

Reduce Inequalities

Reduce inequalities for all.



Universiti Malaya's Commitment to Reduce Inequalities

Universiti Malaya (UM) has long been at the forefront of promoting inclusivity and reducing inequalities, a commitment that is deeply embedded in the university's ethos and strategic direction. The university's key documents, including the UM Transformation Plan 2021-2030 and the UM Master Plan 2050, emphasise the importance of fostering a diverse and inclusive environment. These strategic plans outline UM's vision to be a global leader in education and research, with a strong focus on creating an equitable community that values diversity in all its forms.

One of the cornerstones of this commitment is the UM Inclusive University Policy, which was updated in 2023 to better address the needs of a diverse student body. This policy outlines comprehensive measures to ensure that all individuals, regardless of their socio-economic background, ethnicity, or disability, have equal access to educational opportunities and resources. The policy also emphasises the need to create an inclusive campus culture that supports all members of the university community in achieving their full potential.

Proactive Measures for First-Generation and Underrepresented Students

In line with its commitment to inclusivity, UM has implemented proactive measures to support first-generation students and those from underrepresented groups. Recognising that these students often face unique challenges, the university has developed targeted recruitment strategies aimed at increasing their enrollment. These strategies include outreach programs in underserved communities, partnerships with local schools, and financial assistance packages tailored to meet the needs of low-income students.

In 2023, UM enhanced its support systems for these students by expanding its mentoring programs, which pair first-generation and underrepresented students with faculty and alumni mentors. These mentors provide guidance on academic and career development, helping students navigate the challenges of university life. Additionally, the university's data management systems have been upgraded to better track the progress of these students, enabling more personalised support and intervention when needed.

These initiatives are part of UM's broader efforts to promote social mobility and reduce educational inequalities. By providing targeted support to first-generation and underrepresented students, UM is helping to break down barriers to higher education and create a more equitable society.



Non-Discriminatory Admission Policy

Universiti Malaya (UM) is deeply committed to fostering an inclusive educational environment, ensuring that all prospective students have equal opportunities to pursue higher education. The admission process at UM, governed by the Ministry of Higher Education through the UPUOnline system, is rooted in a merit-based approach that emphasises fairness and equality.

The UPUOnline system primarily evaluates applicants based on their academic performance, with additional consideration given to co-curricular achievements. Applicants can list their preferred programs and universities, and their merits are assessed against the specific requirements of their top choices. Placement availability is also a critical factor in the admission process. If an applicant meets both the merit-based criteria and the program-specific requirements, they receive an offer for their chosen program. If not, the system continues to evaluate their qualifications for their subsequent choices. Additionally, some programs may require interviews or tests as part of their selection process. Please refer [here](#) for UM entry requirements.

UM's adherence to this merit-based system ensures that the admission process is fair and non-discriminatory, focusing solely on the academic and co-curricular achievements of applicants. This commitment to equity is further reinforced by UM's compliance with the 2016-2022 Disabled Persons Action Plan, which reserves 50% of admission spots for students with disabilities who meet the necessary qualifications from SPM, STPM, or equivalent exams. These reserved spots ensure that students with disabilities have equitable access to higher education.

Moreover, UM actively supports the Ministry of Higher Education's initiatives by offering special pathways for specific underrepresented groups, including students with disabilities (OKU), athletes, Orang Asli (indigenous people), and students from the B40 (lower income) group. These groups are not required to compete with mainstream applicants for educational opportunities. Instead, they must meet the specific requirements set by their chosen university and are evaluated within their respective groups. This approach ensures that these students receive the support and opportunities they need to succeed in higher education.

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Above (left): Entry Requirement Undergraduate Handbook 2023/2024

Above (right): Entry Requirement for Foundation Studies UM

Support for Students with Disabilities

At the Universiti Malaya (UM), support for students with disabilities stands as a fundamental pillar of the university's commitment to inclusivity. UM has developed a comprehensive system aimed at addressing both the physical and academic needs of students with disabilities. This includes a range of tailored services managed by the Centre for Counselling and Disability Empowerment (CDE), which plays a key role in ensuring that students with disabilities have equitable access to resources, facilities, and opportunities on campus. The support system encompasses specialised transportation, accessible infrastructure, and dedicated academic assistance, fostering an inclusive environment where all students can actively participate in university life.

For more information, visit:

<https://hep.um.edu.my/student-with-disabilities>

In 2023, UM continued to expand and improve these services. This included an increased focus on assistive technologies, such as screen readers for students with visual impairments and speech-to-text software for those with mobility or learning challenges. Additionally, the university introduced more accessible study spaces, offering students with disabilities the freedom to engage in their studies without limitations. To ensure these initiatives are effectively implemented, UM also launched new training programs for faculty and staff, equipping them with skills and awareness to better support students with disabilities in academic settings. These initiatives are in line with the UM Transformation Plan 2030, which emphasises creating a campus environment that is fully inclusive and responsive to the needs of all students. Through these actions, UM not only strengthens its commitment to inclusivity but also supports broader objectives of reducing inequalities in education.



Inclusive Teaching and Learning

Universiti Malaya (UM) prioritises equitable access to educational resources and assessments for students with disabilities. To ensure inclusivity, UM offers Braille examination papers for visually impaired students, enabling them to participate in exams alongside their peers on equal footing. This initiative aligns with the goals of SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities) and SDG 4 (Quality Education), reinforcing UM's commitment to fairness and access to quality education for all.

Beyond Braille resources, UM provides separate exam rooms for students with disabilities, allowing for a supportive, low-distraction environment that enhances performance. Assistive technologies, including JAWS (Job Access with Speech) software, are available to help visually impaired students independently access digital content for their studies.

Additionally, accommodations such as extended time during exams and enlarged print versions of exam materials are offered to address diverse needs. These comprehensive supports underscore UM's dedication to reducing educational inequalities and fostering an inclusive learning environment where every student can thrive.

UM also ensures accessible facilities and tailored resources to facilitate full participation in teaching and learning activities. Classrooms and lecture halls feature wheelchair ramps, accessible seating, and assistive listening devices. Libraries and computer labs are equipped with screen readers, magnification software, and alternative formats to enhance learning accessibility.

Furthermore, UM encourages faculty to employ flexible teaching methods and alternative assessment formats, supporting an inclusive academic experience where all students, regardless of ability, can excel.

To ensure that students with disabilities have equal opportunities for academic success, the Universiti Malaya, through the Disabled Student Management Unit, has developed guidelines on teaching and learning for students with disabilities, as well as accommodations for examinations. Visit [HERE](#) for the guidelines.

Makmal Komputer S is a dedicated computer lab at the Universiti Malaya library for students with disabilities to access the internet. Located on Level 1 of the Main Library, it is easily accessible and free for students with physical or visual impairments. The lab is equipped with a Braille embosser for visually impaired users and JAWS software, enabling screen reading for easier computer access. Trained librarians are available to assist users with the software, and students can bring their own laptops or tablets for use in the lab. Additionally, librarians use this lab to conduct Information Skills classes for both undergraduate and postgraduate students with disabilities. Visit [HERE](#) for more details.



Above: Equipment available for visually impaired users in Computer Lab S, UM Main Library.



