

STUDENT Rights Charter

"We, the students, have the right to participate in the decisions that shape our education"

This Charter highlights the general principles and guarantees related to the students' participation in all its dimensions. The purpose is to promote the empowerment of students in the exercise of their rights.

HEI/University Name, Country: Ukraine

Government and
Management

You have the right to manage the university to manage and participate in the functioning of the university by electing representatives from students to student self-government bodies and delegating representatives from such student body to the governing body "Academic Council". According to Part 1 of Article 36, the Academic Council is a collegial governing body of a higher education institution, formed for a term of five years, the composition of which is approved by order of the head of the higher education institution within five working days.

That is, students through their representatives who are members of the Academic Council of the university have the opportunity to participate in:

- 1) determination of strategy and perspective directions of development of educational, scientific and innovative activity of the institution of higher education;**
- 2) to develop and submit to the higher collegial body of public self-government a draft charter of the institution of higher education, as well as a decision on making changes and additions to it;**
- 3) approve the financial plan and annual financial report of the higher education institution;**
- 4) define the system and approve the procedures for internal quality assurance of higher education;**
- 5) make decisions on the placement of own revenues in the territorial bodies of the central body of executive power in the field of treasury servicing of budget funds, or in banking institutions;**
- 6) to make decisions on the formation, reorganization and liquidation of structural subdivisions on the proposal of the head of the institution of higher education;**

8) approve educational programs and curricula for each level of higher education and specialty;

9) make decisions on the organization of the educational process, determine the terms of study at the appropriate levels;

10) approve the sample and procedure for the preparation of documents on higher education, including joint and double diplomas;

11) approves the main directions of scientific research and innovation;

12) evaluate the scientific and pedagogical activities of structural units;

13) assign academic titles of professor, associate professor and senior researcher and submit the relevant decisions for approval to the attestation board of the central executive body in the field of education and science;

14) make final decisions on the recognition of foreign documents on higher education, scientific degrees and academic titles during the employment of pedagogical, scientific, scientific-pedagogical and other employees, as well as during the enrollment of entrants;

14-1) to make final decisions on the recognition of documents on higher education issued by institutions of higher spiritual education, the statutes (provisions) of which are registered in the manner prescribed by law, when enrolling entrants;

15) Make a motion to recall the head of a higher education institution on the grounds provided by law, the charter of the higher education institution, the contract, which is considered by the higher collegial body of public self-government of the higher education institution;

16) to consider other issues of activity of the higher institution of higher education in accordance with its charter.

According to Part 4, the number of such students in the Academic Council must be not less than 10% of the total membership of the Council.

Also, according to Part 2 of Art. 38 Students may join other advisory or consultative bodies on a voluntary basis, formed by the head of the higher education institution.

The highest collegial body of public self-government of a higher education institution is the general meeting (conference) of the labor collective, including elected representatives from among students (cadets) - This is provided by Part 1 of Art. 39 of the above law.

At least 15% of the total membership of such a body must be students of this university.

In accordance with Part 5 of Art. 39: students through their representatives who are members of the Supreme Collegiate Body of Public Self-Government have the opportunity to:

- 1) to approve the charter of the institution of higher education or changes (additions) to it upon the submission of the Academic Council of the institution of higher education;**
- 2) hear annually the report of the head of the institution of higher education and evaluate its activities;**
- 3) elect a commission on labor disputes in accordance with labor legislation;**
- 4) consider the issue of early termination of the powers of the head of the institution of higher education upon the substantiated submission of the supervisory or academic council of the institution of higher education;**
- 5) approve the rules of procedure of the institution of higher education and the collective agreement;**
- 6) consider other issues of higher education institution.**

In accordance with Part 10 of Art. 39 Such a body of public self-government can function at the level of faculties, institutes and other structural units of universities.

15% of persons (students) from the total membership of such a body may:

- 1) evaluate the activities of the head of the educational and scientific institute (faculty);**
- 2) approve the annual report on the activities of the educational and scientific institute (faculty);**
- 3) submit proposals to the head of the institution of higher education on recall from the position of the head of the educational and scientific institute (faculty) on the grounds provided by the legislation of**

Ukraine, the charter of the institution of higher education, the contract concluded with him;

4) elect elected representatives to the academic council of the educational and scientific institute (faculty);

5) elect delegates to the highest collegial body of public self-government of a higher education institution.

