

Q&A for the 2018-2019 school year

September 2018

Disclaimers and Definitions:

- This Q&A is a reference document that addresses questions from parents and guardians enrolling their children in Lebanese public schools for the 2018-2019 academic year. It will be used by frontline and humanitarian workers as a guide to answer questions they receive from parents/communities reaching out to them inquiring about the education situation of their children and the enrolment procedures in schools.
- This document should not be considered as an official document of the Government of Lebanon and is only as guidance elaborated by UN agencies in Lebanon. Any information in this document can be subject to change without notice.
- This Q&A is not to be distributed to parents and guardians although it will be available online at www.refugees-lebanon.org

I. Enrollment:

1. How do I identify a Lebanese public school?

- Lebanese public schools are educational institutions officially run by the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE) and financed by the Lebanese Government. Every public school in Lebanon has an official school name, an official enrollment number (CERD number), and will have “Rasmiya” mentioned in the school title.
- Always ask the school director to provide you with documents mentioning the official school name, the CERD number and the school contact (except the TVET schools that do not have CERD numbers). The school entrance sign should always have the Lebanese flag and the “Rasmiya” mention in the school title.
- Public school lists (1st and 2nd shift) are available at the UNHCR Reception Centers, education partner’s centers, Community Development Centers, PHC centers, Ministry of Social Affairs (MOSA) Social Development Centers and with all the outreach volunteers, as well as online at www.refugees-lebanon.org and Ministry of Education and Higher Education website: www.mehe.gov.lb (see also list of 2nd shift schools).
- Teachers in public schools are certified Lebanese teachers.

2. What is the difference between first and second and shift public schools:

The second shift public school was opened to accommodate the extra demand of children in the public school system following the Syrian crisis. Both the first and second shift schools follow the Lebanese curriculum. The first shift school accommodates children of all nationalities with priority to the Lebanese while the second shift accommodates only non-Lebanese and offers the following additional services:

- Prep- ECE: only offered in 2nd shift schools and combines the KG1-3 curriculum targeting children aged from 5 (5th Birthday before 14th September 2018) till early 7.
- Psychosocial Support Services: Based on funding, PSS counsellors are in every second shift school providing in class and out of class psychosocial support.
- Health Support Services: Based on funding, Health counsellors are in every second shift school providing in class and out of class health awareness support.
- Based on funding, DOPS academic counsellors are undertaking more frequent visits to second shift schools than to the morning shift

- Students of second shift schools may be eligible to benefit from cash assistance for transportation through the Reaching School Programme. Please see separate Q&A for more information or call the hotline on 04 727 300.

3. How can I enroll my children in Lebanese public schools?

a. In Morning/ first shift schools:

For returning students (those who are continuing their education rather than enrolling for the first time) of any nationality:

- For Lebanese students' registration in the same school can take place starting the 26th September 2018 until the 10th October.
- For non-Lebanese students, registration can take place starting the 1st October 2018 and till the 10th October 2018

For New Lebanese students entering school (Morning/First Shift):

- Registration for all Grades (KG to Grade 12) will take place starting 1st September 2018
- Beginning of Classes:
 - a- Grade 1 to Grade 12: 25th September 2018
 - b- KG: 28th September 2018

Kindly note that the dates above are tentative until the official note is released.

b. In the Afternoon/second shift schools:

For non-Lebanese children entering school Grades 1 to 9 (afternoon/second Shift):

- Registration is open starting the 1st October 2018 (whether it is returning students or new students)
- Grades 1 to 9 classes for the afternoon shift will start on 10th October 2018
- Prep ECE classes are available in second shift schools for children aged 5 before 14th September 2018 who have never been to school. Classes will start on 17th October 2018.

What about Non- Lebanese children who were not in school the previous year

New students eligible for formal education will put their name on a waiting list at the school. If the child has been out of school for 2 or more years, then he/she may be able to enroll in an ALP program before going to formal education (see question 16. for ALP). Only children who went to preparatory ECE or CB-ECE last year are able to automatically enroll in second shift.

c. Secondary:

For the secondary level, non-Lebanese who have a Lebanese Brevet certificate can enroll in secondary schools without sitting for an entrance exam. Also, those who have an equivalent certificate to the Brevet can enroll in any secondary level Grade without the need to sit for the placement test.

