



ZERO TOLERANCE FOR CORRUPTION, BRIBERY AND EXTORTION

REGISTRATION AND OFF-CAMPUS ACCOMMODATION PROCESSES

Date: 11 February 2026

The University of Venda reaffirms its unwavering commitment to integrity, transparency, and ethical conduct in all institutional processes. We have become aware of serious allegations of corruption, bribery, and extortion involving student registration and the allocation of off-campus accommodation. These allegations undermine the values upon which our institution is built and will not be tolerated.

This communiqué serves to inform the University community of our zero-tolerance stance and to provide clear guidance on legitimate processes.

1. PROHIBITED CONDUCT

The following activities constitute serious misconduct and are strictly prohibited:

- Soliciting, demanding, or accepting any form of payment, gift, or favour in exchange for assistance with student registration, admission, or accommodation allocation
- Creating, operating, or promoting unofficial or parallel systems for registration or accommodation allocation
- Misrepresenting oneself as having authority to facilitate registration, admission, or accommodation allocation
- Offering bribes to University officials, SRC members, or any other persons to secure preferential treatment in University processes
- Threatening, intimidating, or coercing students or landlords in relation to accommodation matters

2. LEGITIMATE UNIVERSITY PROCESSES

2.1 Student Registration

- All student registration is processed through official University systems accessible via the student portal
- No payment is required or permitted outside of official University fee payment channels
- Students experiencing registration difficulties should contact the Registrar's Office directly or visit the Student Support Centre
- No individual, including SRC members, has authority to demand or accept payment for registration assistance

2.2 Off-Campus Accommodation

- Off-campus accommodation allocation is managed exclusively through the official University-Fundi platform
- The Student Housing Unit conducts residence accreditation according to established criteria
- No payment to individuals is required for accommodation allocation or residence accreditation
- Landlords pay standard accreditation fees directly to the University through official channels only
- Students should ONLY use official University platforms – any alternative links or systems are unauthorised and should be reported immediately

3. HOW TO VERIFY LEGITIMATE PROCESSES

If you are uncertain whether a process, request, or system is legitimate, verify by:

- Contacting the Registrar's Office at registrar@univen.ac.za or 015 962 8000
- Contacting Student Housing at housing@univen.ac.za
- Visiting the official University website at www.univen.ac.za
- NEVER making payments to individuals claiming to represent the University without official confirmation

4. PROTECTION FOR VICTIMS AND WITNESSES

- **Students who were coerced or deceived into making improper payments will not face disciplinary action**
- The University will treat reports with confidentiality and protect whistleblowers from retaliation

- Victims of extortion or bribery solicitation are encouraged to come forward without fear
- Any person who retaliates against a complainant will face severe disciplinary consequences

5. HOW TO REPORT CORRUPTION OR EXTORTION

If you have witnessed, experienced, or have information about corruption, bribery, or extortion, report it immediately through any of the following channels:

- **Legal Services Department:** legal@univen.ac.za or 015 962 8313
- **Risk Management and Internal Audit:** audit@univen.ac.za
- **Anonymous Tip-Off Hotline:** 0800 555 556 (Toll-Free)
- **In-Person:** Visit the Legal Services Office, Behind Facilities Management Building
- **For Landlords:** Contact the Student Housing Unit immediately if approached for improper payments

6. CONSEQUENCES OF MISCONDUCT

Any person found to have engaged in corruption, bribery, or extortion will face:

- **For Students:** Disciplinary action in accordance with the University's Student Disciplinary Code, which may include suspension or expulsion
- **For Staff or SRC Members:** Disciplinary proceedings and possible dismissal or removal from office
- **For Landlords:** Immediate suspension of accreditation and possible permanent blacklisting
- **Criminal Prosecution:** All cases will be referred to the South African Police Service for criminal investigation and prosecution where evidence warrants

7. CURRENT INVESTIGATIONS

The University is currently investigating specific allegations of registration fraud and irregularities in accommodation allocation. Formal disciplinary processes have been initiated against implicated individuals in accordance with University policies. Further details will be communicated as investigations conclude and disciplinary processes are finalised.

8. STRENGTHENED CONTROLS AND OVERSIGHT

To prevent future incidents, the University is implementing enhanced measures:

- Increased monitoring and audit of registration and accommodation allocation processes
- Enhanced training for staff, SRC members, and students on ethical conduct and reporting procedures
- Regular communication campaigns to raise awareness about legitimate processes
- Systematic verification of all unofficial accommodation allocation platforms or links

9. COMMITMENT TO INTEGRITY

The University of Venda is committed to maintaining the highest standards of integrity and ethical conduct. Corruption undermines the fundamental principles of equal opportunity and fair treatment that are central to our academic mission. Every member of our community has a role to play in upholding these values.

We call upon all students, staff, landlords, and stakeholders to remain vigilant, report suspicious activities, and support our collective efforts to eradicate corruption from our institution.

IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING.

Together, we can protect the integrity of the University of Venda.



Prof. N.B. Nthambeleni

Vice-Chancellor and Principal

Date: 11 February 2026

For More Information:

Website: www.univen.ac.za

General Enquiries: 015 962 8000

Anonymous Tip-Off Hotline: 0800 555 556