In general, the most famous and influential body through which students have the opportunity to realize their own interests and rights is the "student government". Such a body participates in the management of the university, faculty and the relevant structural unit in accordance with Art. 40 of the mentioned law of Ukraine. In fact, such a body is the "voice" of any higher education seeker in the universities.

Therefore, according to Article 40:

1. Student self-government operates in higher education institutions and their structural subdivisions, which is an integral part of public self-government of the respective educational institutions. Student self-government is the right and opportunity of students (cadets, except for military cadets) to decide on issues of education and life, protection of the rights and interests of students, as well as to participate in the management of higher education.

Student government unites all students (cadets, except military cadets) of the relevant higher education institution. All students (cadets) studying in a higher education institution have equal rights and can be elected and elected to working, advisory, elected and other student self-government bodies.

Student government provides protection of the rights and interests of students (cadets) and their participation in the management of higher education. Student self-government is carried out by students (cadets) directly and through student self-government bodies, which are elected by direct secret ballot of students (cadets).

2. In their activities, student self-government bodies are guided by the legislation, the charter of the higher education institution and the regulations on student self-government of the higher education institution.

3. Student government bodies operate on the principles of:

- 1) voluntariness, collegiality, openness;**
 - 2) election and reporting of student self-government bodies;**
 - 3) equality of the right of students (cadets) to participate in student self-government;**
 - 4) independence from the influence of political parties and religious organizations (except for institutions of higher spiritual education).**
- 4. Student self-government is carried out at the level of a student group, institute (faculty), department, dormitory, institution of higher education. Depending on the contingent of students (cadets), the type and specifics of the institution of higher education, student self-government can be carried out at the level of the course, specialty, campus, structural units of the institution of higher education.**

Student government bodies can take various forms (parliament, senate, headmaster, student administration, student deans, student councils, etc.).

Representative, executive and control-audit bodies of student self-government are elected for a term of one year. Students (cadets) elected to student self-government bodies may be removed from their positions based on the results of general secret ballot of students. At least 10 percent of students (cadets) of a higher education institution need to collect signatures to initiate such a vote.

The head of the student government and his deputies may hold office for no more than two terms.

Upon termination of a person's education in a higher education institution, his / her participation in the student self-government body shall be terminated in accordance with the procedure provided for by the regulations on student self-government of the higher education institution.

The student self-government body may be registered as a public organization in accordance with the legislation, taking into account the features established by this Law.

5. Bodies of student self-government:

- 1) participate in the management of a higher education institution in the manner prescribed by this Law and the charter of the higher education institution;**
 - 2) participate in the discussion and resolution of issues of improving the educational process, research, scholarships, leisure, health, living and nutrition;**
 - 3) conduct organizational, educational, scientific, sports, health and other activities;**
 - 4) participate in measures (processes) to ensure the quality of higher education;**
 - 5) protect the rights and interests of students (cadets) studying in a higher education institution;**
 - 6) delegate their representatives to working, advisory bodies;**
 - 7) adopt acts regulating their organization and activities;**
 - 8) participate in solving issues of ensuring proper living conditions for students in dormitories and catering for students;**
 - 9) dispose of funds and other property on the balance sheet and bank accounts of student self-government bodies;**
 - 10) make proposals on the content of curricula and programs;**
 - 11) make proposals for the development of the material base of the institution of higher education, including on issues related to the life and leisure of students;**
 - 12) have the right to announce protests;**
 - 13) perform other functions provided by this Law and the regulations on student self-government of higher education institutions.**
- 6. In agreement with the student government of the institution of higher education, decisions are made on:**

- 1) expulsion of students (cadets) from the institution of higher education and their renewal for study;**
 - 2) transfer of persons studying in a higher education institution by state order to study under a contract at the expense of individuals (legal entities);**
 - 3) transfer of persons studying in a higher education institution at the expense of individuals (legal entities) to study by state order;**
 - 4) appointment of the deputy dean of the faculty, the deputy director of the institute, the deputy head of the institution of higher education;**
 - 5) settlement of persons studying in a higher education institution in a dormitory and their eviction from the dormitory;**
 - 6) approval of the rules of procedure of the institution of higher education in the part concerning the persons who study;**
 - 7) activities of campuses and dormitories for accommodation of persons studying in a higher education institution.**
- 7. The highest body of student self-government is the general meeting (conference) of students (cadets), which:**
- 1) adopt regulations on student self-government of higher education institutions, determine the structure, powers and procedure for holding direct secret elections of representative and executive bodies of student self-government;**
 - 2) listen to the reports of representative, executive and control-audit bodies of student self-government, give them an appropriate assessment;**
 - 3) approve the procedure for the use of property and funds of student self-government bodies, support of student initiatives on a competitive basis;**