4. What documents do I need to enroll my children at a Lebanese public school?

To enroll children at a Lebanese public school in Basic Education (KG to Grade 9 in morning shift / Prep ECE to Grade 9 in second shift)

To enroll Lebanese or non-Lebanese children in a public school, you should bring all the following documents (note that these documents are not mandatory for returning students registering in the same school):

- ID documents of each child;
- 2 passport size photos of each child;
- Vaccination card and the health certificate of each child;
- Certificate or transcript for the past two years, especially when enrolling in Grade 9, if available bring transcripts when enrolled in any of the previous grades, but when not available, placement test will be provided by the public school. Parents to note that the placement test is mandatory.

If you do not have all of these documents, you can still enroll your children provided you have a residency certificate from the mokhtar (إفادة سكن). This is not to be confused with the residency permit (إقامة)

To enroll non-Lebanese children in a public secondary school (Grades 10-12), you should bring the following documents (note that these are not mandatory for returning students registering in the same school):

- ID
- 2 passport size photos
- Vaccination card and the health certificate
- Certified school attestation showing the final grade of the child the previous grade, or certified equivalency statement issued by MEHE Equivalence Committee
- Brevet certificate issued by the Lebanese Directorate of Examinations or its equivalent issued by MEHE Equivalence Committee

Documents needed for equivalence:

- Report cards of the last 3 years (original and copy) both certified by the Ministry of Education, Foreign affairs, Lebanese embassy from country previously resided in, and the Lebanese Foreign Affairs + Residency permit for the past 3 years in the country where Grade 6-7-8 were completed.
- *The above is not required if the actual Brevet certificate from country of study is available and if the country of study where Brevet certificate was issued is the same as country of nationality.
- Origin Foreign Passport (country of origin) + copy of both student and guardian.

Enrollment in secondary schools does NOT require residency permits, as per MEHE's circular.

Case of the stateless:

Stateless children (مكتومي القيد) can enroll in public schools and secondary schools by providing a document from the mokhtar (إفادة خاصة تسمى إفادة تعريف). MEHE already has memos issued in this regard and all school principals are aware of it.

5. What if there are no places in the closest public school?

For the Morning shift:

If the public school cannot accommodate your child because it has no more capacity, ensure that the child is placed on a waiting list for this school, and go as soon as possible to a nearby afternoon/second shift school to enroll. (see list of public basic education schools that offer afternoon/second shift enrollment). If there is no space in the morning shift school please see below. But as mentioned previously in Question 3, new non-Lebanese cannot register in the morning shift even if there is capacity.

For the Second shift:

If a parent is trying to enroll his / her child in a school and the school wants to put the child on a waiting list, the parent needs to request that the school takes the child's name and grade, the parent's phone number. The family can go to the neighboring school and mention they have put their children's names on the waiting lists of another school.

For public secondary schools:

If there is no capacity for your child in a specific secondary school, you are advised to visit a nearby secondary school. Directors will also be requested to record your information on a waiting list that will be sent to the Directorate of Secondary Education who will try find you a place in another school. However, priority is always given for old returning students, Lebanese students, then non-Lebanese.

6. If a non-Lebanese child was enrolled in the morning/first shift in a Lebanese public school last year, will they be automatically re-enrolled this year?

If a non-Lebanese child was enrolled in a morning/first shift school last year, he/she will be enrolled in a morning/first shift school again this year. However, note that priority is for the Lebanese children; if there is no more space in that school, the child should be allowed to enroll in an afternoon/second shift school.

7. If a child was enrolled in an afternoon/second shift school during the 2017/2018 school year; will they have a place in a morning/first shift school with the Lebanese students this year?

No. If a child has been previously enrolled in an afternoon/second shift school, he/she cannot enroll in a morning/first shift school, unless he/she has completed Grade 9 and is going into Grade 10.

8. Will students enrolled in an afternoon/second shift school get an official/recognized certificate from the Ministry of Education in Lebanon at the end of the year, like students in a morning/first shift school?

Yes. The afternoon/second shift provides the same formal education as the morning/first shift. Students from Grades 1 to 9 who succeed will receive an official/recognized certification from MEHE.

Non-Lebanese students in secondary schools also get an official/recognized certificate from MEHE after completing each grade.