[Library Facilities and Services for Students with Disabilities](#)



[UM's Standard Operating Procedure for the Teaching and Learning of Students with Disabilities](#)

Facilities and Accommodation for People with Disabilities

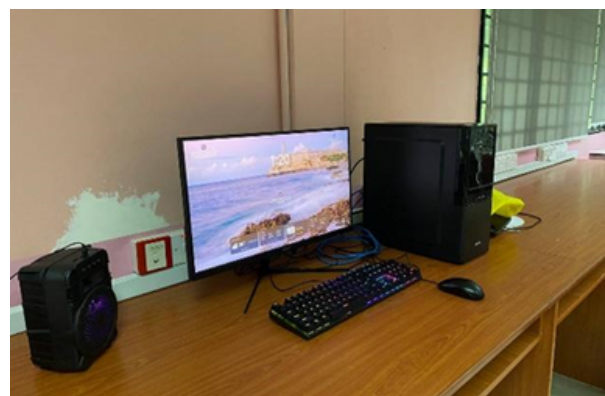
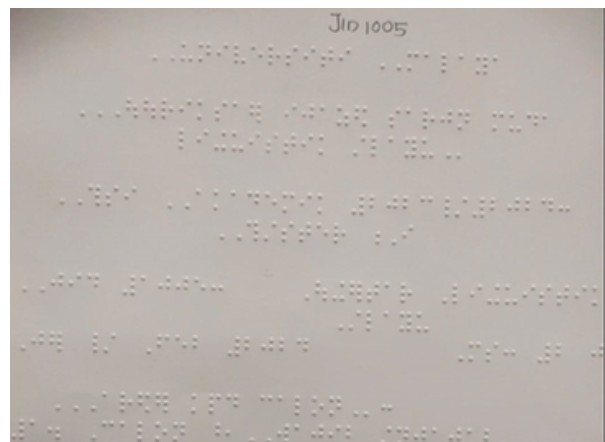
UM is deeply committed to creating an inclusive and accessible campus environment for all students, staff, and visitors, particularly those with disabilities. This dedication is clearly stated in the Universiti Malaya Inclusive University Policy, which prioritises equal access to campus facilities and resources for individuals with disabilities. The university's efforts align with the Universiti Malaya Sustainability Policy 2021-2030, specifically addressing Objective No. 4 of Pillar 5, which focuses on reducing and eliminating economic and social inequalities within the university community.

- **Physical Facilities:** UM has undertaken extensive upgrades to its campus infrastructure to support individuals with disabilities. These enhancements include designated parking spaces close to building entrances, wheelchair-accessible entry points, elevators with Braille buttons, special needs toilets, ramps for ease of mobility, and automated voice systems for visually impaired individuals. These facilities are strategically placed to ensure that all students, staff, and visitors can navigate the campus independently and comfortably. Furthermore, UM offers e-sports facilities that are accessible for individuals with disabilities, promoting recreational engagement. The university has also made library facilities accessible, ensuring that students with disabilities can independently utilise academic resources as part of their educational experience.

Right (from top to bottom): 1) Braille printer located in Bangunan Seri Jati at UM 2) Sample examination papers in Braille for UM students 3) Al-Quran in Braille and 4) Computers equipped with JAWS software, a screen reader for Microsoft Windows that enables blind and visually impaired users to access on-screen content through text-to-speech output or a refreshable Braille display



Student With
Disability
Matters

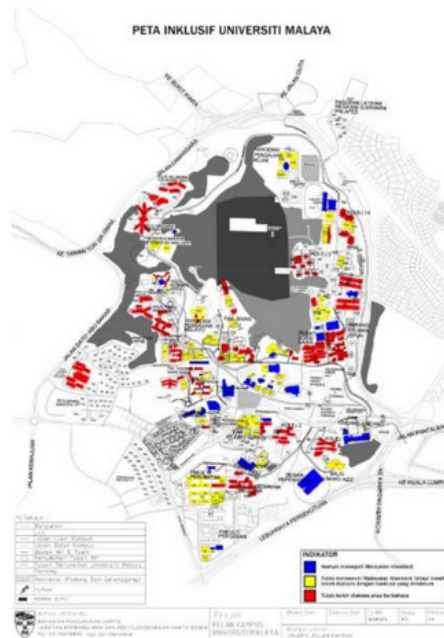


- Specialised Transportation:** Recognising the mobility challenges faced by some students with disabilities, UM offers specialised transportation services. These services are designed to assist students in commuting between their residences and classes, allowing them to fully participate in university life without transportation barriers. This initiative reflects UM’s commitment to inclusivity and its dedication to accommodating diverse student needs.



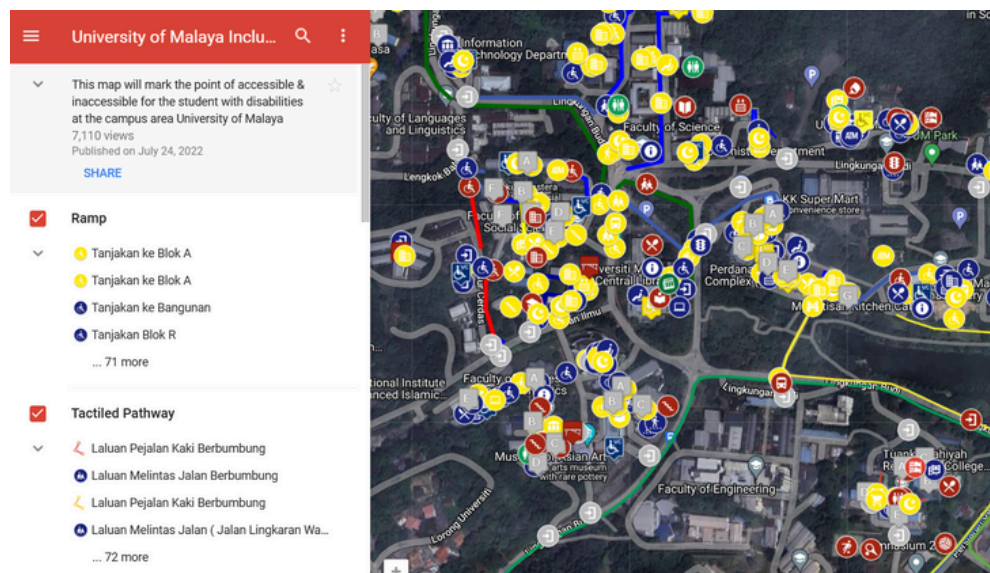
Above: The Van OKU service for students with disabilities provides convenient transportation between residential colleges and faculties, offering round-trip access

- Accessible Map:** UM has created the Universiti Malaya Accessible Map, available through Google Maps, to further support individuals with disabilities. This digital map highlights accessible facilities across campus, allowing users to easily locate ramps, accessible restrooms, and other essential services. This initiative enhances the experience for all individuals with disabilities by facilitating smooth navigation and access across campus facilities.



Right: Inclusive Map of Universiti Malaya

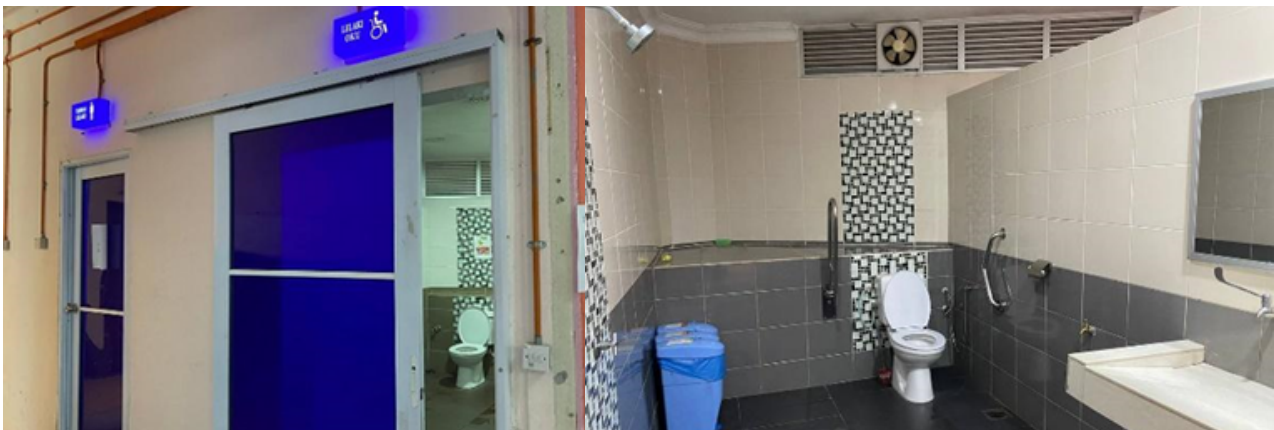
Below: Digital UM inclusive map on Google Maps, highlighting facilities such as ramps, tactile pathways, entrances, lifts, accessible routes, administrative offices, accessible toilets, and more



- Accommodation:** Understanding that accessible accommodations are critical for students with disabilities, UM has designated Kolej Kediaman Ketujuh (Za'ba) as a specialised residential college. This facility is equipped with wheelchair-friendly entrances, shower seats, grab rails, adapted toilets, low-level light switches, and visually impaired-friendly pedestrian walkways. Additionally, personal attendants and other specialised equipment can be provided based on each student's specific requirements. The aim is to ensure a comfortable and supportive living environment for students of all abilities, enabling them to focus on their academic and personal development while at UM.