4) approve the annual cost estimate (budget) of student self-government bodies, make changes and additions to it, hear a report on its implementation;

5) elect a control and revision commission from among students (cadets) to carry out current control over the state of use of property and execution of the budget of student self-government bodies.

8. The administration of a higher education institution has no right to interfere in the activities of student self-government bodies.

9. The head of the higher education institution provides appropriate conditions for the activities of student self-government bodies (provides premises, furniture, office equipment, provides telephone communication, constant Internet access, allocates space for setting up information stands, etc.), about which an agreement is concluded.

10. The financial basis of student government is:

1) funds determined by the Academic Council of a higher education institution in the amount of not less than 0.5 percent of the own revenues received by the higher education institution from the main activity;

2) membership fees of students (cadets), the amount of which is set by the highest body of student self-government of the institution of higher education. The amount of the monthly membership fee of one person may not exceed 1 percent of the subsistence minimum established by law.

11. Funds of student self-government bodies are directed to the performance of their tasks and exercise of powers in accordance with the estimates approved by them.

Student self-government bodies publicly report on the use of funds and the implementation of estimates at least once a year.

What: All the above rules, parts of articles and articles establish the right to participate in the management of the university and the formation of its future, provided that there will be no artificial obstacles from the university administrations in engaging in such activities.

Where: Ukraine

When/How often: **Students and universities themselves determine the procedure for exercising such rights in accordance with internal rules and traditions, as universities in Ukraine have gained autonomy and some independence after the adoption of the above-mentioned Law of Ukraine "On Higher Education"**

How: **The above-mentioned autonomy affects "how when, where and how often" students can enjoy such rights. Thus, depending on the university, the answers to such questions may be different**

Regulation:

Page number	Article	Normative (add hyperlink)
Section 7	Part 1,2,4. Article 36 Part 2. Article 38 Part 1,5,10. Article 39 Article 40(all)	https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/1556-18?lang=uk#Text

Academic
and Quality

You have the right to participate in the formation of the National Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (hereinafter - the National Agency) as a permanent collegial body for the implementation of state policy in the field of quality assurance in higher education in Ukraine. Any of the students can take part in the competition and become a member of such an agency.

In accordance with Part 2, 3, 4 of paragraph 12 of the Statute of the National Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education, approved by the resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine of August 21, 2019 № 761.

In accordance with paragraph 7 of section 2 of the regulations on accreditation of educational programs for the training of higher education, approved by the Order of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine dated July 11, 2019 № 977: Expert group for accreditation examination of educational programs , including one expert from among higher education seekers.

That is, one third of the experts in the expert groups are students. Such involvement is linked to higher education reform, which can only be done with the involvement of all stakeholders. Including students.

What: The mentioned provisions of laws and bylaws give the right to students of Ukrainian institutions to participate in the formation and promotion of the quality of higher education both in the country and in individual universities.

Where: **University/national level**

When/How often: **University level national level during recruitments and competitions at the national level. And at the university level it depends on the internal documentation and the consciousness of administrations**

How: **By participating in national level competitions and participating in the internal quality assurance system of higher education at individual universities**

Regulation:

Page number	Article	Normative (add hyperlink)
-	Part 2, 3, 4 of paragraph 12	https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/244-2015-%D0%BF#Text

Social, Cultural and Sports

You have the right to Social, cultural and sports rights of students, which are enshrined in state policy, which is provided for in the Law of Ukraine on Higher Education.

Social - paragraph 8 of Part 3 of Article 3 of this law The formation and implementation of state policy in the field of higher education are provided by providing persons studying in higher education, benefits and social guarantees in the manner prescribed by law

Part 1 of Art. 4 for the realization of the right to higher education to persons in need of social support in accordance with the legislation, full or partial financial support of their maintenance is provided during the period of their higher education at each educational level.

