



برنامج دعم تعلّم الفنون
AJYAL: A programme to
Support Arts Education

Second Edition

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General Questions

Applying to AJYAL Programme

- **How do I apply for the AJYAL Scholarship?**

Applicants must fill out a form, which is available at www.ettijahat.org, and send it with the required attachments by email to ajyal@ettijahat.org.

- **When is the deadline for receiving applications?**

Applications will be received until Midnight Beirut local time (GMT+2) on the 1st of July 2020. No applications submitted after this date and time will be considered.

- **How many applicants will be selected?**

8 scholarships will be awarded, three additional applicants will be selected as part of a waiting list in order of preference.

- **Will I receive confirmation that my application has been submitted?**

Yes, your submission will be confirmed by an email notification. If you do not receive a confirmation email, please verify that the email address is correct or resubmit the application.

- **What does the AJYAL Scholarship cover?**

- Tuition fees during the study period
- Financial support including:
 - Educational resources such as books, stationery, references, etc.
 - Transportation fees
 - Accommodation: Rental fees

- **I do not have a Baccalaureate Certificate or evidence of my Equivalence Certificate from the Ministry of Education/Higher Education in my current country of residence. Can I apply for the scholarship without providing evidence that I have obtained this or an equivalent qualification?**

Yes, you can apply for the scholarship without providing your Baccalaureate Certificate or Equivalence Certificate. However, in the event that your application is successful, you will have to complete this procedure within one month of the recipients' names being announced.

Eligibility

- **Who is eligible to apply?**

- Syrians and Palestinian-Syrians students aged 18-26 years old who reside in Syria and wish to pursue undergraduate studies (Bachelor's degree) or study at intermediate or higher-level arts institutes in Syria
- Syrians and Palestinian-Syrians students, residing in Syria, Lebanon, Turkey, Iraq, Jordan, Egypt and Europe, under the age of 35 years old, and wish to study for a master's degree. Applicants must have already obtained a bachelor's degree from a recognised

and formidable university, and who have received at least a “good” commendation on their exams

- **I am already a beneficiary of one of the other programmes offered by Ettijahat – Independent Culture; can I apply to AJYAL?**

Ettijahat–Independent Culture is working to broaden the scope of its beneficiaries. However, it is possible for beneficiaries of other programmes to apply to AJYAL provided that they have completed their work in other programmes before they commence their activities in AJYAL. Ettijahat will not support two projects being carried out by the same beneficiary simultaneously.

Application

- **Can the application be submitted in a language other than Arabic?**

No, the application must be completed in Arabic only. Similarly, the curriculum vitae, and educational certificates must all be in Arabic. Any remaining or extra files may be attached in any language.

- **Can the same applicant submit more than one application?**

No, the Selection Committee will only examine one application per applicant.

- **What are the documents required for application?**

Documents required from students **residing in Syria and applying to pursue their early stages of studies including Bachelor’s programmes, and medium and higher-level institutions**

- A filled application form exclusively in Arabic
- An updated CV
- An official transcript of marks from the applicant’s most recent academic year
- A Passport or ID copy
- A recommendation letter written by an academic professor and which includes their contact details (An email or a phone number)
- A copy of the receipt for registration for the academic year of 2019-2020 or any official document confirming the student’s registration and the tuition fees for that academic year
- An official or certified copy of the latest academic certificate of achievement

Documents required from students applying to a **Master’s degree**

- A filled application form exclusively in Arabic
- An updated CV
- An official transcript of marks from the applicant’s most recent academic year
- A Passport or ID copy

- A recommendation letter drafted by the Thesis supervisor, in case the university system where the study will be conducted includes the preparation of a master's thesis
- A copy of the master's thesis plan, in case the university system where the study will be conducted includes the preparation of a master's thesis
- An equivalent and certified copy of the latest certificate of academic achievement issued by the Ministry of Higher Education is required, for applicants residing outside of Syria. Shortlisted applicants will be requested, by the selection committee, to show original copies of all the aforementioned documents.

- **When asked about motivation, in the application form, what should the answer include?**

Your answer should be clear and concise, and should intrigue the Selection Committee and prompt them to choose you personally, it should highlight and demonstrate your seriousness. It should include:

- The reason for applying for an AJYAL Scholarship
- Your point of strengths reflected in your academic career
- Why should the Selection Committee consider your application among others?
- Why have you decided to pursue your studies? What value will your studies add in this context?
- Avoid repeating the same information already stated in your resume.

- **How are applications selected?**

A specialised Selection Committee of each category, consisting of three members, will be formed to examine the eligible applications and to select the students who will be supported. The selection process consists of two stages: during the first, members of the selection committee individually examine the applications without any knowledge of the identity of the other committee member. The second stage consists of a collective procedure where members of the committee meet and discuss the proposed short list, following the individual evaluation, and select the student who will be supported. In this finale stage, the committee might decide to conduct live interviews in order to make a final decision.

- **What are the criteria for selection?**

The Selection Committee will choose programme participants on the basis of the following criteria:

- Motivation: the applicant must show a strong link between their background and their chosen field of specialisation and be motivated to enhance their artistic contribution towards the Syrian artistic sector
- Academic and personal achievement

- Strong interest in continuing in the chosen field of artistic work, even after graduation
- A registration document stating the registration of the applicant in the programmes of a Medium Institute / a Higher Institute of Arts / a Bachelor programme / a Master's programme, excluding students who wish to start their higher education

- **What types of applications are not supported by AJYAL?**

- Special training workshops held by artistic institutions
- Short-term training workshops
- High School scholarships
- Bachelor's degree scholarships for students residing outside of Syria
- AJYAL scholarship does not cover PhD students
- AJYAL scholarship is not applicable in a country different from the country of residence, for instance: students residing in Lebanon cannot apply for a scholarship to study in Turkey

Results

- **How will the results be announced?**

Only selected participants will be notified of their admission to the programme. The results will be published on [Ettijahat's official website](#) and [Ettijahat's Facebook page](#).

- **What if I change my field of specialisation after I am awarded a scholarship?**

Unfortunately, you cannot change your field of specialisation after you have been awarded a scholarship. Scholarships are awarded on the basis of your intended educational programmes.

- **Will the AJYAL Scholarship cover tuition fees for all years of university in the event of admission to an undergraduate programme?**

The AJYAL Scholarship will cover tuition fees for the academic year 2020-2021 only. However, funding for tuition fees may be renewable for additional years in the case of the students residing in Syria with a grade of 60% or higher according to academic results presented by the beneficiary

- **Under what circumstances can my scholarship be terminated?**

- The scholarship may be terminated on the basis of low educational achievement in final examinations or submissions whereby the student achieves a grade lower than 60%
- The scholarship may be terminated in the event that the student violates of the rules and regulations of the higher education institutions in which they are studying.
- The scholarship may be terminated in the event that the student is repeatedly absent from classes without clear justification.

- **What is the Equivalence Certificate? How can I obtain it?**

The Equivalence Certificate is a document which confirms the state's recognition of the high school degree you obtained in Syria and endorses your degree in accordance with the attainment system used by your host country. The certificate can be obtained through the Ministry of Education or the Ministry of Higher Education.

- **Is proficiency in English or French a condition of acceptance to the scholarship?**

This depends on whether the programme of study will be taught in Arabic or English. Ettijahat–Independent Culture is interested in giving priority to educational programmes offered in Arabic. Proficiency in English or French may be a prerequisite for applications in which programmes are taught in those languages.

- **What if I have a question which has not been answered above or have had problems submitting my application?**

Please get in touch with Ettijahat – Independent Culture by email at ajyal@ettijahat.org.