Above: Universiti Malaya's specialised residential college for students with disabilities – Kolej Kediaman Ketujuh (Za'ba)



Above: An accessible toilet equipped with sliding doors, thoughtfully designed to meet the needs of people with disabilities, ensuring convenience and independence

Below: An elevator at Kolej Kediaman Ketujuh (Za'ba) featuring Braille signage, making it easier for individuals with visual impairments to navigate the building independently





Above: A specially designed ramp in front of the student residential block, providing smooth and accessible entry for students with disabilities, ensuring safe and convenient mobility

Below: Tactile pathway thoughtfully installed to assist students with visual impairments, enhancing their ability to navigate the campus safely and independently



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Above (left): Study Space in Bangunan Seri Jati, 7th Residential College for individuals with disabilities

Above (right): Dedicated parking for individuals with disabilities

Empowering Inclusivity: Engaging Students with Disabilities at Universiti Malaya

In addition to physical facilities, UM offers opportunities for students with disabilities to engage in a vibrant college community. At Kolej Kediaman Ketujuh, students with disabilities are encouraged to participate in various events and activities, such as the “Zaba Back to School” program. This initiative allows students with disabilities to serve as facilitators for special education students, inspiring them to pursue higher education. UM also organises awareness programs, such as the “Mental Health Forum for People with Disabilities”, held in collaboration with AISEC UM and UNICEF Malaysia. Students with disabilities are further encouraged to engage in sports, such as field bowling, long jump, and track running, as well as to participate in the University Malaya Residential Colleges Sports (SUKMUM) competition.

In the arts, students with disabilities have opportunities to showcase their talents in events such as band performances, poetry, theatre, and nasyid, supported by trained coaches. This holistic approach to community engagement promotes a sense of belonging and fosters inclusivity within UM, providing students with disabilities with a platform to develop their skills and interests.



Top and bottom: UM students with disabilities participating in a range of activities across campus



Creating a Nurturing Environment: UM's Support Services for Inclusivity and Well-Being

The Universiti Malaya (UM) is committed to creating a supportive environment for individuals with special needs, providing comprehensive services that encompass not only physical support but also mental and overall health to promote inclusivity and well-being.

Mental and Emotional Support:

UM recognises the critical importance of mental well-being and offers a range of dedicated counseling services and support networks for students with disabilities. Through the Counseling and Empowerment Section for OKU, students can access individual counseling, group sessions, and workshops focused on resilience, stress management, and personal growth. Inclusive programs, such as the “Run with Me” event, promote social inclusion and a sense of belonging, encouraging students with special needs to engage fully in campus life.

Personalised Support Services:

UM tailors support services to the individual needs of students with disabilities, ensuring they receive the right assistance at the right time. In the 7th residential college, the master and fellows act as mentors and advisors, providing emotional and welfare support during emergencies or health-related situations. They also facilitate communication with parents or guardians to keep them informed of any urgent concerns. For students experiencing mental health challenges, the Centre for Counselling and Disability Empowerment (CDE) is alerted to provide necessary counseling and support services. Visit the next topic on UM's CDE for more details.

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College Action Committee for Disability Support and Persatuan Mahasiswa Istimewa Universiti Malaya (PERMIUM):

Each academic session, a College Action Committee is formed to establish a volunteer group focused on supporting students with disabilities and monitoring the well-being of those facing mental health challenges. This peer-led structure fosters a supportive community within the college, addressing the unique needs of students with disabilities. Additionally, Persatuan Mahasiswa Istimewa Universiti Malaya (PERMIUM), a recognised student society under the Students Affairs Department, underscores Universiti Malaya’s commitment to fostering inclusivity on campus. Led by its Executive Committee, PERMIUM is dedicated to strengthening relationships and promoting awareness about the OKU (Persons with Disabilities) community among non-disabled students. The committee’s efforts align with PERMIUM’s mission for the 2023/2024 session, aiming to cultivate a more inclusive and understanding university environment. Both entities work collaboratively to build a comprehensive support network across the university, enhancing the well-being and overall experience of students with disabilities.



Above: The Special Students Association of Universiti Malaya (PERMIUM) held a meeting with the senior management of the college alongside the appointed College Action Committee for Persons with Disabilities (JTKDOKU) at Kolej Kediaman Za’ba. The meeting, which took place on Thursday, April 6, 2023, addressed various issues and concerns affecting the well-being of residents with disabilities in Kolej Kediaman Ketujuh.

Below: Majlis Tertinggi Persatuan Mahasiswa Istimewa Universiti Malaya (PERMIUM) in 2023



Comprehensive Management and Policy Framework:

To guide these efforts, UM has implemented the Manual Pelaksanaan Pengurusan Siswa Orang Kurang Upaya (OKU) Universiti Malaya, a comprehensive framework for managing and supporting students with disabilities. This manual standardises policies and procedures across the university, ensuring consistent, effective support for diverse needs and enhancing students' overall experience and success at UM.

Training and Awareness Programs for Staff and Faculty:

UM prioritises disability awareness and sensitivity by offering training programs for staff and faculty. Selected personnel, including librarians and faculty members, receive training on how to support students with special needs, particularly with assistive technologies. These programs help cultivate a compassionate campus culture, equipping staff and faculty with the skills necessary to offer effective support.

Oral Health Initiatives:

In line with its commitment to holistic health, UM also addresses the oral health needs of individuals with disabilities. As highlighted in the article "They Deserve Good Oral Health Too" UM has integrated Disability Equality Training and practical experience with Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) into its dental curriculum. This prepares future dental professionals to deliver inclusive, quality care, ensuring that PWDs have access to essential oral health services.

Through these initiatives, UM builds a comprehensive support system that empowers individuals with special needs to thrive physically, mentally, and personally, fostering an inclusive academic environment where every student can succeed.



Above: Implementation Manual for the Management of Students with Disabilities at Universiti Malaya (Manual Pelaksanaan Pengurusan Siswa Orang Kurang Upaya (OKU) Universiti Malaya)

(Source: UM Student Affairs Department)

Below: Universiti Malaya has incorporated Disability Equality Training and hands-on experience with Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) into its dental curriculum



Empowering Inclusivity: Universiti Malaya's Financial Support and Access Schemes for People with Disabilities

The Universiti Malaya (UM) is dedicated to creating an inclusive environment by providing comprehensive financial support and access schemes for people with disabilities. Through partnerships with governmental and regional programs, UM offers a range of financial assistance, mentoring, and targeted support initiatives tailored to meet the unique needs of both students and operational staff with disabilities. These schemes are designed to reduce financial barriers, foster personal and professional development, and ensure equal opportunities for all.

1. Educational Financial Assistance for Operational Staff with Disabilities

- UM provides Educational Financial Assistance to operational staff for their children's schooling. This program, funded by the university's Tabung Kebajikan Kakitangan Am (TKKA), aims to ease the financial burden on UM's operational staff, including those with disabilities, by offering assistance for their children's education at pre-school, primary, and secondary levels.
- The assistance covers educational expenses and is intended to support staff in managing their family obligations while focusing on their professional development and responsibilities at UM.
- For more details on the educational financial assistance for operational staff, please visit the official UM Bursary page: [Educational Financial Assistance for Operational Staff 2023](https://bendahari.um.edu.my/).

EDUCATIONAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR OPERATIONAL STAFF

INTRODUCTION

- The University provides financial assistance to operational staff who need financial assistance for their children's **pre-school, primary and secondary education**
- This initiative was funded by the university's fund known as "Tabung Kebajikan Kakitangan Am (TKKA)"

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- Operational Staff
- Permanent Status
- Income Criterion:
RM4,000 OR BELOW
Gross Household Income
- Children - from primary/secondary Government School **only**. For pre-school, it is opened for children (4-6 years old) from Government or Private pre-school.
- Other specific criteria are stated in the application form

HOW TO APPLY?

Staff needs to submit one (1) form for each child.

