Higher Education in Emergencies Q&A for Refugees in Lebanon
-2018-

Q1: Can I enroll or resume my education in universities in Lebanon?
Yes. All refugees in Lebanon, who have completed the official high school in Lebanon (Thanawieh Aamah Lubnanieh) or its equivalence in their country of origin, can access public or private certified universities in Lebanon.

Q2: What documents do I need to access universities in Lebanon?
When approaching a university in Lebanon, you should bring all the following documents:
- ID document
- Official high school transcript validated by the ministry of education in Lebanon, or equivalence certificate, delivered by the equivalence committee in the ministry of education and higher education in Lebanon.
- Language proficiency score (for some universities) or entrance exams for some specialties

Q3: When can I enroll/register in universities in Lebanon?
The enrollment date varies for each university. You could contact the university you wish to apply for to learn more about the enrollment date and registration procedure.

Q4: What is the equivalence process?
Any student who holds a general certificate of secondary education issued by a governmental entity from an Arab or foreign country and wants to pursue their studies in Lebanon should submit a request to the Equivalence Committee in education of the Ministry of Education to obtain his/her grade equivalence before registering into the institutions of higher learning/universities.

Submitting requests can be done through the mail (Libanpost via e-mail customercare@libanpost.com or calling 1577) or through the Ministry of Education and Higher Education, the equivalence department. For more information on the equivalence process, http://www.mehe.gov.lb/equiv/arabic/page/committee.html

Q5: What are the documents that must be submitted to the Equivalency Committee?
Academic Documents:
- For general certificate of secondary education students:
  - Brevet certificate
  - General Certificate of Secondary Education with a clear mention of success

If documents were not issued in Lebanon, the original ones and official copies should be validated and stamped by the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the country in which studies were completed, and then by the relevant embassy in Lebanon so that they can be stamped by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Lebanon.

Administrative documents:
- Valid Passport or Residency card issued by the General Security
- UNHCR registration certificate if available
- Administrative fees (Official Lebanese stamps for a total value of 36,000 Lebanese Pounds)

Note: All required documents should be presented jointly with their certified copies. Foreign curriculum demands should be presented before the end of January.

Q6: What do I do if I do not have one or more of the documents required? Who to contact?
These documents are mandatory to enroll in a certified university in Lebanon. We encourage you to gather all authentic documents as soon as possible. If you do not have any of these documents, you could contact the university you wish to apply for to see if they have alternative options.

**Q7: Do I need a residency permit to go to university in Lebanon?**

Yes, according to the Lebanese law, you might be requested to show a valid residency permit to enroll in university. In case you do not have your residency permit, contact your scholarship provider or UNHCR for assistance.

**Q8: Are foreign languages essential to access university education in Lebanon?**

Not necessary. The minimum proficiency requirements differ from one university to another, as well as from faculty of studies to another. Nevertheless, even to study Arabic literature, universities in Lebanon require mandatory foreigner language courses (English or French) to be completed.

Many institutions offer foreign language classes across Lebanon. For more information, you could contact:

2. AMIDEAST: [http://www.amideast.org/lebanon](http://www.amideast.org/lebanon)
9. Universite Libanaise, Bureau des Langues [calargefady@yahoo.com](mailto:calargefady@yahoo.com)

**Q9: Do I have to pay to enroll in a University in Lebanon? If yes, what are the costs?**

Even public education in Lebanon is not free of charge. To access a public university faculty, foreign students have to pay around 700 for a BA per academic year and up to 1,200 USD for MA per academic year. Private universities cost range between 2,500 USD and 18,000 USD per academic year.

**Q10: What are the different University scholarships available in Lebanon and abroad?**

Below are some of the university scholarships in Lebanon available to refugee youth between 18-30 years’ old who have completed their secondary education. Each scholarship provider offers different support packages. To learn more about the type of support offered, contact the scholarship provider directly or visit their webpage.

