor, Building D for appointment.



### • Affordable Housing:

For students coming from outside Dhaka or from abroad, the university has taken steps to secure **safe and affordable accommodation**. AIUB signed an *MoU with "Super Hostel"* to provide hostel lodging for its students, with separate facilities for male and female students near the campus <u>aiub.edu aiub.edu</u>. This collaboration ensures that students from low-income or remote backgrounds have access to **subsidized housing** in a secure environment. By solving

housing concerns, AIUB enables students to focus on their studies without the burden of high living costs in the city.

specialized maternal support, and mental health counseling on campus. Accommodation options for students, including separate housing for female students, ensure safe and accessible living spaces near the university. AIUB has signed an MoU with Super Hostel to provide accommodation for both male and female students separately. Employment and part-time work opportunities on campus allow students to gain work experience and support their finances while studying. The university encourages female student participation in clubs and sports, supporting them with dedicated facilities, leadership roles, and scholarships. Through these comprehensive programs, AIUB fosters an inclusive environment that addresses the academic, health, financial, and personal needs of low-income students, helping them thrive.

### Transportation and Campus Facilities:

To assist with transportation, AIUB operates shuttle **bus services for staffs** commuting to campus (often provided during major events like convocation) <u>aiub.edu</u>. While regular daily transport may entail a nominal fee, the university has at times arranged **free transport** for their employees <u>aiub.edu</u>. On campus, students enjoy modern facilities – libraries, computer labs, study lounges, indoor game zones, etc. – at no extra cost. These resources, along with the scenic green campus, provide an enriching environment for **academic and cultural growth** regardless of a student's financial means <u>aiub.edu</u>.

### • Training and Skill Development Opportunities:

AIUB frequently hosts **free workshops, seminars, and training programs** to build students' skills – with particular outreach to low-income students who may lack such opportunities. For instance, in 2023 the university organized a hands-on *Microsoft Excel skill development workshop* specifically aimed at **empowering low-income students** with data analysis skills for better job prospects <u>aiub.edu</u>. Similarly, a basic *Stock Market Trading workshop* in Oct 2023 introduced economically disadvantaged students to financial literacy and investment fundamentals at no cost <u>aiub.edu</u>. These events (often tagged with **SDG1: No Poverty**) are designed to enhance students' employability and self-sufficiency <u>aiub.edu aiub.edu</u>. AIUB also runs career development programs – e.g. seminars on tax education, freelancing, or entrepreneurship – to help **low-income students gain practical knowledge** for incomegenerating careers <u>aiub.edu</u> <u>aiub.edu</u>. All such training and cultural opportunities are provided free or highly subsidized, ensuring *inclusive access* to personal and professional development.

# Skill Development Workshop on Microsoft Excel

AIUB Community of Engineering Students (ACES) organized a Skill Development Workshop on Microsoft Excel on February 23, 2023 (Thursday). The workshop started at 10 AM with 25 pre-registered participants in DN0209, Building D, AIUB. The purpose of this workshop was to develop skill on Microsoft Excel to be able to pre-process and analyze data in a professional or academic field. Mr. Abir Ahmed (Assistant Professor & Special Assistant, EEE, Faculty of Engineering, AIUB & Motivator, ACES) began the workshop by emphasizing the significance of acknowledging Microsoft Excel in our day-to-day activities. After that he conducted a 3-hour long hands-on practice session from basic to advance level Microsoft Excel features. The instructor took feedback from participants and end the workshop with Q/A session. Following that, Dr. Md. Saniat Rahman Zishan (Associate Professor & Head, Dept. of CoE, AIUB & Mentor, ACES.)

thanked the speaker and presented a token of appreciation to the instructor. The workshop ended at 1:00 PM with a group photo.







# Workshop on the "Basics of Bangladeshi Stock Market Trading for Beginners"

The Department of Economics of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences of American International University-Bangladesh (AIUB) has organized a Workshop on the "Basics of Bangladeshi Stock Market Trading for Beginners." on October 16th,2023 at the AIUB Media Studio. The workshop was designed and coordinated by Mr. Zahin Syed, Lecturer, Department of Economics, AIUB.