Google Form
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1e1FAIpQLSfeITMnbJLIT6RPNVX0GDIBX0BHsmGeoQHJZ61RD Cd6MpBQ/viewform>

or Scan the following QR Code

Bantuan Pelajaran Anak-Anak Sekolah Tahun 2023

DOCUMENTS

- ✓ Offer Letter from the school
 - for the pre-school children (Age 4-6 years old)
 - for the child going to Primary 1
 - for Primary 6 students going secondary 1
- ✓ Child Birth Certificate
- ✓ Latest Payslip (staff and spouse). For self-employed spouse, please submit **Declaration of Income** and has to be duly verified and attested by any one of the signatories mentioned in the form.

CLOSING DATE

27 Jan 2023 (Friday)

FURTHER ENQUIRIES

For further enquiries, please contact:

- 📞 Mdm Nurul Aqillah Omar
03-7967 7005
- 📞 Mdm Fatin Nurdiana Kamaruddin
03-7967 3529

SECRETARIAT, TABUNG KEBAJIKAN KAKITANGAN AM (TKKA), PAYMENT SECTION, FINANCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT, BURSARY
[HTTPS://BENDAHARI.UM.EDU.MY/](https://bendahari.um.edu.my/)

Above: Poster for *Educational Financial Assistance for Operational Staff 2023* (Source: UM Bursary)



2. Fee Reduction Scheme for Postgraduate Students with Disabilities

- UM offers a 50% Fee Reduction Scheme for local postgraduate students with disabilities as part of its commitment to accessible education. This initiative covers tuition and research fees for eligible students, allowing them to pursue their studies without financial constraints.
- Eligibility criteria include Malaysian citizenship, active enrollment in a Master's or Ph.D. program, and registration with the Department of Social Welfare (JKM) for persons with disabilities. Senior citizens aged 60 and above can also benefit from this fee reduction. For more details, please visit: [Skim Pengurangan Yuran OKU dan Warga Emas](#).



This scheme is open to local candidates enrolled (active status) in a Masters or Doctoral programme. The fee reduction for the handicapped and senior citizens is only 50%, which is the teaching fee and the research fee.

APPLICATION CRITERIA	
1.	This scheme is open to local postgraduate candidates enrolled in a Masters or Doctorate programme at Universiti Malaysia (UM).
2.	Applicants must be Malaysian citizens. Permanent residents are not allowed to apply for this scheme.
3.	Applicants must have registered as a Universiti Malaysia student.
4.	Applicants must not have any other scholarship / sponsorship when applying.
5.	Applicants must be free from any debt / outstanding fees with Universiti Malaysia.
6.	Handicapped candidates - Applicants must be defined as disabled by the Department of Social Welfare.
7.	Senior citizens - Applicants must be 60 years old or over when the application is made.

Above: Webpage for “Fee Reduction Scheme for Local Postgraduate Candidate with Handicapped and Senior Citizen” (Source: UM Marketing and Academic Services Department)

Below: Poster for “AUN-DPPnet Scholarships for ASEAN Students with Disabilities” (Source: AUN DPPnet)

3. AUN-DPPnet Scholarships for ASEAN Students with Disabilities

- The ASEAN University Network Disability and Public Policy Network (AUN-DPPnet), hosted by UM, offers postgraduate scholarships for students with disabilities from ASEAN countries. These scholarships cover tuition fees, a monthly stipend, and additional support services.
- Benefits include: 1) Monthly Stipend: USD 700.00 for living expenses. 2) Technology and Personal Assistance: Support for assistive technology, interpreters, and personal assistants to facilitate academic participation. 3) Professional Development and Networking: Opportunities for mentorship and access to a regional network of disability advocates in ASEAN.
- This program is designed to foster a cohort of leaders who will promote inclusive policies in their respective countries. Further details are available at: [AUN-DPPnet Scholarships](#).

POSTGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS FOR STUDENT WITH DISABILITY

BENEFITS

- TUITION FEE & PLACEMENT
- SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETER
- MONTHLY STIPEND USD700/ MONTH
- PERSONAL ASSISTANCE
- BOOK & MATERIALS USD220 (ONE OFF)
- TECHNOLOGY ASSISTANCE
- FLIGHT TICKET
- CONFERENCE ALLOWANCE

REQUIREMENTS

- ASEAN Nationals;
- Completed Bachelor's Degree with excellent academic standing;
- Certified Person with Disability;
- Secured Master's Degree admission at any AUN member Universities. Existing Master's Degree students are encouraged to apply.

HOW TO APPLY

Download the application form through AUN-DPPnet Website and submit the complete application to the Universiti Malaya AUN-DPPnet email address with the following enclosures:

- A copy of the admission letter from the university.
- Attested copies of all transcript & testimonials.
- CV or Resume.
- 400 words essay describing work experience.
- Letter of Recommendation from Employer/Institution (directly addressed to AUN-DPPnet)

Contact: aun-dpp.um.edu.my, +603 79677618, aundpp@um.edu.my

APPLY NOW!

4. Bantuan Kewangan OKU by the Ministry of Higher Education (MOHE)

- The Bantuan Kewangan OKU program by the Ministry of Higher Education provides financial assistance to Malaysian students with disabilities enrolled in higher education institutions. The program offers a monthly allowance and tuition support to alleviate the financial burden on students with disabilities.
- Benefits include: 1) Monthly Allowance: RM 400.00 for full-time students, covering daily expenses. 2) Tuition Coverage: Support for tuition fees, varying by enrollment status (full-time, part-time, or distance learning).
- To be eligible, students must be registered with JKM and enrolled in an accredited diploma or degree program. For more information, visit: [Bantuan Kewangan OKU](#).

5. Accessible Learning Resources and Technology Assistance

- To complement financial support, UM provides assistive technology and resources for students and staff with disabilities, including screen readers, adaptive devices, and specialised software. These resources help ensure that individuals with disabilities can fully engage in academic and professional activities.
- UM also arranges for sign language interpreters, accessible learning materials, and alternative assessments where needed, creating an equitable academic environment.

6. Mentoring and Peer Support Programs

- UM offers mentoring programs for both students and staff with disabilities, pairing them with mentors who provide guidance on navigating campus life, academic challenges, and career development. These mentors, often with experience in disability advocacy or related fields, help individuals build confidence and develop skills.
- Peer support networks are also available, offering a community where students and staff with disabilities can connect, share experiences, and provide mutual support. These networks foster a sense of belonging and empowerment within the university community.



Above: [Bantuan Kewangan OKU by the Ministry of Higher Education \(MOHE\)](#).

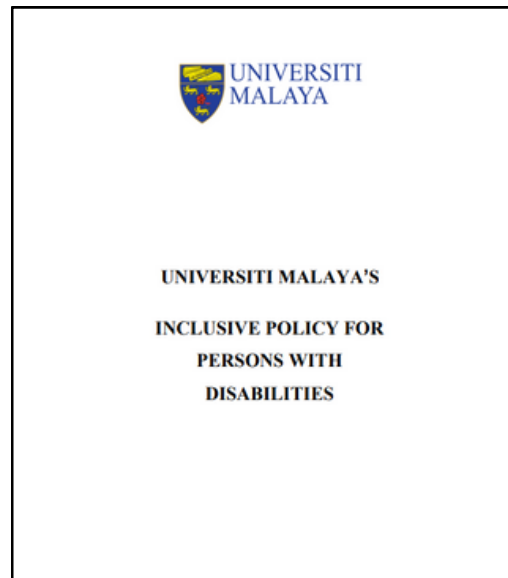


7. Physical Accessibility and Infrastructure Support

- UM continuously enhances its campus facilities to ensure physical accessibility, including wheelchair-accessible ramps, elevators, and designated spaces in classrooms and libraries. This infrastructure supports the independence of students and staff with disabilities, enabling them to navigate the campus with ease.
- Aligned with the Universiti Malaya Inclusive Policy for Persons with Disabilities, UM's accommodation selection process gives priority to students with disabilities, aiming to provide secure and supportive housing options. Students registered with the Division of Counseling & Disability Empowerment (DCDE) or those with documented health concerns are prioritised for campus housing. This approach not only ensures that individuals with specific needs have convenient access to on-campus resources but also promotes a more inclusive and supportive residential environment.
- The university's Inclusive Committee for Persons with Disabilities, along with Disability Liaison Officers, further supports this mission by overseeing the implementation of universal design standards and coordinating **disability-related services and accommodations**. This comprehensive approach fosters a campus culture where all members, regardless of physical or mental needs, can thrive.