- **AGFUND (Arab Gulf Program for development) in Partnership with the Arab Open University** offers scholarships for Syrians refugees. For more information contact registrar@aou.edu.lb or StudentAffairs@aou.edu.lb
- **Al Ghurair Foundation offers scholarships to refugees in Lebanon, Jordan and UAE through the Abdul Aziz Al Ghurair Refugee Education Fund to complete their education at the secondary, vocational and tertiary level.** For more information, visit [http://www.alghurairfoundation.org/en/content/abdul-aziz-al-ghurair-refugee-education-fund-launched](http://www.alghurairfoundation.org/en/content/abdul-aziz-al-ghurair-refugee-education-fund-launched)
- **Al Ghurair Foundation offers a MITx Micromasters through the AGFE Open Learning Scholars’ Program to all Arab students living in the Arab world for the past 12 years.** For more information contact the OLS Team at openinglearning@alghurairfoundation.org or visit [www.alghurairfoundation.org/en/content/open-learning-scholars](http://www.alghurairfoundation.org/en/content/open-learning-scholars)
Higher Education in Emergencies Q&A for Refugees in Lebanon

-2018-

- Al Ghurair Foundation offers the ASU Online Masters Degree Program through the AGFE Open Learning Scholars’ Program to all Arab students with females being prioritized. For more information contact the OLS Team at openinglearning@alghurairfoundation.org or visit www.alghurairfoundation.org/en/content/our-programs
- American University of Beirut, in partnership with Al Ghurair STEM Scholars Programme offers scholarships for Lebanese, Syrian and Palestinians for STEM degree at the undergraduate/graduate level. For more information contact applicants@alghurairfoundation.org or visit www.alghurairfoundation.org/en/content/stem-scholars
- AMIDEAST manages the MEPI Tomorrows’ Leaders Scholarship Program, which provides full scholarship funding for Syrian students to study at AUB and LAU. For more information contact lebanon@amideast.org or visit www.amideast.org/lebanon
- AMIDEAST offer counseling, test prep, and English Language support to prepare students to enroll in universities in Lebanon or in the U.S. For more information contact lebanon@amideast.org or visit www.amideast.org/lebanon
- AMIDEAST’s Diana Kamal Scholarship Search Fund helps Syrian students apply to and win scholarships to study at U.S. universities. For more information contact lebanon@amideast.org or visit www.amideast.org/lebanon
- AMIDEAST’s Hope Fund program helps PRL apply to and win scholarships to study at U.S. universities. For more information contact lebanon@amideast.org or visit www.amideast.org/lebanon
- European Union’s Erasmus+ Programme offers exchange programmes and scholarships for Master’s degree. For more information, contact neo@erasmusplus-lebanon.org or visit http://erasmusplus-lebanon.org/
- The Global Platform for Syrian Students (GP4SYS) offers scholarships for BA, MA and PhD degrees for Syrian students in Lebanon. For more information, contact secretariado@casadoregalo.pt or visit www.globalplatformforsyrianstudents.org
- HOPES project (Higher and Further Education Opportunities and Perspectives for Syrians) funded by the European Union’s Regional Trust Fund in Response to the Syrian Crisis, the Madad Fund and implemented by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), the British Council, Campus France and Nuffic, offers scholarship opportunities for refugees from Syria in collaboration with DAFI-UNHCR scholarship program as well as Higher Education English courses (HEEAP) and academic counselling. For more info, contact HOPES team at Lebanon@hopes-madad.org or visit www.hopes-madad.org.
- JICA offers scholarships for masters and doctorate for universities in Japan. For more information, contact jpbmuseum.syria@gmail.com
- Lebanese Association for Scientific Research (LASeR) provides scholarships to Syrians and Palestinians from Syria. For more information contact info@laser-lb.org or visit www.laser-lb.org
- Southern New Hampshire University offers undergraduate level university scholarships through the Global Education Movement (GEM) to all Arabs students with a special focus on females and students with abilities. For more information visit www.gem.snhu.edu
- SPARK has created an EU-funded scholarships programme in Lebanon ranging from certified degree to vocational courses. For more information contact Lebanon@spark-online.org or visit www.spark-syria.eu
- The French Embassy through the SAFAR program provides university scholarships to Lebanese between ages 18 and 30 for Graduate, Masters, Graduate PhD and Postgraduate levels. For more information visit www.institutfrancais-liban.com
- The Partnership between the MasterCard Foundation and the American University of Beirut (AUB) offers undergraduate scholarships to Africans, Syrians, Palestinians and Lebanese. For more information contact scholarsprogram@aub.edu.lb or visit www.aub.edu.lb/mcf
• The Slovakian Government offers Slovak Government Scholarships to Lebanese and Syrians between ages 18 and 34 to pursue Undergraduate or Masters Degrees in Slovakia. For more information visit https://www.vladnestipendia.sk/en/
• ULYP provides scholarships for Lebanese, Syrian, PRL, PRS. For more information visit http://www.unitelebanonyouth.org/projects/view?7
• UNHCR provides DAFI scholarships to refugees known to UNHCR willing to start or continue their university studies in Lebanon. For more information contact TDH IT at dafischolarship.lb@tdhitaly.org or visit www.terredeshommes.it/
• UNRWA provides scholarship for PRL and PRS. From each yearly awarded list one scholarship is allocated for students with specific needs. For more information visit www.palscholarships.org