The esteemed speaker of the session was Mr. Saihad Shahid Rahman, Lecturer of the Faculty of Business Administration, AIUB, and a Bangladeshi Stock Market Trading expert. Mr. Rahman discussed the fundamentals of stock market trading and gave valuable insights into investment strategies and risk management. He also showed a recorded live trading session to the audience to give them the trading experience. Lastly, he emphasized making informed decisions by analyzing the performance indicators of the stocks before trading.

The program was graced by Prof. Dr. Tazul Islam, Dean, FASS. Dr. Faria Sultana, Head of the department, and faculty members of different departments along with students were present at the event.







# Student Welfare Programs (Academic, Social, and Psychological Support)

To foster an inclusive campus, AIUB has invested in **student welfare programs** that support not just the financial, but also the academic, social, and emotional well-being of disadvantaged students:

### • Mentoring and Academic Support:

The university runs mentoring and advising programs to help students adapt and excel academically. Faculty members and the Office of Student Affairs provide counseling for students facing academic difficulties. Through the Virtual University Expert System (VUES) – an online mentoring platform – students can access academic guidance and skill-building resources remotely <u>aiub.edu aiub.edu</u>. These support systems are especially beneficial for first-generation and low-income students who may need extra guidance in navigating university life. By offering mentorship and academic skill workshops (e.g. study skills, time management), AIUB helps **bridge the achievement gap** for students from weaker educational backgrounds.

AIUB provides essential services, such as food assistance and digital services assistance to support low-income students in completing their university education.

American International University-Bangladesh (AIUB) provides multifaceted support to help students, particularly from low-income backgrounds, achieve academic success and personal growth. Initiatives include mentoring and counseling programs accessible through faculty and the Virtual University Expert System (VUES), which support students' academic and leadership skills. Financial assistance is offered through various scholarships, including the Dr. Anwarul Abedin Scholarship Grant for Female Students, covering tuition for eligible female students each semester. AIUB also facilitates access to basic health services, offering free medical care, specialized maternal support, and mental health counseling on campus. Accommodation options for students, including separate housing for female students, ensure

### Mental Health and Counseling Services:

AIUB's introduction of wEvolve counseling on campus in October 2022 marked a significant step in student welfare <u>aiub.edu</u>. Students from high-stress or underprivileged backgrounds often face additional mental pressures, and **free on-campus counseling** now provides them a crucial support outlet. A trained counselor is available full-time on weekdays to assist students dealing with anxiety, depression, or any personal issues <u>aiub.edu</u>. This confidential service, along with periodic mental health awareness programs, addresses the psychological well-being of students so that financial or social hardships do not lead to dropouts. The emphasis on mental wellness reflects AIUB's holistic approach to student success.



• Student Clubs and Social Inclusion:

AIUB encourages all students – including women and those from marginalized groups – to engage in campus clubs, sports, and cultural activities. Over the last five years, the university has enhanced **inclusive student life programs**: there are numerous student-run clubs (technical, cultural, sports, etc.) where membership is open and often **free of cost**. The university actively supports female students' participation by providing dedicated facilities and leadership roles in clubs and sports teams <u>aiub.edu</u>. This inclusive campus culture helps disadvantaged students build confidence, networks, and soft skills. AIUB's Office of Cultural Affairs and various student organizations also host events (debates, cultural fests, competitions) that celebrate diversity and foster a sense of community. These social support structures ensure that financially challenged students still enjoy a rich campus experience and peer support system.

safe and accessible living spaces near the university. AIUB has signed an MoU with Super Hostel to provide accommodation for both male and female students separately. Employment and part-time work opportunities on campus allow students to gain work experience and support their finances while studying. The university encourages female student participation in clubs and sports, supporting them with dedicated facilities, leadership roles, and scholarships. Through these comprehensive programs, AIUB fosters an inclusive environment that addresses the academic, health, financial, and personal needs of low-income students, helping them thrive.