Conclusion

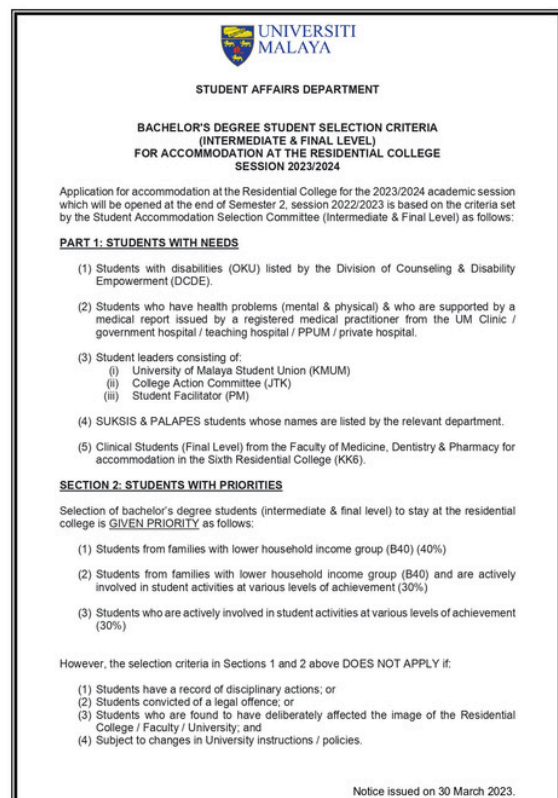
Through these diverse access schemes and financial support programs, the Universiti Malaya demonstrates its commitment to fostering an inclusive, supportive environment for people with disabilities. By addressing financial, academic, and career development needs, UM empowers individuals with disabilities to succeed in their studies and careers. These initiatives reflect UM's dedication to inclusivity, ensuring that all members of its community can contribute meaningfully and thrive within the university.



Above: Universiti Malaya Inclusive Policy for Persons with Disabilities

(Source: Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Student Affairs))

Below: *Students with disabilities (OKU), as identified by the Division of Counselling and Disability Empowerment (DCDE), are given priority for campus housing (Source: UM's Student Affairs Department)*



Empowering Wellness: Counseling & Support Services for Staff and Students at Center for Counseling & Disability Empowerment (CCDE)

UM recognises the importance of mental health and well-being in fostering an inclusive and supportive campus environment. The university has established a robust counseling and support system designed to meet the diverse needs of its student body. These services are provided through the Division of Counselling and Disability Empowerment, which offers a wide range of support, including individual and group counseling, psychological testing, and well-being consultations.

The counseling services at UM are accessible to all students and staff are designed to address various challenges, including academic stress, personal issues, and adjustment difficulties.

Moreover, the university has implemented an Emotional Well-Being Profiling System, which serves as an early detection tool for mental health issues among students. This system allows for timely interventions, ensuring that students receive the support they need before their challenges escalate. UM also launched the Emotional Wellness Assistance initiative, which provides additional resources and referrals for students experiencing mental health difficulties.

These efforts align with global trends emphasising the importance of mental health in higher education. By prioritising the well-being of its students, UM is contributing to a healthier, more supportive, and inclusive campus environment.



<https://registrar.um.edu.my/center-for-counseling-amp-disability-empowerment-ccde>



Above: Posters about the Division of Counselling and Disability Empowerment.

Measuring and Tracking Applications and Admissions of Underrepresented Groups

UM Corporate Ranking Centre (CRC) of the Associate Vice-Chancellor (Corporate Strategy) conducts an annual Tracking and Monitoring Exercise by analysing the application and admission rate of students with disabilities. The purpose of this exercise is to ensure that the top management of Universiti Malaya is utilising data to inform their decision-making processes.

For the full report, go to: [An Overview of Student Application, Admission, and Graduation Data Analysis for the Academic Year 2023/2024](#)



DISABILITY	2020/2021	2020/2021 (%)	2021/2022	2021/2022 (%)	2022/2023	2022/2023 (%)	2023/2024	2023/2024 (%)
BLIND	4	0.04%	1	0.01%	9	0.07%	1	0.01%
COLOR BLIND	1	0.01%	2	0.02%	4	0.03%	7	0.09%
HANDICAP(LEG)	3	0.03%	1	0.01%	7	0.06%	4	0.05%
HANDICAP(HAND)	2	0.02%	2	0.02%	2	0.02%	2	0.02%
PARLYSIS							1	0.01%
STAMMER	1	0.01%	0	0.00%	1	0.01%	0	0.00%
OTHERS	6	0.06%	5	0.06%	12	0.10%	19	0.23%
DEAF	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	2	0.02%	0	0.00%
DEAF (NOT DEAF IF USING EQUIP)	2	0.02%	4	0.04%	7	0.06%	0	0.00%
LONG-SIGHTED/SHORT- SIGHTED	2	0.02%	13	0.15%	36	0.30%	41	0.50%
PARTIALLY BLIND	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
NON APPLICABLE (NORMAL STUDENT)	9982	99.79%	8895	99.69%	12,017	99.34%	8158	99.09%
Grand Total	10,003	100.00%	8,923	100.00%	12,097	100.00%	8,233	100.00%

Above: Student application by type of application (Source: UM Academic Portal)

Below: Student admission by type of disability (Source: UM Academic Portal)

DISABILITY	INTAKE 2020/2021	INTAKE 2020/2021 (%)	INTAKE 2021/2022	INTAKE 2021/2022 (%)	INTAKE 2022/2023	INTAKE 2022/2023 (%)	INTAKE 2023/2024	INTAKE 2023/2024 (%)
BLIND	2	0.05%	0	0.00%	4	0.09%	1	0.02%
MENTAL HEALTH							1	0.02%
LEARNING DISABILITIES							1	0.02%
COLOR BLIND	0	0.00%	2	0.04%	1	0.02%	2	0.04%
HANDICAP(LEG)	3	0.07%	1	0.02%	3	0.07%	2	0.04%
HANDICAP(HAND)	3	0.07%	2	0.04%	2	0.04%	2	0.04%
PARALYSIS							1	0.02%
OTHERS	6	0.14%	3	0.07%	7	0.16%	8	0.16%
DEAF (NOT DEAF IF USING EQUIP)	1	0.02%	2	0.04%	1	0.02%	0	0.00%
LONG-SIGHTED/SHORT- SIGHTED	19	0.45%	10	0.22%	22	0.49%	15	0.31%
NONE	4234	99.20%	4438	99.55%	4458	98.98%	4828	99.32%
Grand Total	4268	100%	4458	100%	4504	100%	4861	100%

Expanding Diversity at UM: Strategic Recruitment of Underrepresented Students

Universiti Malaya (UM) is actively committed to expanding diversity and inclusion by implementing strategic recruitment efforts aimed at attracting students from underrepresented and marginalised groups. By specifically targeting individuals from communities with historical underrepresentation in higher education, UM seeks to create a more inclusive environment that reflects the diverse global landscape. Through initiatives like the “17th Top Ranking Malaysian University Education Expo 2023: Bangladesh” and the “Study in Malaysia Education Fair: Pakistan” held in June and September 2023, UM actively recruits students from lower-middle-income countries such as Bangladesh and Pakistan. Both nations, recognised as developing countries by organisations like the World Bank, have made remarkable progress in areas such as poverty reduction, healthcare, and education. Despite these advances, they continue to face challenges common in many developing nations, including economic inequality, infrastructure limitations, and restricted access to resources. By engaging with students from these regions, UM not only supports their educational aspirations but also addresses global disparities in access to higher education.

At these recruitment fairs, UM offers on-the-spot admissions for students meeting the academic requirements, facilitating a smoother path to enrollment and reducing barriers to entry. This proactive approach ensures that capable students from underrepresented backgrounds have the chance to study at UM, enhancing the institution’s cultural diversity and fostering a rich, inclusive learning environment. The ultimate goal of these efforts is to cultivate a vibrant and diverse community where students, faculty, and staff from various backgrounds can engage, contribute, and benefit from the enriching academic experience at UM.

