



Amity Global Varsity

Student Protection Plan

For Open University Validated Programmes

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Contact	support@amityopenuniversity.com/
Changes Summary	Clarity of the 'Compensation' aspect in case the students are migrated from Amity Global Varsity to Amity University

STUDENT PROTECTION PLAN

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1. What is the Student Protection Plan?

The SPP states the possible list of events that can pose a risk to the continuation of students' studies and the measures in place to mitigate the risks. The policy also elaborates upon the communication plan set out for the impacted students.

This policy is in addition to any dispute pertaining to admission or any matter as a student or alumnus of Amity which shall be subjected to the jurisdiction of the Delhi Court.

2. Need for SPP at Amity Global Varsity

Amity Global Varsity (AGV) validated partner of Open University (OU), UK, offers degree programmes – BA (Hons.) Business management and Management of Business Administration (MBA). Clause 4.3 of the OU, UK states that validated partner needs to have their own Student Protection Plan (SPP) in place. AGV being one of the partner institutions is publishing its own Student Protection Plan.

3. What is covered?

If the student is enrolled at AGV for the Open University validated programmes (OUVP) and is entitled to earn a recognized qualification, the student is most likely covered under this plan. The two OUVP programmes covered under this SPP are as follows:

- Management of Business Administration (MBA)
- BA (Hons.) Business management

Student is not covered under this SPP

- If the student is registered for any other programme floated under AGV or Amity University, other than the aforementioned two Open University Validated Programmes.
- If the registration is cancelled due to any other reason for instance, non-payment of fee installments, disciplinary reason, or implication of any other students' regulations and policies like academic misconduct, termination etc.
- If the student has posed interest in taking admission in the said programmes. Prospective students are the students who have posed their vested interest in the given programmes

and/or have paid the initial instalment, but their OUVV enrolment number is not generated. Though they are not covered under SPP, but AGV extends resolution to these students as per Admissions appeal policy.

4. Objective

The key objective of this plan is to uphold the interest of the students enrolled in the said programmes in case the risk to discontinuation on the said programmes arise and the ways of communicating the same. This SPP elaborates upon possible illustrations of the reasons that can trigger this risk, for instance,

- termination of partnership with the OU, UK,
- closure of the provider of the programmes,
- modifications within the programme in full or in part, etc.

5. Purpose

This SPP details the risk posed to the continuation of the programme that can arise due to the decisions taken by the Institution or the partner university. This policy also specifies the ways to mitigate the said risks, and the opportunities for refund. The policy also elaborates on appropriate ways of communicating the same to the effective stakeholders. The policy explains individual circumstances considering various students' profile and provides adequate alternatives suiting their individual aspirations.

This document should be read in conjunction with the following regulations and policies which can be found in the Amity's Learning Management System at

<http://lms.amityopenuniversity.com/lms/mod/folder/view.php?id=2998>

An assessment of range of risks and the recommended mitigation

6.1. Programme Deferred

The possibility of programme deferred for an existing batch is low, but for a prospective batch is medium to high. AGV offers programme validated by OU, UK which is a degree awarding body. As per the handbook for OU validated awards, the OU, UK conducts regular review of their partner institute to ensure demonstration of knowledge & understanding as per UK quality code for Higher education. Wherever the Open University assesses a deviation or the need for quality improvement, the programme can be deferred.

In such circumstances, the AGV team will work closely with the OUVF team to ensure upholding the quality standards & the UK regulations. This can result in tentative deferment of the program from 6 months to a year.

5.2 Modification of programme in part or in full

The possibility of withdrawal of an individual module for an existing batch is very low because the withdrawal of a module is a major change as per the OUVF regulations and in general any major change is not applicable to the existing batch. Any major change is applicable for the forthcoming batches, therefore, the changes are majorly communicated to the students prior to admission.

Since the probability of occurrence of the aforementioned event – withdrawal of an individual module within the program is very low, there is no risk or minimal risk posed to the students with respect to their choices of the modules they aspire to study for their career growth.

5.3 Withdrawal of an elective

The probability of withdrawal of a particular elective within the given programmes for an existing batch of students is very low because the withdrawal of an elective is a major change as per the OUVF regulations and in general any major change is not applicable to the existing batch. Any major change is applicable for the forthcoming batches, therefore, the changes are majorly communicated to the students prior to admission. However, if

due to any reason, such a change is recommended by the OUVV, this decision generally undergoes several levels of review & approval process by dedicated committees at Amity & OUVV. Therefore, the rationale for the decision must be very strong and be in the best interest of the achievement of the student of the programme learning outcomes. This change, if at all takes place, will be effectively communicated and students will be counselled appropriately for the same.

5.4 Withdrawal of entire programme

The probability of withdrawal of entire programme for an existing batch is moderate to high because the degree is offered by the Partner University. Therefore, any decision made by the Partner University can have an impact on the continuation of the program. The said impact can be on both the existing and prospective candidates. In the event that the Partner University decides to terminate or withdraw approval for a Validated Programme or to suspend the registration of students on a Validated Programme, the Open University shall notify the partner institution at least six months in advance of the proposed termination, withdrawal or suspension.