### • Career Counseling and Job Placement:

To further support students' future, the Office of Placement & Alumni conducts career counseling, CV writing workshops, and job fairs that give priority to students in need. Notably, AIUB Job Fair 2023 connected students with 111 companies in a single-day event, boosting employment prospects for graduating students including those from financially disadvantaged backgrounds aiub.edu aiub.edu. Career seminars (such as "Career Planning in post-COVID Job Market" in 2023) explicitly targeted students from the bottom financial quintile, offering tips on low-cost professional development and job search strategies aiub.edu aiub.edu. By providing these services, AIUB helps poor and underprivileged students transition to the workforce successfully, thereby breaking the cycle of poverty through gainful employment.

# AIUB Job Fair 2023 successfully held

The American International University-Bangladesh (AIUB) successfully organized its annual job fair, the AIUB Job Fair 2023, on Saturday, December 9, 2023, at the AIUB Campus. Dr. Carmen Zita Lamagna, a Member of the Board of Trustees at AIUB, inaugurated the event, marking the beginning of a day of opportunities.

A total of 111 esteemed national and multinational companies actively participated in the job fair, representing diverse sectors encompassing banking, IT solutions, telecommunications, networking solutions, pharmaceuticals, leasing & finance, call centers, automobile, real estate, job portals, accessories and equipment, agro-business, FMCGs, and more. Dr. Carmen Zita Lamagna personally visited the stalls, expressing gratitude to the companies for their wholehearted participation and collaboration.

The AIUB Job Fair serves as a significant platform for both alumni and future graduates, facilitating their entry into the corporate world. Organized by the Office of Placement & Alumni (OPA) of AIUB, this flagship event aims to bridge the gap between academia and industry.

The inauguration ceremony was graced by the presence of Prof. Dr. Abdur Rahman, the Pro-Vice Chancellor of AIUB, Mr. R. Tareque Moudud FCMA, Director of OPA, along with Deans, Directors, Departmental Heads, Faculty Members, students, alumni, and esteemed officials of AIUB. Notably, a considerable number of company representatives present at the fair were AIUB alumni, highlighting the event's value and the university's pride.

The day-long program continued till 5:00 PM, attracting a significant turnout of existing students and alumni in pursuit of promising career prospects. The fair witnessed an influx of students and alumni, eagerly submitting their resumes to various companies. Some companies conducted on-the-spot job interviews, while some arranged quiz competitions for the enthusiastic participants.

The AIUB Job Fair 2023 marked a successful convergence of opportunities, serving as a steppingstone for AIUB students and alumni towards fulfilling career paths.

List of participating companies at the AIUB Job Fair 2023.







# **International Collaborations for Low-Income Student Access**

AIUB's commitment to inclusive education extends to **international students from low-income regions**. The university has taken steps to attract and support students beyond Bangladesh, especially from developing countries:

### • Scholarships for International Students:

AIUB makes its merit scholarships and aid available to international applicants as well, fostering a diverse student body. According to the university, it provides academic, community, and financial support (scholarships/tuition waivers) even to "international students from low and lower-middle-income countries," ensuring an inclusive environment for them on campus aiub.edu. In practice, this means a qualified student from a less developed country can receive tuition waivers or discounts similar to local students. The AIUB Admission Policy for Underrepresented Groups explicitly includes foreign applicants from low-income backgrounds or refugee status, underlining that admission and aid are granted irrespective of national or ethnic origin if academic criteria are met aiub.edu aiub.edu.

American International University-Bangladesh (AIUB) aims to create an inclusive educational environment for students from diverse financial backgrounds. AIUB provides academic, community, financial support through scholarships and waivers to students, including international students from low and lower-middle-income countries. AIUB provides necessary academic, housing, and visa assistance to international students. The University does offer merit-based and other scholarships to students and fosters an inclusive learning environment.

### Admission Policy for Underrepresented Group

The American International University–Bangladesh (AIUB) is committed to provide equal opportunity to the qualified and deserving candidates regardless of age, gender, sexual orientation, race, disability, color, religion, underrepresented groups, and national or ethnic origin.