Sports – paragraph 17 part 3 of Art. 34: The head of a higher education institution, within the limits of the powers granted to him, promotes the formation of a healthy lifestyle among higher education applicants, strengthens the sports and health base of the higher education institution, creates appropriate conditions for mass sports.

Part 5 of Art. 40 Student self-government bodies have the right to organize sports events.

paragraph 5, part 1 of Article 62: persons studying in higher education institutions have the right to free use of libraries, information funds, educational, scientific and sports facilities of higher education institutions;

In general, Article 62 of the said law provides many different kinds of rights which students further try to enjoy in the universities where they study.

What: In this case, many rights are granted to students, but their further implementation depends on the will of the university and its administration

Where: At the national level, these rights are defined as basic and at the level of various universities can be granted additional

When/How often: Depends on the specific universities

How: By cooperating with student self-government bodies and relevant structural subdivisions of the university.

Regulation:

Page number	Article	Normative (add hyperlink)
-	Paragraph 8 part 3 article 3 Part 1 article 3 Paragraph 17 part 3 article 34 Part 5 Article 40 Paragraph 5 part 1 article 62 Article 62 (all)	https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/1556-18?lang=uk#Text

Equality and Inclusion

You have the right to Equality and inclusiveness are envisaged, including the formation of state policy in the field of education, provided for in the Law of Ukraine "On Higher Education", paragraph 4 of part 3 of Article 3 Formation and implementation of state policy in higher education higher education, including the provision of additional support in the educational process of persons with special educational needs, in particular psychological and pedagogical support, the creation of free access for them to the infrastructure of higher education institutions;

Article 4 of this law is clear in the understanding of equality:

1. Everyone has the right to higher education.

Citizens of Ukraine have the right to obtain higher education free of charge in state and municipal institutions of higher education on a competitive basis, if a citizen obtains a certain degree of higher education for the first time at the expense of state or local budget, as well as in other cases provided by law.

Citizens of Ukraine are free to choose a higher education institution, a form of higher education and a specialty.

Citizens of Ukraine who have not completed education at the expense of the state or local budget at a certain level of education have the right to re-obtain higher education free of charge in state and municipal institutions of higher education at the same level of education, subject to reimbursement to the state or local budget. payment for training services, in accordance with the procedure established by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

The right to higher education is guaranteed regardless of age, citizenship, place of residence, sex, skin color, social and property status, nationality, language, origin, health status, religion, criminal record, or other circumstances. No one may be restricted in the right to higher education, except in cases established by the Constitution and laws of Ukraine.

The establishment of restrictions and privileges determined by the specific conditions for obtaining higher education due to the peculiarities of obtaining a qualification shall not be considered discrimination against the right to obtain higher education.

To exercise the right to higher education for persons with special educational needs, higher education institutions create the necessary conditions for them to obtain quality higher education. To exercise the right to higher education for persons in need of social support in accordance with the law, full or partial financial support is provided for their maintenance during the period of higher education at each level of education.

Citizens of Ukraine have the right to receive free higher education in the second specialty in state and municipal institutions of higher education, if due to health they have lost the opportunity to perform official or official duties according to the previously obtained qualification, which is confirmed by the medical and social expert commission, and in other cases provided by law.

2. Foreigners and stateless persons, including foreign Ukrainians permanently residing in Ukraine, persons recognized as refugees, and persons in need of additional protection, have the right to receive higher education on an equal footing with citizens of Ukraine, including through state or local budget funds.

Other foreigners and stateless persons may obtain higher education at the expense of individuals (legal entities), unless otherwise provided by international treaties of Ukraine, approved by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, legislation or agreements between higher education institutions on international academic mobility.

All those who receive higher education in higher education institutions have equal rights and responsibilities.

What: Only these norms regulate the rights of students to equality and inclusive higher education. Any other legal relationship is determined by the policy of the higher education institution and the rules that were issued within its autonomy.

Where: At the national and university level

When/How often: The law does not set such a framework, so again the university decides within its capabilities

How: By contacting university officials for support, or relevant organizations

Regulation:

Page number	Article	Normative (add hyperlink)
-	Paragraph 4 part 3 article 3 Article 4 (all)	https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/1556-18?lang=uk#Text

Dimension

- Government and Management
- Academic and Quality
- Social, Cultural and Sports