



AFE BABALOLA UNIVERSITY, ADO EKITI

Access and Participation Plan 2020-2030

Effective Date: January 10, 2020

Last Date of Review: January 10, 2021

Due for Review: January 10, 2022

1. PURPOSE

ABUAD's central mission of delivering quality education with national impact depends upon maintaining fair and equitable access to students from all backgrounds, irrespective of their income level, social status, gender or disability.

The purpose of this policy document is to safeguard and maintain fair and equitable access for all, in teaching, research and academic engagements at ABUAD.

2. POLICY DESCRIPTION

ABUAD has an institutional commitment to advance national development through innovative, inclusive, and entrepreneurial education and research. To this end, this policy prescribes plans and policies aimed at ensuring that all degree courses ABUAD are designed and implemented in a manner that enables and widens access to those groups of potential students from vulnerable backgrounds, especially those from indigent backgrounds with low household incomes of less than N200,000.

Curriculum design and timetabling shall also take into account the additional responsibilities of students from vulnerable groups who are more likely to have caring responsibilities, childcare arrangements and the need to work alongside study.

3. POLICY STATEMENTS

1. All ABUAD Colleges and Centers shall achieve 50 percent admission and graduation /completion rate for students from low household incomes in the bottom 20% of household income group (below N200,000 a year) by the year 2030.
2. All Colleges and Centers shall put in place annual programs, plans and incentives aimed at increasing the number of students from low-income households that are admitted and graduated from their programs.
3. ABUAD shall offer part-time degree programs aimed at providing discounted education to prospective students from poor, vulnerable and non-traditional academic backgrounds. The Directorate of Part-Time Studies shall provide affordable quality and functional education targeted at low income members of the society.
4. Curriculum design and timetabling shall include a blend of day, evening, and online courses in order to accommodate as much as possible, students from vulnerable groups such as

women, executives, and low-income students who are more likely to have caring responsibilities, childcare arrangements and the need to work alongside study.

5. All Colleges and Centers shall reduce the current gap between male and female admission and graduation /completion rate from 30 percent to 5 percent by the year 2030.
6. All Colleges and Centers shall reduce the current attainment gap between students with disability and those without a disability from 15 percent to 0 percent by the year 2030.
7. The Annual Founder's Scholarship and Prize Scheme will continue to provide comprehensive financial aid to poor and indigent students. All Colleges shall nominate at the start of every year, two fresh students from low-income backgrounds who shall receive tuition free education all through their studies at ABUAD. Recipients of the award are to maintain a first-class grade point average all through their course of study.
8. In addition to the admission and merit awards, The Annual Founder's Scholarship and Prize Scheme shall provide Emergency Financial Aid to students experiencing financial difficulties and hardship. The Office of the Bursar shall design and provide information for accessing financial aid, hardship fund and other emergency support programs at the start of every academic semester.

4. PROCEDURE FOR GRIEVANCES

A faculty member may file an appeal to the Vice Chancellor if he/she feels aggrieved by a decision in violation of academic freedom stipulated in this policy. Such appeal shall be reviewed by a committee appointed by the Vice Chancellor

The jurisdictional directives of the review committee shall include:

- Determine whether proper university procedures have been followed;
- Review and make recommendations in relation to appeal and grievances;
- Communicate its decision to the complainant.

After hearing the case, the committee will submit its recommendations to the Vice Chancellor and to the appellant or grievant.

The decision of the Vice Chancellor is final.

5. COMMUNITY THAT MUST KNOW THIS POLICY

University Management, Provosts, Program Coordinators, Directors, Faculty, Students.