



KAZAKH-AMERICAN FREE UNIVERSITY

Quick Facts

Location (city, state): Ust-Kamenogorsk	Website: https://kafu.edu.kz/
Undergraduate student enrollment: 2917	Public/Private: Private
Graduate student enrollment:	Type of Institution: University

Institutional Description (limit 250 words): The Kazakh-American Free University (KAFU) is a fully licensed and accredited private university established in 1994 as the first private university in Kazakhstan operating through a partnership with the United States. Over three decades, KAFU has evolved from a single classroom in 1994 into a well-reputed university of international partnership. University mission is to develop leaders of the 21st century for the benefit of Kazakhstan. The mission is pursued with an emphasis on international and cross-cultural cooperation as an important part of educational process. Guided by the core values of commitment, integrity, academic excellence, diversity, equity, and inclusion, the university strives to empower students to become agents of positive change in their communities and beyond.

The university offers 26 undergraduate, 10 Master's and 2 PhD programs. Languages of instruction are Kazakh, Russian, and English.

The quality of KAFU programs has been confirmed through various forms of accreditation, including national and international institutional and program accreditation - ACBSP (USA), ACQUIN (Germany). IQAA, (Kazakhstan).

KAFU extends its educational reach beyond traditional degree programs offering non-degree program for students, faculty, staff and international partners.

Research occupies a central role at KAFU, with each department spearheading investigations aligned with their respective program specialties. The university is accredited as a research institution.

KAFU has numerous active international partnerships with universities in the United States, Poland, Germany, Ukraine, and Russia. We also have active partnerships in the Turkic states, including Turkey and Uzbekistan.

Partnership Information

Possible Academic Areas of Collaboration:

- Improving management models
- Developing new curricula
- Production of quality research publications including, but not limited to the fields of sustainable development, technology and innovation, education and human development, cross-cultural communication and understanding, peace and conflict resolution, using AI in different spheres of professional activity

Institutional Strengths:

- **Extensive experience and success in multiple international projects** with organizations such as the British Council, American Councils, DAAD, and the American Embassy in Kazakhstan. KAFU proved the institution's capacity to effectively engage in cross-border initiatives and deliver impactful results.
- **Strong focus on research:** The university is accredited as a research institution and recently, KAFU secured grant funding from the Ministry of Science and Higher Education to explore the economic and demographic development of Kazakhstan, with a focus on gender dynamics, exemplifying our dedication to advancing knowledge and understanding within our nation.
- **Faculty expertise:** KAFU has talented and diverse faculty members who are experts in their respective fields, demonstrating flexibility of mind, open-mindedness, critical thinking skills, adaptability and creativity.
- **Global engagement:** KAFU has strong long-lasting international partnerships with organizations and

<p>educational institutions in the US, Great Britain, Germany, Poland, Afghanistan, Russia, Ukraine, Turkey.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Infrastructure and resources: KAFU has modern facilities and technology infrastructure providing an optimal learning and research environment for students and faculty, adequate resources, funding, and support services essential for advancing the university's mission and goals. - Commitment to diversity and inclusion: KAFU has a welcoming and inclusive culture where students, faculty, and staff from diverse backgrounds feel valued, respected, and supported. - Corporate culture emphasizing servant leadership. - Community Engagement: KAFU has an extensive network of local partner organizations contributing to the social, economic, and cultural development of the region. - Student Success: KAFU prioritizes student success through providing comprehensive support services, academic advising, and experiential learning opportunities and leads to high graduation rates, alumni achievements, and student satisfaction.
<p>Partnership Interests:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Faculty and student exchange, - Joint research, including inter-disciplinary research (including, but not limited to Sustainable Development, Technology and Innovation, Education and Human Development, Cross-cultural Communication and Understanding, Peace and Conflict resolution), - Dual degrees
<p>Interest in Partnership: Why are you interested in partnering with a U.S./Kazakh institution? What do you hope to gain from such a partnership?</p> <p>KAFU is interested in the international partnership because we see a lot of benefits both for KAFU and the US institution, which can be summarized as the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increase in institutional diversity and prestige, enriching university's academic and research experience elevating university's visibility and credibility. - Expanded institutional reach and impact, effectively addressing global challenges through knowledge exchange, policy advocacy, and capacity building initiatives - Attracting and retaining talent prospective students, faculty, and staff by offering opportunities for global exposure, professional development, and career advancement - Fostering cultural exchange and global citizenship - Improving quality of research, discovering new research opportunities, finding funding sources, and expertise in specialized fields.
<p>Main Partnership Contact: Yuliya Novitskaya, Foreign Languages Department Head, ynovitskaya@gmail.com</p>