AIUB promotes academic freedom among applicants coming from the underrepresented group (i.e., ethnic minorities, low-income, non-traditional\*, 3rd Gender, newly settled refugee) as a commitment towards inclusive society.

Admission application of applicants coming from the underrepresented group will be assessed based on the following criteria:

- Admission applicants under this category must submit relevant documents that can verified to identify their status of the underrepresented group.
- Applicants must meet the minimum standards for admission
- for undergraduate: SSC/HSC/O'level/A'Level results
- for graduate: see (a), undergraduate results
- Recommendation from the admission interview committee/ faculty dean/ administration in support of the application.
- The final decision of the admission is at the discretion of the AIUB Management.

\*Non-Traditional Students (Definition): An applicant who has completed a degree that is equivalent to the requirement but not specifically mentioned in the University Grants Commission (UGC)'s list of requirements. [But the degree that is exclusively barred in the UGC list of requirements will not be acceptable]. The equivalency of the degree must be recommended by the admission interview committee/ faculty dean/ administration based on verification of relevant documents. The final decision of the admission is at the discretion of the AIUB Management.

### International Students

### **Admission Procedure for International Students**

In order to apply to American International University-Bangladesh as an International student, applicants are required to provide the following items:

#### 1. Admission Form:

Submit the Completed Admission Form (Download PDF Format).

#### 2. Academic Records:

- (a) All certified scanned copies of the original educational records must be submitted. If the original copy of this record is written in a foreign language, a certified English translation is required.
- (b) TOEFL/IELTS/GRE/GMAT/SAT scores are required (as applicable) of all applicants, except those from countries where English is the only official language, as evidence of adequate proficiency in English. The minimum acceptable score for TOEFL and GMAT/GRE is 550, and for SAT it is 1650.
- (c) Submit two letters of recommendation/testimonials with your application.

#### 3. Financial Records:

All international students are required to submit Certification of Financial Records or Bank Statement guaranteeing that they have sufficient funds available to cover the necessary educational and living expenses for completing their studies here at AIUB. The Record or Statement of Accounts can be either in the student's name or the Guardian/Parent(s) name. It should be noted here that Scholarships, financial aid and loans are NOT available to International Students.

#### 4. Medical Records:

A student must submit an authentic document proving that he / she has completed the hepatitis A and B series and must include a tuberculin test.

### 5. Deadline:

In order to apply to American International University-Bangladesh for any of our Fall or Spring Semester as an International student, all applicants are required to apply at least 2 Months prior to the commencement of classes. (Please check the web page for the Commencement Date of each Semester).

### 6. Application Process:

Upon receipt of all the above items, the applicant's file will be presented to the Admissions Department of the American International University-Bangladesh for the

admission decision. The applicant will be duly informed of the decision by the Admission Department.

### 7. Special Note:

- (a) All International Students are expected to make their own arrangements for housing, however necessary assistance will be provided where applicable or whenever needed.
- (b) After acceptance by the University students are required to fulfill the relevant documentation processing for their Student Visa purposes. The University will not be responsible for arranging Visas for any Foreign Students.
- (c) Please be informed that the inclusion of any false information constitutes grounds for dismissal from the University.

### • Housing and Visa Assistance:

Recognizing the extra challenges international students face, AIUB offers logistical support such as assistance with **visa processing, academic advising, and housing** for students coming from abroad <u>aiub.edu</u>. The dedicated *International Student Office* helps newcomers with paperwork and helps them settle (including connecting them to the mentioned hostel facilities). By easing these burdens, AIUB lowers the barrier for students from low-income countries to pursue studies in Bangladesh. This supportive approach was highlighted in AIUB's SDG report, noting that the university "provides necessary academic, housing, and visa assistance to international students" alongside scholarships <u>aiub.edu</u>.

American International University-Bangladesh (AIUB) aims to create an inclusive educational environment for students from diverse financial backgrounds. AIUB provides academic, community, financial support through scholarships and waivers to students, including international students from low and lower-middle-income countries. AIUB provides necessary academic, housing, and visa assistance to international students. The University does offer merit-based and other scholarships to students and fosters an inclusive learning environment.

