



THE AGA KHAN UNIVERSITY

(International) in the United Kingdom

Institute for the Study of Muslim Civilisations

**AKU-UK
EXTERNAL
EXAMINER
PRIVACY NOTICE**

2026

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Version Control

Version	Maintained by	Release date
1.0	Data Protection Team (DPT) as part of Global Data and Analytics Office (GDAO)	July 2020
2.0	Data Protection Officer (DPO)	September 2022
3.0	Data Protection Officer (DPO)	May 2026

Referenced Documents

The following documents support this policy:

Title	Version	Maintained by
AKU Document Retention and Disposal Policy	1.0	Data Protection Team (DPT) as part of Global Data and Analytics Office (GDAO)

Privacy Notice - External Examiners and External Experts

The Aga-Khan University recognizes and values the contributions that External Examiners and External Experts bring to the setting and maintenance of academic standards, and the assurance and enhancement of learning opportunities.

In order to appoint and facilitate the duties of External Examiners and External Experts, the University must collect and process certain pieces of personal data. This document outlines the type of data that is collected, how it is processed and how this conforms to the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), as required by law.

Under what legal basis does the processing of personal data take place?

The GDPR, as enshrined into UK law by the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA), provides for several different legal bases under which processing of personal data may take place. In the case of this privacy notice, the following bases apply:

Necessary for the performance of a contract

The following documents are required to facilitate the duties of the External Examiner/External Expert and to ensure the timely and accurate payment following completion of those duties:

- Appointment Contract Letter
- Bank Details Form
- Expenses Claim Forms
- Change of Responsibility Form (where applicable)

Necessary for compliance with a legal obligation to which the University is subject

The Aga Khan University (International) in the United Kingdom (AKU-UK) must collect certain pieces of data to comply with the following external legislation and regulations:

- UK Quality Code for Higher Education (Chapter B7, Indicator 8) – to provide students with key information relating to the External Examiner of their programme and/or modules;

- HM Revenue and Customs (Starter Checklist) – to ensure payments and expenses are processed and recorded correctly

Necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the exercise of the Institutions' official authority

The Aga Khan University (International) in the United Kingdom reviewed and approved by The University's Academic Quality Framework (AQF) in year 2016 makes provision for the University's official authority and documents the University's public task.

External Examiners and External Experts contribute to the following elements of the Charter:

What is the role of your external examiners?

- Review the standards of degrees and other academic awards - to ensure that the standard of the University's awards is maintained at the appropriate level and that the standards of student performance are properly judged against this.
- Audit the students' work and the quality of feedback gotten from the students.

What categories of personal data are used?

The University will only collect and use data required for both the University and the External Examiner or External Expert to carry out their duties as stipulated in the Appointment Contract Letter and further outlined in the Guide to External Examining for Taught Programmes.

As standard, this will include:

- Name
- Address
- Gender
- Signature
- Telephone Number
- Bank account details
- Other External Examiner posts in the last 5 years
- Any association with AKU or its staff/students

Depending on the nature of the programme and/or modules for which the External Examiner or External Expert has been employed, additional pieces of data may be required. Any

additional data collection requirements will be detailed in the University's correspondence with the prospective External Examiner or External Expert.

Where do we get personal data from?

In the majority of cases, the personal data collected in the process of appointing External Examiners or External Experts comes from the prospective Examiner or Expert themselves.

In cases where the standard mechanism of advertising for External Examiners or External Experts is not successful (i.e. via online professional networks), Faculty and staff may nominate appropriate candidates. In this instance, personal data may be obtained from the member of AKU-UK staff nominating the candidate or from the prospective External Examiner or External Expert's publicly accessible online presence.

Who else do we pass this information on to?

As standard practice, data collected regarding External Examiners and External Experts will be processed for use internally within the University. In certain circumstances, however, data may also be provided to the following types of organisation:

- External Auditors commissioned by AKU-UK
- Professional, Statutory & Regulatory Bodies (PSRB)
- Office for Students and associated agencies (e.g. QAA, HESA)

Do we transfer the information overseas?

The information specified in this document will be transferred to the location of our data centres. The data will be transferred with adequate levels of protection, in line with GDPR.

How long do we keep this information for?

In alignment with the AKU-UK Document Retention and Disposal Policy the following retention periods, where applicable, will be adhered to for External Examiner and/or External Expert data:

<i>Records relating to:</i>	<i>Retention period</i>
Payment and/or reimbursement of employees' expenses	Current financial year + 6 years
External accreditation/review of (modules of) programmes including external examiners' reports	Life of programme
The arrangements for, and conduct of, a committee and/or panel meeting (e.g. assessment and exam board, programme approval panels)	Current academic year + 6 years
University committee papers (e.g. Senate and sub-committees)	Permanent

In limited circumstances, extending a retention period beyond those prescribed above may be required where an external partner or professional body requires University retention periods to map on to their own retention periods.

What are your rights as a data subject?

As a person whose personal data we are processing, External Examiners and External Experts have certain rights in respect of that personal data.

You have the right:

- To access your personal data that we process.
- To rectify inaccuracies in personal data that we hold about you if it is inaccurate or incomplete.
- To request the deletion or removal of your personal data where there is no compelling reason for its continued processing.
- To restrict the processing of your personal data in certain ways.
- To obtain your personal data for reuse.

- To object to certain processing of your personal data.
- To complain to the Information Commissioner's Office about the way in which we process your personal data.

What are your responsibilities with regards to your data and the data of others?

External Examiners and External Experts have a responsibility to ensure that their personal details are up-to-date and accurate, and to notify the University of any changes via their Academic Quality and Enhancement contact.

In performing their contractual duties at the University, External Examiners and External Experts will have access to the personal data of other individuals, e.g. University staff and students. This data should be accessed, processed and stored in line with the University's obligations under the GDPR and for the sole purpose of performing the tasks required of the External Examiner or External Expert. Any data received should be treated as confidential and should not be used for any additional purposes and/or shared more widely without the consent of the University (via the Data Protection Officer) and, where necessary, the data subject.

Unless explicitly agreed otherwise with University colleagues, External Examiners and External Experts should ensure that any staff or student data they have received, regardless of format (e.g. paper, electronic, via email), is disposed of in a secure manner upon confirmation from the University that their final report has been received.

Any breach of confidentiality and/or GDPR responsibilities will be taken seriously, and External Examiners and External Experts should notify the University's Data Protection Officer if they suspect a breach has occurred, either in the course of their duties or the duties of other members of the University.

Where can you get more information?

For more information, please visit the One AKU portal (<https://one.aku.edu>) or contact the University's Data Protection Officer:

Name: Suneel Kumar Panjwani

Title: Global Data Protection Officer

Tel: +92 308 9230653

Email: suneel.kumar2@aku.edu

How to complain?

If you are not satisfied with our response or believe we are processing your personal data not in accordance with the law, you can complain to the Information Commissioner's Office (**ICO**).

The ICO's address:

Information Commissioner's Office

Wycliffe House

Water Lane

Wilmslow

Cheshire

SK9 5AF

Helpline number: 0303 123 1113