Below: Posters for the two education fair/expo in 2023 at Bangladesh and Pakistan

10

UNIVERSITI MALAYA

17 TH TOP-RANKING MALAYSIAN UNIVERSITY EDUCATION EXPO 2023

BANGLADESH

CHITTAGONG HOTEL WELL PARK 07 June 2023 10AM -06PM	RAJSHAHI HOTEL NANKING 12 June 2023 10AM -06PM
DHAKA HOTEL SARINA 9 & 10 June 2023 10AM -06PM	KHULNA HOTEL CASTLE SALAM 14 June 2023 10AM -06PM

ON-THE-SPOT OFFER LETTER!
Terms & conditions apply.

For any inquiries:

MR. MUHAMMAD IRSYAD
Assistant Registrar
Marketing & Recruitment Division
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Marketing & Recruitment Division
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study.um.edu.my | study@um.edu.my

UNIVERSITI MALAYA

STUDY IN MALAYSIA EDUCATION FAIR PAKISTAN

- KARACHI**
2-3 SEPTEMBER 2023
MOVENPICK HOTEL
1:00pm - 6:00pm
- RAWALPINDI**
5 SEPTEMBER 2023
PC HOTEL
1:00pm - 6:00pm
- LAHORE**
9-10 SEPTEMBER 2023
PC HOTEL
1:00pm - 6:00pm

GET YOUR ON-THE-SPOT OFFER LETTER! **LIMITED!**
*Term and conditions apply.

REGISTER bit.ly/studymalaysia2023

study.um.edu.my | study@um.edu.my

In addition to participating in international education fairs, Universiti Malaya (UM) faculty members actively host webinars, such as “Selangkah ke Universiti Malaya”, to increase accessibility for prospective students from underrepresented groups. These sessions provide comprehensive information on UM’s programmes, including entry requirements, tuition fees, professional accreditations, career prospects, faculty life, mobility and dual degree options, fast-track programmes, and more.

During sessions introducing undergraduate and foundation degree programmes, faculty representatives from the Faculty of Law, Faculty of Built Environment, and Faculty of Engineering participated. For instance, in February 2023, Associate Professor Dr. Najihah, a respected pharmaceutical chemistry expert and Deputy Dean (Academic) at the Faculty of Pharmacy, along with Mdm Noorasyikin, an authority in Clinical Pharmacy and Pharmacy Practice, conducted an in-depth sharing session. These webinars serve as a vital resource for potential students, breaking down barriers to university access and ensuring they are well-prepared to pursue higher education at UM.



10

Selangkah ke UNIVERSITI MALAYA

PROGRAM IJAZAH SARJANA MUDA DAN ASASI
14 FEB 2023 - 28 MAC 2023

Selain itu, juga		Majlis	
FAKULTI SUKAN & SAINS BESBAS 14/02/2023 10:00 PG (Selasa)	FAKULTI BAHASA & LINGUISTIK 16/02/2023 10:00 PG (Khamis)	FAKULTI FARMASI 21/02/2023 10:00 PG (Selasa)	FAKULTI UNDANG-UNDANG 23/02/2023 10:00 PG (Khamis)
FAKULTI SASTERA & SAINS SOSIAL 09/03/2023 10:00 PG (Khamis)	FAKULTI SAINS KOMPUTER & TEKNOLOGI MAKLUMAT 14/03/2023 10:00 PG (Selasa)	FAKULTI PERNIAGAAN & EKONOMI 16/03/2023 10:00 PG (Khamis)	FAKULTI SAINS 21/03/2023 10:00 PG (Selasa)
FAKULTI KEJURUTERAAN 28/02/2023 10:00 PG (Selasa)	PUSAT ASASI SAINS 07/03/2023 10:00 PG (Selasa)	FAKULTI ALAM BINA 23/03/2023 10:00 PG (Khamis)	VARSI #1 IMPIAN ANDA 28/03/2023 10:00 PG (Selasa)

Right: Poster for “Selangkah ke Universiti Malaya” in February until March 2023

At the student level, the Royal Facilitator Club from Universiti Malaya's 12th Residential College has taken proactive steps to increase access to higher education for underrepresented groups by organising impactful projects, such as "Shine" and "Miracle". These initiatives aim to share experiences, provide mentorship, and offer early exposure to secondary school students, particularly those from underprivileged or marginalised backgrounds, helping prepare them for the path to university.

The "Miracle" (Mission Rejuvenating Champions) programme, for example, was created to empower students in special education with confidence in their abilities, especially in learning. On 10 June 2023, the Royal Facilitator Club led this programme with students from SMK Seremban 2, reaching approximately 35 students from Forms 1 to 5. Through engaging and interactive modules, facilitators helped these students build self-assurance, providing them with the foundational skills and motivation needed to overcome educational challenges.

The club also organised the "Remade" (Youth of the Future) programme in collaboration with students from SM Sains Kuala Selangor. This event, dubbed "Youth of the Future 2.0", attracted 80 enthusiastic students who fully engaged in the programme's activities. Centred around an "explore race" on Universiti Malaya's campus, this initiative allowed students to experience the university environment firsthand while participating in carefully designed modules that reinforced essential academic and social skills.

By creating such opportunities, the Royal Facilitator Club is helping to bridge the gap for underrepresented groups, inspiring and equipping students with the knowledge, confidence, and sense of belonging needed to envision themselves in higher education. These programmes are not only impactful in the short term but also contribute to long-term efforts to diversify university campuses and foster inclusive educational communities.



Above: The "Miracle" programme

Below: The "Remade" programme



Anti-Discrimination and Anti-Harassment Policies

UM is committed to maintaining a campus environment that is free from discrimination and harassment. The university's anti-discrimination and anti-harassment policies are designed to protect all members of the university community, including students, faculty, and staff, from any form of unfair treatment. These policies are part of the UM Sustainability Policy 2021-2030 and are implemented by the university's Integrity Unit.

In 2023, UM conducted a comprehensive review of these policies to ensure they are in line with best practices and international standards. This review led to new procedures for reporting and addressing complaints and enhanced support services for individuals who experience discrimination or harassment.

The university also launched a campus-wide awareness campaign to educate the community about their rights and responsibilities under these policies. These efforts are in line with global trends towards greater accountability and transparency in higher education. By maintaining robust anti-discrimination and anti-harassment policies, UM is contributing to a safer and more inclusive campus environment, which is essential for reducing inequalities and promoting social justice.



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Center For Counseling & Disability Empowerment (CCDE)



Code of Free From Sexual Exploitation, Abuse And Harassment At UM

Diversity and Equality Initiatives

Promoting diversity and equality is a central priority at the Universiti Malaya (UM), which has launched several initiatives to cultivate a more inclusive campus culture. The [Human Talent Development Centre](#) and [UM Integrity Unit](#) play pivotal roles in these efforts by offering comprehensive training programs on diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) for students, faculty, and staff. These programs are designed not only to raise awareness of DEI issues but also to provide participants with practical skills to foster inclusivity within the UM community. Through these initiatives, UM aims to empower its members to actively contribute to a respectful, equitable, and supportive environment where everyone feels valued and included.

In 2023, UM expanded its DEI initiatives by introducing new programs focused on gender equality and supporting minority groups. These programs include workshops, speaker series, and support groups, all aimed at creating a more welcoming and supportive environment for all members of the university community. The university also established a new advisory committee to provide guidance on DEI issues and to ensure that the university's policies and practices are inclusive and equitable.

For more information about these programs, visit: [Gender Studies Programme](#).

These initiatives are part of UM's broader efforts to align with global trends towards greater diversity and inclusion in higher education. By promoting diversity and equality on campus, UM is helping to create a more inclusive society, both in Malaysia and globally.

For more information, visit [UM Sustainability Policy](#) & [UM Transformation Plan](#).



Above: For more information about these programs, visit: [Master of Gender Studies](#) (Source: Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences)

Advancing Health Equity: UM SPM's Impact on Public Health and SDG 10

One of the notable contributions of the Universiti Malaya (UM) in supporting Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is through the impactful work of its Social and Preventive Medicine (SPM) department. UM's SPM department plays a crucial role in promoting public health, enhancing social well-being, and addressing health disparities within communities, directly contributing to SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities). Through research, education, and community outreach, SPM is committed to empowering marginalised groups and ensuring equitable health access for all.