### • Global Partnerships for Educational Access:

AIUB has actively engaged in **collaborations with foreign universities and organizations** to broaden educational opportunities. For example, in 2023 AIUB signed an MoU with *Adamas University in India* to facilitate student exchanges and joint programs <u>aiub.edu</u>. This partnership (aligned with SDG4: Quality Education) enables AIUB students – including those from modest means – to study abroad for short programs, and likewise allows international students to experience AIUB, often with scholarship support. Such exchanges "foster cultural understanding and global learning experiences," contributing to cross-border educational access <u>aiub.edu</u> <u>aiub.edu</u>. Similarly, AIUB has MoUs with institutions in countries like **South Korea and Uzbekistan** aimed at strengthening academic networks and **promoting cross-border exchanges** of students and faculty <u>aiub.edu</u>. These collaborations often include provisions or special considerations for students from developing regions, in line with AIUB's inclusive mission.

### MOU signed between AIUB and Adamas University, India

On September 11, 2023, a memorandum of understanding (MoU) was officially inked between the Department of Media and Mass Communication (MMC) of the American International University-Bangladesh (AIUB) and the School of Media and Communication of Adamas University in Kolkata, India. This collaborative agreement paves the way for a robust partnership aimed at fostering leadership skills through multi-curricular activities for students from both institutions. Furthermore, it outlines strategies for the internationalization of student exchange programs across various academic disciplines.

Recently, a delegation of ten students from AIUB's Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS), accompanied by their teachers, namely Prof. Dr. ABM Rahmatullah, Associate Dean of FASS, and Mr. Niaz Majumdar from the MMC department, embarked on an "International Student Exchange Program" to Adamas University in Kolkata, India.



# MOU BETWEEN AIUB AND DONGSHIN UNIVERSITY [DSU], REPUBLIC OF KOREA

Amplifying their international collaborations for education, the American International University – Bangladesh [AIUB] signed a Memorandum of Understanding [MoU] with the Dongshin University [DSU], Republic of Korea. On 10th April 2023, delegates from DSU arrived at AIUB to discuss the opportunities for collaboration in the form of faculty and student exchange programs, collaborative staff development programs, exchange of academic information and materials of mutual interest, organization of joint research programs, and other academic exchanges. The signing ceremony was endorsed by Prof. Dr. Md. Abdur Rahman [Pro Vice Chancellor, AIUB] and Prof. Seongrok Oh [Dean, Institute of International Education, DSU] in the presence of other representatives from both universities.

The agreement holds great promise for the institutions in developing their academics, enriching cultures, and sharing diversity in the process. AIUB and DSU expressed their interest and eagerness in undertaking the partnership activities moving forward as soon as possible, realizing the potential possibilities of this strategic linkage. This MoU is expected to deliver an opportunity for both organizations to strengthen their mutual relationships and collaborate for mutual benefits.

This MoU ceremony was organized by Ms. Sazia Afrin, Assistant Professor, Department of Accounting, AIUB, with the utmost supervision and guidance of Prof. Dr. Farheen Hassan, Associate Dean, FBA, AIUB, and Dr. Mohammad Faridul Alam, Associate Professor, and Director, Graduate Program [MBA & EMBA], AIUB. The signing event was also attended by Mr. Manzur H. Khan [Director (OSA) & Proctor]; Mr. Manirul Islam, Director, Institute of Continuing Education; Dr. Md. Aftab Anwar, Head, Department of Management & HRM; and Mr. Mohammad Hamidul Haque, Head, Department of English. Mr. Yohan Cho, an official from the Institute of International Education, DSU, also attended the MoU signing program.