9. What about school enrolment for Palestine refugees in Lebanon?

UNRWA provides education services (Grades 1 to 12) to Palestine refugees living in Lebanon, including Palestine refugees coming from Syria. UNRWA provides education free of charge, in addition to textbooks and back to school kits. There are 67 UNRWA-supported schools in Lebanon that will begin the academic year 2018-2019 on the 5th September 2018.

Secondary education is free of charge for Palestinian refugees who wish to enroll in Lebanese public secondary schools. Please refer to Question 3 to learn about the documents required by MEHE for registration in public secondary schools.

For Palestinian youth only, UNRWA provides limited spaces in technical vocational education training centers. For further info contact UNRWA on 01840490.

Palestinian children who were in Lebanon before the Syrian crisis and who were not enrolled with UNRWA before during last school year can enroll in first shift school provided that they do not have an UNRWA school in the geographical area where they live

10. Are non-Lebanese children allowed to sit for official exams to earn the Brevet and General Secondary Certificate?

Yes. All students in Grades 9 and 12 will be able to sit for the Lebanese official exams. MEHE sends every year to the Council of Ministers a request to allow them to sit for the exams even if they do not have the required documents.

11. My child has special needs. Can she/he still enroll in public school?

If the child has learning difficulties she/he can still enroll.

In addition to the regular pathways conditioned by age-groups and prior learning, please note the following:

- If the child has difficulties walking, hearing or seeing he/she can enroll in school and apply for transportation and technical aids, regardless of age.
- If the child is between the ages of 3-8 and has mild intellectual disability, he/she can also enroll.
- Children above 8 with mild intellectual disability, as well as all children with moderate and severe intellectual disability, will need to be referred to a specialized programme.
- For more details, see Annex “Referral Pathways of Children with Disabilities”.

12. Are Syrian learning centers recognized in Lebanon?

The Ministry of Education in Lebanon does not recognize the Syrian curriculum and does not accredit Syrian learning centers on the Lebanese territory. UN agencies do NOT support Syrian learning centers in Lebanon.

II. FEES:

13. Do I have to pay to enroll children in Lebanese public schools?

For Public Basic Education (Grades 1-9):

Public basic education (Grades 1-9) in Lebanon is free of charge for all children. Parents do NOT have to pay schools for enrolling their children because this is covered by the Government of Lebanon with the support of the international community.

For the Secondary level (Grades 10-12),

Enrollment is free of charge for non-Lebanese.

14. Are there any other fees?

- Children enrolled in second shift schools (Grades 1 – 9) are provided with stationary (School in a Box). This stationary is distributed at the start of the academic year. Any extra stationary needed throughout the school year is the responsibility of the parents.
- ECE kits are provided to second shift schools (both KG and Prep ECE) and not individual students at the start of the school year. Parents should not be asked to purchase any stationary upon registration. Should this be the case, then parents should report this to the hotline.
- School Books are distributed to children in the second shift schools from KG to Grade 9 (Prep ECE included). Parents are not expected to purchase any books except for cycle 3 (Grades 7-9), where the history textbook is to be covered by the parents. Textbooks are not provided at the secondary education level.

Miscellaneous fees asked upon registration:

- Stamps/photocopies of papers: Documents requested for official use may need a stamp of 1,000 L.L or more. This is depending on the paperwork needed. The parent is responsible for such payments.
- School fees: This year, the cycle 3 (grades 7-9) school fees of 20,000 have been eliminated.

15. Will transport costs be covered to send children to school?

Transportation remains the responsibility of parents particularly in the morning shift. However, in second shift schools, of the family, transportation may be provided. The “Reaching School Program” will provide cash for children who face greater challenges getting to school and meet the eligibility criteria. These include: very young children; disabled children and children living far away from school.

Parents or caregivers should call the hotline number 04 727 300 if their children are newly registered in a second shift school, have not registered with a UNICEF cash assistance programme before or if the children have moved school.

If a family received assistance last year, they should call the hotline 04 727 300 to validate their information.

More details regarding the programme are also provided in a separate Q&A.