For more information, refer to the following sources:
<https://spm.um.edu.my/about/>

Below: Website for Department of Social and Preventive Medicine (SPM) – Public Health@UM

The screenshot shows the website for the Department of Social and Preventive Medicine (SPM) at Universiti Malaya. The top navigation bar includes links for UM, FOM, UMMC, UMPortal, MyUM, SPeCTRUM, Library, Study@UM, MAYA, Contact Us, Register, and Login. The main navigation menu features HOME, ABOUT, EDUCATION, STUDENT, KNOWLEDGE CENTRE, and LOG IN. Below the navigation, there are four circular icons representing different programs: Master of Public Health, Doctor of Public Health, Master of Epidemiology, and Events. The 'Events' icon is highlighted. Below the icons, there are three news articles:

- Health Development Division, Dr Mohammad Nazarudin Bahari completed a townhall session with the [...]**
- Celebrating Health and Wellness: Recap of Aspirasi Sihat**
- Congratulate Dr Marzuki Isahak on your appointment as Principal (Occupational Health) at PETRONAS**

On the right side, there is a congratulatory message for **Dr Tharani Loganathan on your promotion to Associate Professor**. The message states: "The Department would like to congratulate Associate Professor Dr Tharani Loganathan on her promotion. Dr Tharani is an alumnus of [...]"

10

Love, Connect, and Empower: Exploring the Vital Role of Public Health in Supporting “People with Special Needs”

The “Love, Connect, and Empower: Exploring the Vital Role of Public Health in Supporting People with Special Needs” program, organised by the Universiti Malaya (UM), serves as a vital platform to address and discuss the significant role public health plays in enhancing the lives of individuals with special needs. This impactful event was designed to bring together healthcare professionals, educators, advocates, and community leaders to share insights, exchange ideas, and collaborate on inclusive health initiatives tailored to support this community effectively. The program sought to foster a deeper understanding of the specific needs of individuals with disabilities, empowering them and promoting societal inclusivity.

The program’s sessions covered various themes, including the development and implementation of inclusive health policies, strategies for empowering individuals with disabilities, and strengthening community-based support networks. Participants engaged in discussions around improving accessibility in public health facilities, promoting social inclusion through education and community programs, and addressing unique health challenges faced by people with special needs. These discussions were aimed at creating a roadmap to foster a more inclusive and supportive public health framework that can be applied at local and national levels.

Through this program, the Universiti Malaya contributes significantly to SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities. UM plays a crucial role in fostering social inclusion by raising awareness and encouraging dialogue on the needs of individuals with disabilities. The program empowers these individuals by supporting accessible initiatives that tackle both social and economic disparities, ensuring they have equal opportunities to thrive within the community. Additionally, UM advocates for the development of inclusive health policies, which are essential for enhancing social support and healthcare accessibility for people with disabilities. By organising this program, UM demonstrates its dedication to reducing inequalities and building a more inclusive society. These efforts underscore UM’s commitment to supporting the well-being and social integration of all individuals, regardless of ability, aligning with the global vision for a more equitable future.

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Below: One of the output from the “Love, Connect, and Empower: Exploring the Vital Role of Public Health in Supporting People with Special Needs” program



AUTISM AWARENESS PROJECT, A SHORT FILM: BROKEN #ability #acceptance #awareness #fightstigma

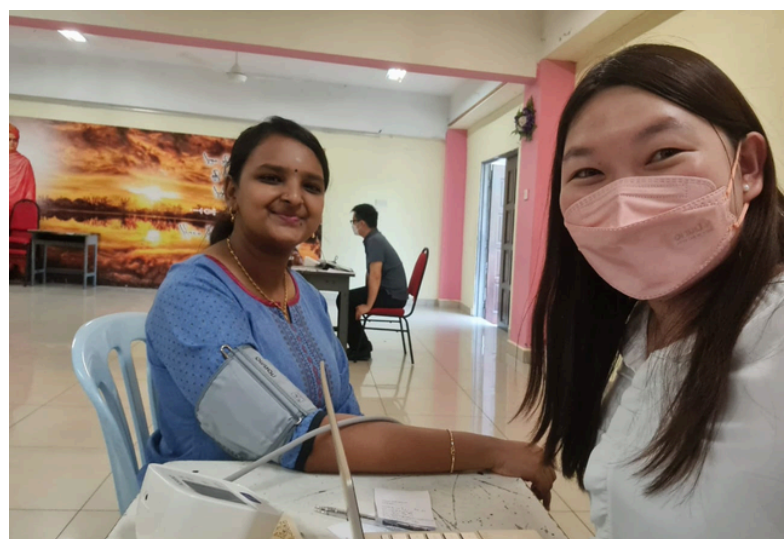
Building Bridges: Enhancing Education and Community Through the UM School Engagement Program

SPM engages in research to understand health challenges and disparities among different social clusters. The “Cluster Study on School Engagement Experience” (UM SPM, 2023) explores health factors affecting student engagement and teacher’s wellbeing, ultimately contributing to better-informed policies to support youth health, a critical aspect of achieving equality in education and well-being. Through these initiatives and a continued focus on inclusivity, UM SPM exemplifies best practices in SDG implementation, contributing not only to SDG 10 but also to broader public health improvements that benefit society.

The “Cluster Study: School Engagement Experience” program on the Universiti Malaya’s website details an initiative designed to strengthen relationships between UM and local schools through interactive engagement activities. This program is part of UM’s broader mission to foster community development and support educational growth by bringing together UM faculty, students, and school representatives. These collaborative sessions focus on strategies to enhance students’ academic and personal development, emphasising the importance of an interactive learning environment that benefits both the university and school communities.

Through workshops, mentoring, and joint projects, UM provides students with access to resources, guidance, and support that nurture their academic and social potential. By engaging students early on, the program fosters a sense of connection to higher education, inspiring them to pursue educational aspirations and offering a pathway to success.

Through this initiative, UM reaffirms its dedication to expanding educational opportunities, reducing inequalities, and fostering meaningful partnerships that support sustainable development and community well-being.



Above: Photos during the “Cluster Study on School Engagement Experience” held on March 2023 at selected schools, Sekolah Jenis Kebangsaan (Cina) Subang and Sekolah Jenis Kebangsaan (Tamil) Vivekananda in Petaling Jaya

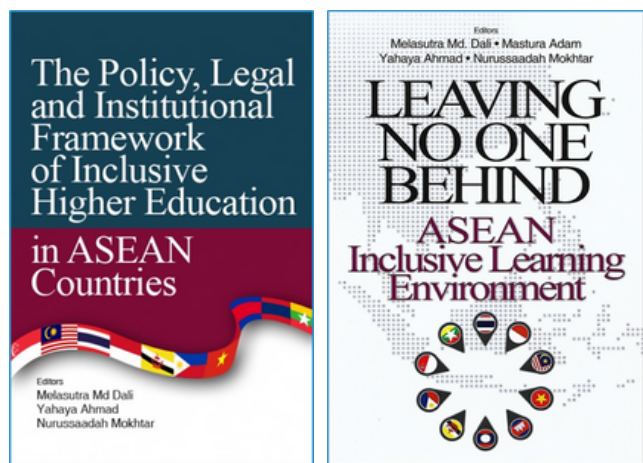
Universiti Malaya's Role in AUN-DPPnet and Contributions to Advancing Inclusive Education through the TILE Project

The Universiti Malaya (UM), as the Secretariat of the ASEAN University Network-Disability and Public Policy Network (AUN-DPPnet), plays a vital role in promoting inclusive education and advocating for the rights of students with disabilities across ASEAN. Through initiatives like the Towards Inclusive Learning Environment (TILE) project, launched in 2017, UM supports the implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities by fostering a barrier-free educational environment within ASEAN's higher education institutions. This project aligns closely with UM's commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities), and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals).

In collaboration with key ASEAN universities, including Mahidol University, Ateneo de Manila University, and Viet Nam National University, AUN-DPPnet published two significant books. The first book, *The Policy, Legal, and Institutional Framework of Inclusive Higher Education in ASEAN Countries*, released in 2021, provides a comprehensive analysis of the legal and institutional frameworks necessary to support students with disabilities. This publication lays the foundation for disability advocacy in higher education across ASEAN.