Q11: Do I have to pay some fees to apply for a scholarship in Lebanon?
No. Humanitarian agencies provide services FREE of charge.

Q12: Does the scholarship money have to be repaid like a loan?
Scholarships are grants that do not need to be paid back. Some scholarship providers do however require volunteering work to be done as a condition. Check with your scholarship provider for more information.

Q13: Can I apply to a scholarship again in case I was previously not selected?
Yes. You can re-apply to a scholarship every year or at every call for applications as the selection criteria might differ from a year to another, or additional slots can be added.

Q14: Can I apply for more than one scholarship?
Yes. You can apply for different scholarships. However, applicants accepted in more than one scholarship will need to check the rules and regulations of each scholarship provider as policies may vary. In some cases, applicants might need to withdraw from one of the scholarship awards.

Q15: Can I receiving assistance from more than one scholarship?
Since the spaces for scholarships are limited, most scholarship providers do not allow recipients to receive assistance from more than one source. However, it is best to check the rules and regulations of each scholarship provider as policies may vary.

Q16: Who selects the recipients of a scholarship?
The scholarship providers, usually through a panel or committee, in accordance with their own rules and regulations, select scholarship recipients.

Q17: Where can I find information on available scholarships? Is there any website?
Many scholarships have their own outreach channels. Here are some of the websites that compile scholarships:
• www.refugees-lebanon.org
• www.hopes-madad.org
• www.spark-syria.eu
• http://min7asyr.com
• www.unrwa.org
• https://www.facebook.com/dafischolarshiplebanon/

Q18: What are the other education opportunities available if I cannot enroll or afford enrolling in universities in Lebanon?
You can access formal technical pathways at the Directorate General of Technical and Vocational Education, such as Superior Technician (TS) available in over 120 vocational public centers. The academic year at TS level cost around 310 USD.

Some humanitarian entities are supporting refugee enrolment in technical and vocational pathways. You can contact UNHCR partners (SCI, CLMC, IRC and TDH IT) or SPARK. American University of Beirut in partnership with Partnership for Digital Learning and Increased Access (PADILEIA) provide a College Readiness Program for 8 months (20 hours/week) to 50 beneficiaries per year (Lebanese and Syrian students) in the Bekaa Region for free. The AUB PADILEIA Foundation Certificate College Readiness Program also provides psychological, academic and peer support along with strengthening students’ English skills and aid them in applying to university scholarships. For more information contact ccecs@aub.edu.lb or visit www.padileia.org/

Erasmus+ provides also International Credit Mobility scholarships for students enrolled in Lebanese universities. To see which institutions have such ICM projects, consult http://erasmusplus-lebanon.org/content/840. To find out about the scholarships available, the student should consult the student services office or the international relations office in the respective institution. More than 1000 mobility scholarships are available to Lebanese higher education institutions.

Kiron provides free online and offline courses that are validated on a case-by-case basis by MEHE in Lebanon as university equivalent courses to refugees, IDPs and disadvantaged Lebanese. When you are ready to enroll at university, Kiron will help you to recognize the courses credits you took online and then transfer to the university. Kiron also works through the Partnership for Digital Learning and Increased Access Program to provide the same services specifically to Lebanese and Syrians. For more information contact students.lebanon@kiron.ngo or visit www.kiron.ngo/mena

Unite Lebanon Youth Project (ULYP) provides SAT preparatory courses through the BRIDGE Program to Lebanese, Syrian and Palestinian students. ULYP also provides psychological, academic and peer support along with career guidance and civic engagement. ULYP offers students with university preparatory courses during high school years to facilitate their transition to tertiary education with partner universities American University of Beirut (AUB), Lebanese American University (LAU) and American University of Science and Technology (AUST).