### • Guidance on International Scholarships:

In addition to formal partnerships, AIUB prepares its students (and prospective international students) to tap into global scholarship programs. Notably, in October 2023 the IEEE Student Branch at AIUB hosted a webinar on the **Erasmus Mundus Joint Masters Scholarships**, specifically to guide low-income students from around the world on studying in Europe aiub.edu. Experts explained the fully-funded scholarship opportunities, application process, and benefits, empowering students from disadvantaged regions to aim for higher studies abroad aiub.edu. AIUB also arranged webinars featuring alumni who won **DAAD (Germany)** and other prestigious scholarships, sharing tips with current students on securing international funding aiub.edu aiub.edu. Through these efforts, AIUB acts as a bridge for talented but financially strapped students to access global education opportunities.

# Webinar on "A Road to Erasmus Mundus Joint Masters (EMJM) and Erasmus Mundus Scholarship"

On Sunday, 22th October 2023, the IEEE AIUB Student Branch organized a webinar titled "A Road to Erasmus Mundus Joint Masters (EMJM) and Erasmus Mundus Scholarship" in collaboration with Erasmus Mundus Association Bangladesh. The main focus of the webinar was to aware students about the Erasmus Mundus Program and its benefits.

Dr. Shameem Ahmad, Counselor, IEEE AIUB Student Branch; Assistant Professor, Department of EEE, Faculty of Engineering, AIUB, inaugurated the webinar by emphasizing the significance of the Erasmus Mundus Scholarship program and sharing his expertise regarding the program. Additionally, he discussed the speaker and the speaker's previous affiliations. Then, Mr. Sayed Muhammad Baker, Country Representative for Bangladesh Erasmus Mundus Association (EMA AISBL); PhD Candidate, Technical University of Kaiserslautern, Germany; Project Engineer, COHERENT-DILAS Diodenlaser GmbH, Germany; initiated the session by expressing his gratitude to IEEE AIUB Student Branch for organizing the webinar.

He began by giving a brief preview of the subjects he would cover, touching on scholarship eligibility, the application process, and sharing his own journey. Then, he delved into a thorough discussion of the Erasmus Mundus Scholarship, highlighting its significance as a fully funded option for international students to pursue a master's degree at a consortium of European universities. He highlighted the scholarship's benefits, such as gaining international exposure, language proficiency, and a global network. For the application process, he shared insights on program selection, website navigation, and crafting a persuasive motivation letter that conveys academic interests and career goals. He also covered vital documents, including CVs, recommendation letters, and English proficiency proof, offering tips for their preparation. He concluded by encouraging students to engage in extracurricular activities and research to showcase their potential and emphasized the value of participating in the Erasmus Mundus Scholarship for international experience.

With a strong commitment to advancing global education and progress, this webinar proudly serves as a beacon of knowledge and collaboration, in alignment with Sustainable Development Goal 4 (SDG 4), Quality Education, striving to ensure that every learner has access to a comprehensive, equitable, and enriching educational experience. Dr. Shameem Ahmad wrapped up the session with his closing remarks, expressing gratitude to Erasmus Mundus Association Bangladesh for their collaboration with IEEE AIUB Student Branch. He also presented a virtual token of appreciation on behalf of IEEE AIUB Student Branch to the speaker.

The webinar started at 6:00 PM and ended at 7:30 PM. A total of 80+ participants attended the webinar. Distinguished faculty members Dr. Md. Saniat Rahman Zishan, Director, Faculty of Engineering, AIUB; Advisor, IEEE AIUB Student Branch and Dr. Md. Ehasanul Haque, Department Head, IPE & Senior Assistant Professor, Department of Engineering, AIUB joined the webinar.



In summary, AIUB has demonstrated a strong commitment in 2020–2025 to supporting poor and disadvantaged students. The university's multi-faceted approach – from full tuition scholarships and need-based waivers, to subsidized food, health care, mentoring, and international outreach – creates an inclusive educational environment. Official AIUB sources and press releases confirm that these schemes (free education grants, discounted services, welfare counseling, and international agreements) are in place to ensure that **no capable student is left behind due to financial hardship** aiub.edu aiub.edu. Such initiatives not only fulfill the university's social responsibility but also align with global Sustainable Development Goals (e.g. SDG1: No Poverty and SDG4: Quality Education), making AIUB a leader in widening access to higher education in Bangladesh and beyond.