STUDENTS WELFARE AND SUPPORT POLICY

Version	Rev. 00
Short description	Students Welfare and Support Policy
Relevant to	Students
Approved by	University Council
Responsible Officer	Deputy Principal (ASA)
Responsible office	Dean of Students
Date introduced	September, 2026
Related University Documents	University Charter, Statutes, Rules and Regulations Governing the Conduct and Discipline of Students of the KVUC and other relevant policies.
Related legislation	Universities Act, 2012
Key words	Students welfare support

SEPTEMBER,2026

1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The University Council and University Management Board appreciate the invaluable contribution of the Dean of Students' office and staff, members of the Students Welfare Committee and Students Council for their contributions in formulating this Policy.

2. APPROVAL

The Kerio Valley University College having been awarded its Charter on 18th June 2026 set itself on a growth path guided by its vision of "To be a university of excellence in knowledge generation, innovation and environmental sustainability for socio-economic transformation". At its foundation, the University is being guided by the 2024 to 2029 strategic plan.

The University has been developing various policies and procedures to guide decisions of the different organs of the University in order to achieve rational outcomes geared towards the growth of the University. The Students Welfare and Support Policy is just one of the many policies that the University is rolling out.

My special thanks go to all those who put in their time, effort and skills to develop this Policy. By virtue of the authority vested in me as the Chairman of Council of The Kerio Valley University College, I hereby sign this Students' Welfare and Support Policy.

CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL

3. FOREWORD

The Office of the Dean of Students is largely a center which deals with, among other matters, the social issues of the students. It is a referral center where students can ventilate emotional issues that may not be of academic nature. The office also offers support both material and emotional in case of a loss of a student. As a means of discharging its mandate the office has developed this policy to provide a framework and guidelines of accomplishing these tasks. This document sets out the policy of the University in relation to students' welfare and support.

Prof. Paul K. Tarus

Ph.D, M.Sc, B.Ed (Kenyatta)

PRINCIPAL

4. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This policy sets out the general guidelines on Students Welfare and Support by the Office of the Dean of Students. It is drawn from the legal framework of the University Statues 2012 and other rules and regulation of the University. The Students welfare services are meant to reach out to the students' fraternity to cope up with their social and academic challenges.

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6. PURPOSE

This Policy has been developed to address and give guidelines on how The Kerio Valley University College students shall access the necessary welfare and support services.

7. POLICY STATEMENT

The Students Welfare and Support Policy has been developed to provide guidelines on the type of welfare and support services that the students would be privileged to access to make their stay and academic experience comfortable. These services include but are not limited to; planning for orientation programmes for new students; provision of mentorship and advisory services on academics, career and other contemporary issues; provision of counseling and pastoral services; support services for international students; support services for students with disabilities and special needs; sensitization and identification of students with other psycho-social challenges and/or illnesses; support when a student is bereaved and in case of demise of a student.

10. ABBREVIATIONS/ACRONYMS

ASA	Academic and Students' Affairs
PWD	Person with Disability
KVUCSO	The Kerio Valley University College Students Organization
NHIF	National Hospital Insurance Fund

1. BACKGROUND

The Kerio Valley University College is one of the public universities in Kenya and is comprised of students from varied social and cultural backgrounds.

This policy aims at guiding the student's welfare and support activities, as well, direct the operations at the dean of Students office. It will put in place an efficient and effective system that envisages the student as a client and motivate all the service providers, who are the staff in the Dean of Students Office.

2. INSTITUTIONAL VALUES

2.1 Vision

To be a university of excellence in knowledge generation, innovation and environmental sustainability for socio-economic transformation.

2.2 Mission

To provide quality education, training and research in Education, Science, Agriculture, Arts and Technology and inculcate holistic values for societal development.

2.3 Core Values

At The Kerio Valley University College, we are committed to:

a) Customer focus

b) Professionalism

c) Innovation

d) Integrity

e) Inclusiveness

f) Accountability

3. POLICY GOAL/OBJECTIVE

To identify core welfare and support issues which influence the social and academic life of the student of The Kerio Valley University College, and to develop policy guidelines that will assist to address these issues.

4 POLICY

4.1 Planning for orientation programs for new students

The office of the Dean of Students will be required to plan and facilitate orientation of new Students. The students will be enlightened on the University structure, Principles and Core Values. They will also be sensitized on the Rules and regulations that will govern their stay at the university.

4.2 Provision of mentorship and advisory services on academics, career and other contemporary issues

From time to time, the office of the Dean of Students will organize mentorship programs targeting various groups of students to build on their capacities and skills. It will also provide advisory services seeking guidance on issues related to their academic progression e.g. deferment of studies, leave of absence, special examinations and future careers.

4.3 Provision of counseling and pastoral services

The student counseling and pastoral unit will be open for students seeking these services as per the students counseling policy of The Kerio Valley University College.

4.4 Support services for international students

In order to curtail challenges faced by International Students while in the process of integration into the University community, The Kerio Valley University College is committed to providing relevant guidance and non-financial support to make their stay comfortable through the Office of the Dean of Students.

4.5 Support services for students living with disabilities and special needs

Support to students living with disabilities and/ or those who have special needs will be facilitated and guided by the relevant university policies on accommodation, policy on PWD mainstreaming and any other policy that may be put in place from time to time.

4.6 Sensitization and identification of students with other psycho-social challenges and/or illness

For students with varied non-communicable illnesses such as psycho-social indisposition, injury or disease, the Office of the Dean of students shall sensitize and identify students that require intervention/referral.

4.7 Student Bereavement

In the event that a student experiences the death of an immediate family member or a relative as defined in this policy document, the student will present themselves to the counsellor in order to be assisted in handling the situation by a counsellor. Thereafter he or she will be facilitated to take a leave of absence of not more than ten (10) days.

4.8 Demise of student

In case of death of a student this policy establishes uniform guidelines for providing assistance to the immediate family to the deceased student which is limited to hearse hiring, purchase of coffin and mortuary expenses.

4.1.1 Eligibility

All bona fide students of The Kerio Valley University College are eligible for benefits under this policy.

4.1.2 Funeral facilitation

In case of such occurrence, Office of the Dean of Students will notify the family of the deceased student and prepare a death announcement to all designated areas and relevant concerned offices in the University. Office of the Dean of Students shall;

- Prepare and post the death announcement.
- Prepare a request for approval to the Principal, through the Deputy Principal (Academics and Students Affairs) for the funeral expenses (hearse, coffin and mortuary) and appropriate travelling allowances of the officers representing the University.
- Prepare a condolence massage for the Principal's signature.
- Assign person to attend, limited to 9 people that include; Two (2) staff members from Dean of Students, two (2) members of Students Council, Class Representative, roommate and any other three (3) students, provided such absence from duty will not interfere with normal operations of the University.
- Liaise with Transport Officer to avail a vehicle.
- Funds to be drawn from student welfare and other activities vote.

5. IMPLEMENTATION

- This policy shall be implemented in accordance with relevant legislation, alongside other policies of the University.
- Operationalization of this policy will achieved through funding from Students' Welfare and Other Activities Vote.

6. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Policy shall be effective from the date it is approved by the University Council.

7. REVIEW

This Policy shall be reviewed from time to time as need arises.

8. REFERENCES

Universities Act, 2012

Statutes of The Kerio Valley University College, 2026

The Kerio Valley University College Rules and Regulation Governing Students' Conduct and Discipline, 2026