

Approved

Member of the Board –

**Vice-Rector for Sustainable
Social Development**

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September

**Program for Academic and Social Support of Students from Low-
Income Families
Al-Farabi Kazakh National University
(2025–2026 Academic Year)**

Almaty, 2025

I. Analytical Section

In 2025, the number of secondary school graduates is projected to reach 165,000, of whom approximately 21–23% belong to low-income families. The potential pool of applicants eligible for participation in the Al-Farabi KazNU Support Program is estimated at around 37,000 individuals.

Based on the analysis of the applicant pool, the target indicator for Al-Farabi KazNU for the 2025–2026 academic year is that at least 12% of first-year students should come from low-income families.

This aligns with the University’s strategic objectives of ensuring equal access to quality education and contributing to the achievement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) No. 4 “Quality Education” and No. 10 “Reduced Inequalities.”

II. Action Plan for the 2025–2026 Academic Year

1. Information and Awareness Campaign

Objective: To increase awareness among prospective students from rural and low-income regions about educational opportunities and support measures available at Al-Farabi KazNU.

Main activities:

- Analysis of regions with the highest proportion of low-income families (January 2025);
- Organization of *Open Days* in regional and district centers (February–May 2025);
- Online meetings and webinars for secondary school graduates;
- Development and dissemination of informational brochures and videos on scholarships and benefits.

Responsible units: Department of Academic Affairs, Committee of Youth Organizations.

Expected outcome: At least 15 outreach events conducted; increased number of applications from students in vulnerable categories.

2. Admission Campaign and Student Status Identification

Period: June – August 2025

Objective: To identify applicants from low-income families and ensure equal admission opportunities.

Main activities:

- Introduction of a “low-income family” marker in the *Applicant* electronic database;
- Acceptance and verification of supporting documents (income certificates, large-family certificates, social assistance confirmations, etc.);

- Formation of a registry of students in this category and preparation of statistical reports.

Responsible units: Admission Committee, Department of Social and Educational Work.

Expected outcome: Achievement of the target enrollment rate — at least 12% of first-year students.

3. Distribution of Benefits and Services

Period: August – September 2025

Objective: To provide first-year students with essential conditions for adaptation and successful study.

Main activities:

- Allocation of dormitory accommodation (coverage — at least 95%);
- Provision of social grants and tuition discounts (up to 50%);
- Distribution of vouchers for free meals and discounted transportation;
- Organization of medical and legal consultations;
- Provision of emergency material assistance through the *Komek Fund*.

Responsible units: Department of Social and Educational Work, Student Campus Directorate, Medical Center, Faculty of Law.

Expected outcome: 100% of students in this category are provided with housing and basic social support.

4. Academic and Psychological Support

Period: October 2025 – May 2026

Objective: To improve academic performance, support successful adaptation, and prevent dropouts.

Main activities:

- Appointment of an academic mentor (curator) for each student;
- Additional consultations in key academic disciplines;
- Training sessions on learning skills and time management through the *Office for Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion*;
- Group psychological consultations and adaptation meetings.

Responsible units: Department of Academic Affairs, Faculties, Psychological Support Service.

Expected outcome: Increase in students' average GPA and reduction in dropout rates.

5. Motivation and Development

Objective: To enhance leadership and professional potential among students from low-income families.

Main activities:

- Involvement of students in volunteer, internship, and leadership programs;
- Organization of the “*Student of the Year – Social Mission*” contest;
- Support for graduate employment through the *KazNU Career Center*.

Responsible units: Committee of Youth Organizations, *Al-Farabi Foundation*, Career Center.

Expected outcome: Increased social engagement and participation of students in university and community activities.

6. Monitoring and Reporting

Period: January and June 2026

Objective: To monitor program effectiveness and assess student satisfaction.

Main activities:

- Semester-based analysis of academic performance;
- Student surveys on satisfaction with support measures and conditions;
- Preparation of a final report and presentation of results to the Academic Council of Al-Farabi KazNU.

Responsible units: Department of Social and Educational Work, Department of Academic Affairs.

Expected outcome: Student satisfaction rate $\geq 80\%$ and reduction of social dropout rate to $\leq 3\%$.

III. Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

Indicator	Target Value
Share of first-year students from low-income families	$\geq 12 \%$
Dormitory accommodation coverage	$\geq 95 \%$
Average GPA of program participants	≥ 2.8
Social dropout rate	$\leq 3 \%$
Student satisfaction with the support program	$\geq 80 \%$
Number of students receiving grants	≥ 400
Student participation in leadership and internship programs	≥ 200

IV. Monitoring and Reporting

Program implementation is monitored each semester by the Department of Social and Educational Work in cooperation with faculties.

Main performance indicators include:

- proportion of students from low-income families among admitted and graduating students;
- dynamics of academic performance (GPA);
- student satisfaction with learning and support conditions;
- graduate employment rate.

The results are submitted to the Academic Council of Al-Farabi KazNU for analysis and subsequent program adjustment.

V. Conclusion

Implementation of the *Program of Academic and Social Support for Students from Low-Income Families* in the 2025–2026 academic year is aimed at:

- ensuring equal educational opportunities;
- improving academic success and social resilience of students;
- fostering an inclusive university environment;
- contributing to the achievement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):

Goal 1 – No Poverty

Goal 4 – Quality Education

Goal 10 – Reduced Inequalities

Al-Farabi Kazakh National University reaffirms its mission as a socially responsible institution, committed to creating conditions that enable every student to realize their potential — regardless of their family's socio-economic background.