III. Other Education Programs and Academic Support Available in Public Schools

16. Are there other kinds of schools or education programs?

Yes. There are several education programs in Lebanon:

- -Private schools are education institutions run by independent organizations or individuals. They are certified by the Ministry of Education when they follow the Lebanese certified curriculum as long as they are registered and licensed with MEHE. You should check with the school management before enrolling your child. If the school has a CERD number and uses the Ministry of Education’s Lebanese curriculum, the education program will provide official certification. There are also some semi-private schools that are partially financed by the Ministry of Education and Higher Education for a limited number of Lebanese students in grades 1 to 6 only. Sometimes these schools provide education in the afternoon without being registered at MEHE which make them unrecognized.
- -Based on availability of funds, the Accelerated Learning Program (ALP) is a non-formal education programme offered and managed by the Ministry of Education. Completion of this ALP certification will lead to enrollment in public formal schools.
- -Other Non-Formal Education (NFE) programs are also available depending on the child’s learning needs. These programs are offered by Education NGOs and **do not always** lead to a recognized certificate. MEHE has endorsed a number of NFE programs, such as the Community Based Early Childhood Education Program (CB-ECE) the ALP and the youth BLN as above. The Basic Literacy and Numeracy (BLN) for children (10 to 14) is in progress
- Any other schools or programs adopting curricula other than the Lebanese official curriculum are NOT recognized by the Ministry of Education and Higher Education. You are strongly encouraged not to enroll your children in these programs.

More details on ALP and NFE programs can be found in Question 18.

17. My child is having a difficulty following the Lebanese curriculum in public schools, what type of support is available to help retain my child in school?

Retention support is provided to some students which includes both homework and remedial support. Homework support is provided to students already enrolled and regularly attending formal education in public schools, but at risk of dropping out. Homework support is provided on punctual basis in different settings, where the students bring their school books and get support allowing them to succeed the school year. These programs are conducted in community venues for students who are enrolled in public schools and in need of such support. Homework support and foreign language support is also available within the communities.

18. What if a child has been out of school for many years, or has never been to school before?

- For children aged 7 to 17 who have been out of school for two years and more, an Accelerated Learning Program (ALP) has been developed by the Ministry of Education that will help them catch up with the Lebanese educational system.

The ALP is based on the Lebanese curriculum and provides subjects required by the official Lebanese curriculum such as Arabic, French or English, Mathematics, Life Science, Chemistry and Physics (for cycle 3), in addition to Life Skills and psycho-social support modules. The ALP has nine levels corresponding to the nine grades within the Lebanese basic education system (Grades 1 to 9). The child is required to complete a minimum of 300-350 hours during a three to four months' period.

At the end of the program period, children and/ or youth have the possibility to access formal schooling in Lebanon. In terms of learning outcomes, children undertake an assessment at the beginning and at the end of the program to ensure they are well equipped for reintegration into the formal education system the following year.

- For children and youth who have never been to school and who lack the most basic learning skills, the Ministry is developing a basic literacy and numeracy program, BLN that supports entry into ALP, or formal public education. Some Basic Literacy and Numeracy programs are being conducted by NGOs.

IV. Barriers to attending Public schools:

19. Is there a way to report problems that a family could face in a public school?

Yes. To report any misbehavior, fraud, discrimination, violence or abuse in a public school, parents are responsible to communicate with the school director and to call the Ministry of Education hotline number (01-772101). For cases of violence against children outside the public schools, please contact the call center on 01- 594300.

In most second shift schools there will also be one or more Education Community Liaisons (ECL volunteers) supporting communication between the community and the school. They can assist with referring cases to the appropriate agencies for follow up depending on the case (through their partner NGO focal point), as well as to DOPS as per MEHE's child protection policy.

All humanitarian agencies' services and activities are free of charge. If anyone asks you for money or favors in return, please contact any of the organizations mentioned at the end of this document immediately.

V. Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET):

20. My child would like to move from the academic to the vocational and technical system (Grade 7 and above). Is this an option?

Yes. Students between 13 and 21 years old, who have completed Grade 7, can enroll in public vocational and technical schools for formal vocational education in TVET public schools of the Government of Lebanon. You can approach any of the vocational and technical schools or one of the humanitarian organizations listed below to enroll. UNICEF is supporting by paying to MEHE directly the tuition fees on behalf of some Lebanese and non-Lebanese students.

