



# Covenant University

## Plastic Waste

## Reduction Policy

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# **Covenant University Plastic Waste Reduction Policy**

## **Introduction**

Covenant University recognizes the environmental impact of plastic wastes, including their long-lasting effects on ecosystems and potential pollution of water bodies. This policy outlines the university's commitment to reducing plastic waste through minimization, recycling, and sustainable alternatives.

## **1. Purpose**

The purpose of this policy is to decrease plastic waste generation on campus, enhance recycling efforts, and foster a campus culture that prioritizes environmental sustainability by reducing reliance on single-use plastics.

## **2. Scope**

This policy applies to all Covenant University facilities, including academic buildings, dormitories, dining areas, and event spaces. It also applies to all students, faculty, staff, vendors, and contractors working on or visiting campus.

## **3. Policy Guidelines**

- i. The use of single-use plastic items, such as plastic bags, straws, cutlery, and water bottles, shall be prohibited on Covenant University campus.
- ii. Alternative sustainable materials, such as compostable or reusable options, shall be used in the university dining facilities, events, and catered functions.
- iii. Students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to use reusable containers, bottles, and bags.
- iv. Covenant University shall distribute or make available reusable alternatives to common single-use plastic items at all university assemblies and in campus stores.
- v. Recycling stations shall be placed in high-traffic areas across campus, with clear signage to encourage sorting of recyclables, including plastics, metal, and paper.
- vi. The university will collaborate with local recycling facilities to ensure that collected plastics are properly processed and kept out of landfills.
- vii. The use of disposable plastics during campus events shall be avoided while prioritizing the bulk purchase of reusable items, and eco-friendly packaging.
- viii. Event organizers will be required to submit waste management plans, indicating steps that will be taken to reduce plastic waste.
- ix. Covenant University will organize regular campaigns, workshops, and informational programs to educate the campus community on the environmental impacts of plastic waste.

- x. Students and staff shall be provided with resources and guidance on proper waste sorting, recycling practices, and plastic-free lifestyle choices.
- xi. The university's procurement team will prioritize the purchase of products with minimal plastic packaging, biodegradable materials, or recyclable content.
- xii. Covenant University shall partner with vendors and suppliers to reduce packaging waste and transition to eco-friendly packaging for products sold on campus.

#### **4. Compliance and Monitoring**

- i. **Waste Audits:** The Covenant University's Environmental Sustainability Committee will conduct regular audits to track plastic waste generation on campus and assess the effectiveness of reduction strategies.
- ii. **Annual Reporting:** An annual report will be prepared, detailing progress toward plastic reduction goals and areas for improvement.

#### **5. Penalties for Non-Compliance**

Vendors, contractors, and campus departments that do not adhere to this policy may face restrictions or penalties. These measures are intended to encourage compliance and align with Covenant University's environmental objectives.

#### **6. Policy Review**

This policy will be reviewed every two years to incorporate advancements in sustainable practices, updated recycling technologies, and improved waste management strategies. In cases where there are exigencies, the policy will be reviewed ad-hoc.