The Nagaland University Act was passed by the Parliament Vide No. 35.1989 and established in 1994 as a Central University.

The University has Kohima Campus at Meriema, Agricultural (SASRD) Campus at Medziphema, Engineering & Technology and Management (SETAM) at Dimapur. The Headquarters has been functional since 2010 at Lumami. Currently, there are six Schools and thirty seven Departments.

"The University shall disseminate and advance knowledge by providing instructional and reasearch facilities in such branches of learning as it may deem fit; to make provision for integrated courses in humanities, natural and physical sciences, social sciences, agricultural sciences, disciplines in the education and forestry and other allied programmes of the university, and to take appropriate measures for promoting innovations in teaching-learning process, inter-displinary studies and research to educate and train manpower for the development of the state of Nagaland, and to pay special attention to the improvement of the social economic conditions and welfare of people of the state; their intellectual and cultural development"