



Sustainable Funding and Donation Policy

1. PREAMBLE & STATEMENT OF INTENT

JSS Academy of Higher Education & Research (JSS AHER), Mysuru, believes that sustainable funding and ethical donation practices are vital to advancing academic excellence, health sciences research, social responsibility, environmental stewardship, and community welfare.

This policy establishes a robust framework for mobilizing, accepting, managing, and utilizing donations, research grants, corporate social responsibility (CSR) funds, endowments, and philanthropic contributions. JSS AHER ensures that all financial inflows are managed with transparency, accountability, and ethical governance while supporting the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) principles, the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, and University Grants Commission (UGC) regulations.

2. OBJECTIVES

- **Promote Ethical Fundraising:** Establish transparent, accountable, and sustainable fundraising processes across all university entities.
- **Align with Core Values:** Ensure all incoming funds, grants, and gifts align with JSS AHER's healthcare ethics, educational mission, and environmental sustainability goals.
- **Advance Sustainable Impact:** Direct philanthropic and CSR capital toward green infrastructure, public health initiatives, biomedical innovation, climate resilience, and community outreach.
- **Safeguard Academic Independence:** Protect the University's research integrity, curriculum, and administrative autonomy from donor influence or conflicts of interest.
- **Mitigate Risk:** Prevent reputational, financial, ethical, and legal risks associated with questionable funding sources.

3. SCOPE

This policy applies across JSS AHER to:

- All Constituent Colleges (Medical, Dental, Pharmacy, Biomedical Sciences), Departments, Centers of Excellence, and administrative units.
- Faculty, researchers, administrative staff, students, and alumni associations.
- University-affiliated research centers, technology business incubators, and outreach centers.

Covered Funding Categories:

- Philanthropic donations and individual gifts.
- Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) contributions.
- Research and development grants (government, national, and international).
- Academic and clinical endowments.
- Event, seminar, and healthcare campaign sponsorships.
- Infrastructure, equipment, and green campus contributions.

4. GUIDING PRINCIPLES

All fundraising, donation acceptances, and grant management at JSS AHER are governed by five core principles:

1. **Sustainability & SDG Alignment:** Funding must contribute to environmental protection, health equity, quality education, clean energy, waste management, or social well-being.
2. **Absolute Transparency:** All funding transactions must be fully recorded, audited, and processed through official University banking channels.
3. **Academic Integrity & Ethical Governance:** Acceptance of funds shall never compromise JSS AHER's academic freedom, clinical ethics, or research objectivity. Donors shall hold no decision-making power over academic curricula, degree awards, or unbiased research outcomes.
4. **Accountability & Stewardship:** All funds received must be utilized strictly for their intended, approved purpose with periodic reporting provided to donors.
5. **Equity & Social Inclusion:** Preference is given to funding initiatives that support scholarships for underrepresented communities, rural health access, and inclusive education.

5. SOURCES OF FUNDING & DONATIONS

JSS AHER mobilizes funds from diverse, verified channels:

5.1 Internal & Institutional Sources

- Alumni contributions and endowment funds.
- Faculty and staff voluntary contribution schemes.
- Institutional research and innovation reserves.

5.2 External Sources

- Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) funds from national and multinational corporations.
- Central and State Government funding agencies (e.g., DST, DBT, ICMR, SERB, AYUSH, UGC).
- International funding organizations, global health bodies (e.g., WHO), and philanthropic foundations.
- Industrial partners for collaborative healthcare research and clinical trials.
- Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), public trusts, and registered societies.
- Individual donors, philanthropists, and grateful patients/families.

6. PRIORITY AREAS FOR SUSTAINABLE FUNDING

JSS AHER prioritizes funding and donation drives aimed at driving real-world impact in the following key domains:

- **Healthcare Equity & Public Health:** Rural health centers, mobile clinics, subsidized patient treatment, and free health screening drives.
- **Sustainable Research & Innovation:** Drug discovery, green chemistry, biomedical engineering, public health epidemiology, and infectious disease research.
- **Green Campus & Environmental Initiatives:** Solar infrastructure, rainwater harvesting, zero-waste management, biodiversity conservation, and green building certifications.
- **Education & Inclusion:** Scholarships for meritorious and underprivileged students, accessible facilities for persons with disabilities, and digital learning tools.
- **Community Development:** Skill development programs, adopted village initiatives, and health literacy drives.

7. DONATION ACCEPTANCE & EXCLUSION CRITERIA

7.1 Negative Screening (Prohibited Funding Sources)

To protect JSS AHER's healthcare mission, institutional integrity, and public trust, the University **explicitly prohibits** accepting donations, sponsorships, or grants from:

- Entities involved in the production, marketing, or sale of **Tobacco and Nicotine** products.
- Companies primarily involved in the manufacture of **Controversial Weapons or Firearms**.
- Organizations with verified track records of severe **human rights violations, illegal labor practices, or unaddressed environmental disasters**.
- Entities engaging in **illicit activities, money laundering, or unverified dark-money sources**.
- Donors requiring conditions that infringe upon academic independence, institutional ethics, or equal-opportunity policies.

7.2 Conditional Donations

Donations with specific naming rights (e.g., chairs, laboratories, buildings) or restricted uses are accepted only if the terms conform strictly to JSS AHER guidelines and receive formal clearance from the University leadership.

8. GOVERNANCE & APPROVAL STRUCTURE

8.1 Sustainable Funding & Donation Committee (SFDC)

To evaluate, review, and approve incoming funding, donations, and CSR partnerships, JSS AHER establishes the **Sustainable Funding & Donation Committee (SFDC)** comprising:

- **Finance Officer:** Chairperson
- **Registrar:** Member
- **Dean (Academics):** Member
- **Dean (Research):** Member
- **Dean of a Constituent College / Faculty** (*Nominated by Vice-Chancellor on rotation*): Member
- **Development / CSR Officer or External Legal Expert:** Nominated Member

8.2 Approval Levels

- **Routine Grants & Small Gifts (up to standard threshold):** Evaluated and processed directly by the Finance Officer and Registrar.
- **Major Endowments, CSR Funds & Naming Rights:** Reviewed by the SFDC and submitted to the Vice-Chancellor for approval.
- **Policy-Level & Strategic Institutional Partnerships:** Sanctioned by the Board of Management / Finance Committee.

9. IMPLEMENTATION, AUDIT & REPORTING

1. **Banking & FCRA Compliance:** All domestic contributions must be routed through official, designated University bank accounts. Foreign grants and international donations must strictly comply with Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act (FCRA) laws and FEMA guidelines.
2. **Fund Utilization & Utilization Certificates:** The Office of the Finance Officer ensures all restricted funds are utilized within designated timelines and provides Utilization Certificates (UCs) and audited financial statements to donors/agencies.
3. **Annual Sustainability & Gift Report:** An annual summary detailing funds received, donor contributions, CSR utilization, and their direct impact on SDGs shall be published by JSS AHER.
4. **Policy Review:** The SFDC shall review this policy **every two years** to adapt to changing statutory regulations, tax laws, and global sustainability standards.

10. DATE OF IMPLEMENTATION:

This policy will come into immediate effect 01.01.2025

11. DATE OF REVISION:

01.01.2027




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