5.5 Closure of the Institution

The probability of the closure of the Institution is very low because Amity is a renowned university operating globally since 2005 offering programmes in all domains. Amity Global Varsity is an integral part of Amity Education Group and the governing body of Amity University & Amity Global Varsity is the same. Amity Directorate of Distance & Online Education (ADDOE) is an institution under Amity University offering Distance and Online Learning Programs since last fifteen years in a row and is a pioneer of 'Online' education in India. ADDOE is the first university in India to receive accreditation by University Grants Commission (a body responsible for overseeing Higher Education Universities under Ministry of HRD, Govt. of India) for offering 100% Online degree programmes in India.

Stated so, if at all, the closure of AGV happens, the existing students have an option to choose the program of their interest from the plethora of programmes ADDOE is having and can thus fulfil their aspiration.

In case the student is not happy or satisfied with this shift, the student can claim refund as per the process mentioned in the Appeal Policy for Admissions. If the student claims that the program offered by Amity does not meet their career or professional objectives, then the fee already paid by the student will be refunded to him. Amity fund refunds, compensation and additional costs incurred process is mentioned in the Appeal Policy for Admissions. Amity Global Varsity will initiate refund fee and/or cancel a financial charge from a student's account provided the student meets the requirements mentioned in Appeal Policy and Admissions.

The document does not cover any details about period/ intakes because there are no more intakes in the Program since the partnership has ended.

Amity cannot have their license / registration revoked by the MoE / Government / Authorities because the registration is for Amity University and not for AGV.

All the Amity OU students are taught 100% online and there are no face-to-face interactions.

There will be no refunds and compensations because there are no fresh admissions.

All the applicants are being treated equally and there is no disparity due to fee payment, since the students pay their fee semester wise. There are no new admissions and as such no advance has been received from any of the student.

Due to the partnership being terminated, no new admissions in the programme has been taken. OU has assured AGV of their assistance during this teach out period till the last student graduates or terminates.

6. Mitigation of the moderate to high assessed risk

In case the assessed risk to continuation of the programme is medium to high, AGV follows several stage measures to minimize the effect of such a risk for both existing students and prospective students.

- 6.1 AGV's dedicated counsellors communicate the same to the students and discuss their objective for pursuing this program. Since Amity is in existence for several years in a row successfully offering the programs in the similar area as is in the programs validated by the OU, UK, the students can be migrated to these programs offered by Amity at an option accepted by them and the fee already paid for the OU validated programmes will be adjusted against the programmes offered by Amity. This is done with the consensus of the student.
- 6.2 The students who are pursuing the programme at the time this SPP is enacted, their level of completion till the date within the programme will enable them to transfer the accumulated credits acquired by them.
- 6.3 In case the student is not willing to accept any programme being offered by Amity, the student can refer to the Appeal Policy for Admissions for fee refund procedure.
- 6.4 In case when the deferment of the programme takes place, if the student assumes that these programmes can meet their career growth & they are willing for a program deferment, they can opt for this deferment.
- 6.5 As the occurrence of this event is medium to high, the AGV regulations & policies for the Open University validated programmes specifies adequate resolution. Therefore, this policy should be studied in conjunction with the other students' regulations & policies, in particular, Appeal Policy for Admissions which is available in the Amity's Learning Management System.

7 Communication

SPP enactment is considered as one of the key matter of concern for the institution and therefore attracts attention of the senior members of the program and the management team. The team reviews the profiles and the motivation of the student to choose the program and appropriate resolution / plan of action is designed for the students. In designing this plan of action, the level of completion of the program of the existing students is also taken into consideration.

- 7.1 Students are informed through multiple channels that includes telephonic counselling, emails and are notified through their learning management system as well within a month of enactment of any such risk.
- 7.2 The communication will specify the nature of the change (withdrawal, closure etc.), the possible impact of the change on the students and layout the possible resolutions / plan of action suggested to them. The communications will also layout the key policies relevant to the nature of the change specifying their rights and responsibilities.
- 7.3 The communication is done both in the written as well as telephonically, wherein a dedicated team of counsellors ensures that the students are informed about the change and their rights and responsibilities. The counsellors also understand the students' perspectives and guides them which course of action best suits them in their individual circumstances. The students are inducted on the placement of all regulation & policies including SPP at the time of admission. In case of SPP enactment, the link to the SPP policy along with the other regulations & policies will be highlighted in the communication as well as on the LMS.

This SPP is the ownership of the Governance Council, therefore all key stakeholders including the students' representative has been sought. This SPP will be reviewed annually in consultation with the given committee members. The Governance Council committee consists members from academic, administration, operation, quality, IT and 2 representatives of students from each

batch. It is the responsibility of the head of each department / division to communicate about the policy to their team members.

Contact details

For discussing the individual impact of the SPP in the corresponding mitigation, the student may contact Student Support Manager at support@amityopenuniversity.com. If they are not satisfied with the guidance provided, they may schedule an interaction with the Module Leader / Programme Leader via support.