

SDG MERIT AWARD

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The SDG Merit Award is an independent award that are founded to recognize the student achievements in various areas that are related to the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals to make the world better, aesthetics, harmony and sustainable.

One award will be made available every year. Each application shall be tied to a primary SDG category (the strongest or most relevant match if the application may cover multiple SDGs) as follows:

1. No Poverty
2. Zero Hunger
3. Good Health and Well-being
4. Quality Education
5. Gender Equality
6. Clean Water and Sanitation
7. Affordable and Clean Energy
8. Decent Work and Economic Growth
9. Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure
10. Reducing Inequality
11. Sustainable Cities and Communities
12. Responsible Consumption and Production
13. Climate Action
14. Life Below Water
15. Life On Land
16. Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions
17. Partnerships for the Goals

The panel reserves the capacity to determine if this award would be issued each year and may grant UTAR SDG Special Mention awards to applications deemed to have sufficient impact/significance even if they may not be the main award winner. The winner of the SDG Merit Award will receive a cash prize and trophy while recipients of the UTAR SDG Special Mention will receive a certificate.

2.0 SUBMISSION PARTICULARS

1. All information provided in this section (and any subsequent declarations below) are to be verified by DSA to be accurate and true.
2. The applicant must not have been found guilty in any disciplinary meetings, nor found guilty of any misdeeds (or serving any ongoing punishment) outside of the university throughout the assessment period.
3. DSA reserves the capacity to forfeit the whole application if any declared item is found to be inaccurate, modified or outright invalid.

3.0 AWARD CRITERIA

1. All applicants must be an UTAR student with "active" status or who have graduated within 6 months of the closing date of submission.

4.0 IMPACT

1. Applicants are required to submit **their most significant initiative/project (relevant to their category)** throughout the past assessment year (1 April – 31 March). This condition rewards initiatives/projects with exceptional impact (A long term initiative may consist of many small projects). A maximum of 50 points per initiative shall be awarded for this section.
2. The formula to determine the point award for each initiative/project is additive based on the following criteria:

Criteria	Point Awarded
Level / Scope (Maximum 10 points)	
- University (<i>Intra/Inter University locally</i>)	3
- National (<i>Across Malaysia / Multiple States</i>)	6
- International (<i>International participation</i>)	10
Impact / Achievements (Maximum 40 points)	
- Enhancement/transformation of the community or local areas	1 - 10
- Community involvement/partnerships	1 - 10
- Promotion of good practices and examples for others to follow	1 - 10
- Sustainability of the project	1 - 10

3. Point Awarded for Impact/Achievements will be prioritised based on the applicant's SDG category and its reference criteria as outlined below:

No	SDG	Reference Criteria
1	No Poverty	"End poverty in all its forms everywhere"
2	Zero Hunger	"End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture"
3	Good Health and Well Being For People	"Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages."
4	Quality Education	"Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all."
5	Gender Equality	"Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls."

6	Clean Water and Sanitation	"Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all."
7	Affordable and Clean Energy	"Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all."
8	Decent Work and Economic Growth	"Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all."
9	Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure	"Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization, and foster innovation"
10	Reducing Inequalities	"Reduce income inequality within and among countries."
11	Sustainable Cities and Communities	"Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable."
12	Responsible Consumption and Production	"Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns."
13	Climate Action	"Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts by regulating emissions and promoting developments in renewable energy."
14	Life Below Water	"Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development."
15	Life On Land	"Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss."
16	Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions	"Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels."
17	Partnerships For The Goals	"Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development"

4. The applicant is required to submit any relevant documentary (i.e. proposals, reports, income statements) and photographic evidence where relevant for the initiative identified.

**DSA reserves the capacity to request for additional documents (i.e. photos) to verify the accuracy of the reports and to cross check with various parties (for external projects/initiatives) to verify the accuracy of the submissions.*

5. Applicants may be required to attend an interview if there is a necessity.
6. The winner of this award will receive a cash prize, trophy and certificate.