The second book, *Leaving No One Behind: ASEAN Inclusive Learning Environment*, presented by UM and AUN-DPPnet at the 6th ASEAN+3 Rectors' Conference in 2023, goes further by assessing the practical implementation of these frameworks within universities. It evaluates the gap between policy and practice, examining physical accessibility, teaching and learning support, and overall campus experiences for students with disabilities. This in-depth analysis, involving 21 researchers and three groups of students with disabilities (visually-impaired, hearing-impaired, and mobility-impaired), provides actionable insights for policymakers and education providers across the region.

Through these efforts, UM, in its role with AUN-DPPnet, demonstrates leadership in bridging the gap between policy and practical inclusivity in higher education. By addressing physical access, curriculum adaptations, and comprehensive campus support, UM and AUN-DPPnet are making significant strides toward a more inclusive, equitable educational environment, contributing to a sustainable future where all students, regardless of ability, have equal opportunities to succeed.



Above: Book covers

Below: The Launching Ceremony of the *Policy, Legal and Institutional Framework of Inclusive Higher Education in ASEAN Countries*, 27 September 2022 and the book launch event for *Leaving No One Behind: ASEAN Inclusive Learning Environment* on 20 September 2023



Carnival: Let's Care for Persons with Disabilities (OKU) in conjunction with the 2023 International Day of Persons with Disabilities

The Karnival Jom Cakna Orang Kurang Upaya (OKU), organised by Universiti Malaya, is a significant initiative that underscores UM's commitment to SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities. This event celebrates the International Day of Persons with Disabilities and serves as a platform to foster inclusivity, awareness, and empowerment for persons with disabilities.

Through engaging activities like sign language classes, talent shows and sharing sessions on positive practices in managing learning disabilities, the carnival promotes understanding and supports equal opportunities for the OKU community. By encouraging staff, students, and the public to participate.

This carnival is more than an event - it is part of UM's broader commitment to creating a campus culture that values diversity, respects differences, and champions equality. In doing so, UM continues to advance its mission in alignment with SDG 10, reinforcing its dedication to a fair and inclusive society for all.



Above: Poster for “Karnival Jom Cakna Orang Kurang Upaya (OKU)” (Source: Division of Counseling & Disability Empowerment, Universiti Malaya)

Seminar on Access to Information for Persons with Visual and Print Disabilities

Organised by the Counseling and Empowerment Section for OKU, HR Division, Universiti Malaya, in collaboration with the National Council for the Blind Malaysia (NCBM), this seminar focuses on improving access to information for visually impaired and print-disabled individuals. Malaysia's signing of the Marrakesh Treaty facilitates access to various reading materials like Braille, audio, large print, and digital formats for OKU, aiming to bridge educational access gaps and expand accessible book collections. The event took place on 16 March 2023 at the Auditorium, Perdanasiswa Complex, UM.



Above: Poster for “Access to Information for Persons with Visual and Print Disabilities’ seminar” (Source: Division of Counseling & Disability Empowerment)

Run with Me 2023: An Inclusive Journey with the OKU Community

The “Run with Me” event at Universiti Malaya is an initiative that embodies the university’s commitment to inclusivity and community support for individuals with disabilities. Organised by the Counseling and Empowerment Section for OKU, this event brings together students, staff, and members of the community to participate in an inclusive run, promoting awareness and solidarity with the OKU (Persons with Disabilities) community.

By encouraging participation from individuals of all abilities, Run with Me fosters a sense of belonging, breaks down social barriers, and enhances understanding of the unique challenges faced by students with disabilities. This event reflects Universiti Malaya’s mission to create an inclusive, supportive campus where everyone can engage fully and thrive.

Visit [HERE](#) for full video.



Above: Poster for “Run with Me” event
(Source: UM Human Resources Department)

Below: Run with Me: Inclusive participation for individuals of all abilities



E-sports Exergaming Bridges Inequality

For centuries, sports have been divided along lines of gender, age, and physical ability, often limiting equal opportunities. However, a new frontier - e-sports exergaming - has emerged to promote inclusivity and equity in sports. By blending electronic gaming with physical activities, exergames simulate traditional sports in a virtual environment through avatars, bridging the gap between physical and virtual worlds and promoting healthier lifestyles for all.

In September 2023, Universiti Malaya (UM), led by Dr. Maziah Mat Rosly, held an e-sports exergaming tennis tournament where wheelchair users competed against non-disabled players. This event had a significant social and economic impact, enhancing knowledge and skills in e-sports while improving participants' health and well-being. Exergame programs have also encouraged social inclusion and gender equality, particularly supporting underrepresented groups, such as wheelchair users and women, through principles of fair play and inclusivity.

For more information:

<https://apakhabartv.com/2023/10/17/e-sports-exergaming-bridges-inequality/>



Above: How e-sports exergaming Tennis is played between wheelchair users against non-disabled players. Females can also compete equally against male players in this new form of e-sports exergaming.

Below: An e-sports exergaming Tennis tournament held in September 2023 where wheelchair users competed against non-disabled players in a final competition



UM's Commitment to Diversity: A Focus on Inclusion for All

The figures below provides insights into the Universiti Malaya's (UM) commitment to diversity and inclusion, with data focusing on the representation of international students from low-income countries, students with disabilities, and employees with disabilities.

1. Proportion of International Students from Low or Lower-Middle Income Countries:

The percentage of international students from developing countries receiving significant financial aid has shown a decline over recent years, starting from 8.06% in 2020 and dropping to 3.97% in 2022, with a slight increase to 4.19% in 2023. This metric reflects UM's effort to support students from economically disadvantaged backgrounds globally.

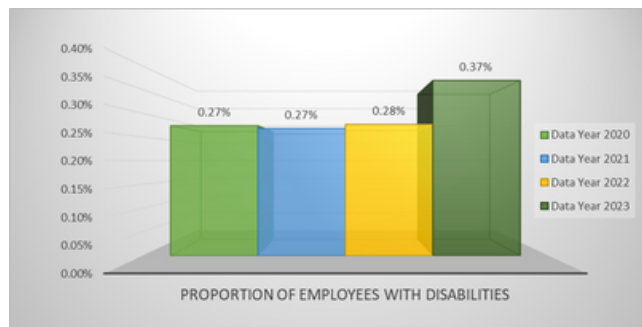
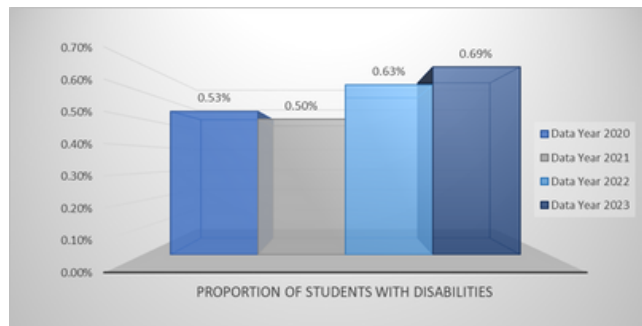
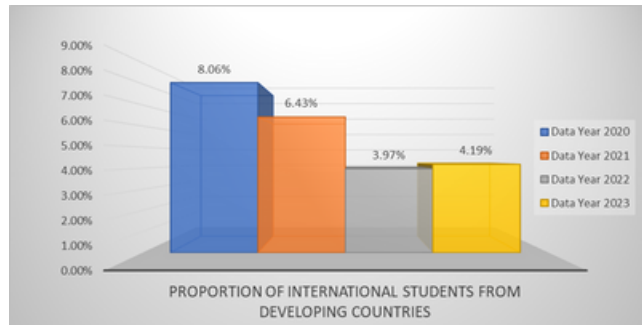
2. Proportion of Students with Disabilities:

The representation of students with disabilities at UM has gradually increased, from 0.53% in 2020 to 0.69% in 2023. This measure demonstrates UM's dedication to fostering an inclusive learning environment for students of all abilities.

3. Proportion of Employees with Disabilities:

The proportion of employees with disabilities has also grown, from 0.27% in 2020 and 2021 to 0.37% in 2023. This increase highlights UM's efforts to create an inclusive and supportive workplace for individuals with disabilities, promoting diversity within its workforce.

These metrics underscore UM's ongoing initiatives aligned with inclusivity and support for underrepresented groups, both in the student body and among its staff.



Above: Graphs for the representation of international students from low-income countries, students with disabilities, and employees with disabilities