21. When and how can the youth enroll into the public vocational and technical schools enrolment?

For both Lebanese and non-Lebanese adolescents entering public vocational and technical schools:

- Enrollment for BP (Brevet Professionnel) and BT (Baccalaureate Technique) is taking place starting in September/October 2018, Non Lebanese children do not pay any enrollment fees to the Vocational and Technical schools. The enrollment fees for Non-Lebanese will be transferred later on by UNICEF to the Special account of MEHE and then the Schools' Funds.
- Lebanese pay the enrollment fees and later on get reimbursed **ONLY** if they meet the criteria. MEHE cannot differentiate those who will meet the criteria at the registration phase, therefore the process is quite different for the Lebanese Students.
 - For the registration of Lebanese students into the MEHE Vocational and Technical schools, the criteria of selection of the Lebanese students whose enrollment fees will be covered by the UN registration coverage are as follows:
 - Submission of a school certification
 - Submissions of a salary or remuneration certificate by the party that employs the caregiver/ responsible guardian
 - If the students have not benefitted from a scholarship of any other source

*If the Lebanese Student is new, the following documents are also requested:

- Student's identity card
- Two passport photos of the student
- A school statement of the past two years or a copy of it.
- For the registration of non-Lebanese students into the MEHE Vocational and Technical schools whose enrollment fees will be covered by the UN registration coverage are as follows:
 - Student's identity card
 - Two passport photos of the student
 - A school statement of the past two years or a copy of it.
- N.B1: Syrian students are not allowed to sit for the TVET final official exam if they haven't submitted the official documents that prove they are eligible for it; or get an approval from the council of ministers for their candidacy.
- N.B 2: Any Syrian student can enroll in TS (Technicien Superieur) given that they have all documents to prove successful completion of BT (Baccalaureat Technique)

In the case where the above required documents cannot be provided upon registration, the student can nevertheless register and enquire at the school administration about

available options to provide alternative documentation; as long as the required documents can be submitted prior to the date of the official exams. It is worth noting that the submission of a residency card/ permit is not a requirement for the registration of non-Lebanese students into the public technical schools. Upon the Ministry of Education circular, residency permit is not a required document to enroll in the public vocational schools.

22. Can a youth without a Grade 7 certification still benefit from vocational training?

Lebanese and non-Lebanese adolescents without an intermediate or secondary education can enroll in certified vocational training sessions in public vocational and technical schools with the Ministry of Education or the Ministry of Agriculture. The Ministry of Labor also provides certified vocational training through a number of organizations affiliated with them. Additional skills training is provided by one of the humanitarian organizations that will be listed asap to enquire about the available programs and enroll.

VI. Higher Education:

23. 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.

24. 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

25. When can I enroll/ register in universities in Lebanon?

The enrolment date varies for each university. You could contact the university you wish to apply for to learn more about the enrolment date and registration procedure.

26. 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 MEHE 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 customer@libanpost.com or calling 1577) or through the MEHE, the equivalence department.

For more information on the equivalence process, <http://www.mehe.gov.lb/equiv/arabic/page/committee.html>

27. 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.

28. 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.

29. 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.

30. 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:

- 1) American Lebanese Language Center: <http://allcs.edu.lb/>
- 2) AMIDEAST: <http://www.amideast.org/lebanon>
- 3) British Council: <https://www.britishcouncil.org.lb/en>
- 4) Cervantes: <http://beirut.cervantes.es/fr/default.shtm>
- 5) Goethe Institute: <https://www.goethe.de/ins/lb/en/index.html>
- 6) Institut Français (French Institute for French language) <http://www.institutfrancais-liban.com/>
- 7) Italian Institute: http://www.iicbeirut.esteri.it/iic_beirut/it/
- 8) ULYP: <http://www.unitelebanonyouth.org/>
- 9) Université Libanaise, Bureau des Langues calargefady@yahoo.com

31. 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 USD 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.

32. 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>
- 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
- 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 jpembassy.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.institutfrançais-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/27>
- 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
- The UK government through Chevening Programme provides scholarship for Syrians and PRS student to study Masters at any university in the UK. For more information, visit: www.chevening.org/syria

33. Do I have to pay some fees to apply for a scholarship in Lebanon?

No. Humanitarian agencies provide services FREE of charge.

34. 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.

35. 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.

36. 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.

37. Can I be 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.

38. 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.

39. 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/>

40. 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 cecs@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 enrol 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).