

Al-Aqsa University

2021



President's Message

After 30 years of academic and professional service in many different positions at Al-Aqsa University, I am honored to be the acting president of the university, the largest governmental higher education institution in Palestine.

As a Palestinian institution with a growing international reach, at Al-Aqsa University we have created our plan based on our profound belief that the main objective of our institutions is to deliver benefit to our community and other communities, to spread knowledge and to make the university an open place of creativity and innovation.

Our vision and mission remain our core goals of research and innovation, teaching and learning, and social responsibility, which are included in our slogan: Entrepreneurship, Excellence and Creativity.

We believe that the greatest strength of any institution is its people. In this respect, we invest in our staff to increase their capacities in their fields. In the same vein, we stand proud of what we have built throughout the history of the university. We constantly strive to run our development process for each of the university faculties to meet a wide variety of needs demanded by our students and community.

In the field of internationalization, AQU is constantly expanding its global network by seeking new international cooperation opportunities and partnerships with the higher education institutes all over the world.

We kindly invite you to know more about Al-Aqsa University and hope to welcome you at our university in the near future.



Prof. Dr. Ayman Mahmoud Sobh
University President

About

Al-Qsa University is an independent Palestinian academic institution; it is certified according to the civil service law and the Palestinian higher education law No. 11 of 1998. In the first early beginning, it was founded in 1955 as a teachers' institute, granted a diploma in education. According to its strategic plan, it was developed to become a university college in 1991 named as the Governmental Education Collage. In 2001 the ministry of higher education certified Al-Qsa University as a Higher education institute.

Since its foundation, AQU has played a pivotal role in the rehabilitation and development of the vast majority of resources of the local community, especially the human ones through the academic programs the university offers which meet the local, regional and international market needs and always seeks to introduce new programs to cope with global changes.

The university includes 10 faculties with 69 certified programs. The 10 faculties are the Faculty of Medical Sciences, Faculty of Computers & Information Technology, Faculty of Applied Sciences, Faculty of Art and Human Sciences, Faculty of Education, Faculty of Fine Arts, Faculty of Media, Faculty of Management and Financing, Faculty of Physical Education & Sports, and Al-Qsa Community College of Intermediate Studies.

According to the strategy of the University and the ever-changing needs and requirements of our society, Al-Qsa University has founded the graduate studies programme, which offers 12 programs of master degree, and 2 PhD programs.





Location

Al-Aqsa University has two main campuses. Perched in central Gaza, the main campus is located only 1 km from the Mediterranean Sea in an area that is considered one of the most important areas in Gaza, which includes home to the Parliament, council of ministers and other nonprofit organizations. A 320 acres campus, which is the second campus, located in Khan Younis city near the Mediterranean Sea.





Our vision

Al-Aqsa University seeks to be distinguished among Palestinian and regional and international universities in its academic programs, scientific research and community service based on the highest standards of quality control.



Our Mission

Al-Aqsa University is a high-ranking higher education institution aims to prepare humans with knowledge, skills, and values to enable them to learn continuously, employ information technology, and perform the best practices through capacity building programs, university education, scientific research and innovation and community service. Al-Aqsa University is committed to its vision of Arab, Islamic and human rights principles, including responsibility, commitment to the rule of law, transparency, respect, tolerance, justice, equality, empowerment and participation of stakeholders.





Our Objectives

AQU seeks to:

- spread knowledge, deepen its roots, serve the Palestinian society and develop it in particular, and the Arab and human society in general, within the framework of a philosophy based on national concepts and the heritage of Arab and Islamic civilization.
- enhance the institutional development of Al-Aqsa University through improving the efficiency of the educational process, supporting the scientific research and reinforcing community service.
- improving the quality of academic programs at the university by providing an effective learning environment.
- contribute to improving knowledge and understanding as a basis for supporting decision-making and policy-making on the issues of Al-Aqsa University and the Palestinian society through networking with institutions, educational and research centers and civil society institutions at the local, regional and global levels.
- contribute to the sustainable development of the Palestinian society by providing educational, training, research, advisory and voluntary services in partnership with official institutions, civil society organizations and the private sector.
- develop an average vocational education system based on excellence and mastery and meet the development needs of society.





Administrations



At Al-Aqsa University , there are many administrative units that are responsible for and supervise the academic and the administrative work. The academic affairs and the administrative affairs are the most important offices that contain many units and divisions under their supervision





Academic Affairs

The Office of Vice President for Academic Affairs is responsible for the implementation of academic policies. It provides leadership and support at the University for all faculty personnel matters, faculty development, tenure and promotion, faculty governance, faculty related policy, undergraduate and graduate academic programs and curriculum, classroom and learning environments, research support and compliance, institutional research, and accreditation of the academic programs. In addition, it serves as an office for students who may have questions regarding academic issues and programming, including emanations and e-learning.

Academic Affairs strives to; achieve excellence and academic creativity in various academic fields and place emphasis on building up the academic and practical competencies of the students as required by the labor market, through tuning the educational inputs in an accurate manner. To reach that, we constantly work on improving the academic services, and build up the capacities of the academic staff at the university in different fields, including: the use of modern, technological & creative teaching methods.



Academic Affairs houses a variety of offices and units and serves many functions on campus; these are:

- Office of Vice President for Academic Affairs
- Office of Assistant of Vice President for Academic Affairs
- Department of Assessment and Evaluation
- Department of Academic Scheduling and Curriculum
- E-learning center



Administrative and Financial Affairs

The Administrative and Financial Affairs is responsible for financial and administrative issues, which includes follow-up of university affairs: financial, personnel administration, buildings and everything related to development and maintenance of the infrastructure. The office also set the plans and structures of administrative work and provides the regular financial and the administrative reports of the university.

The Administrative and Financial Affairs includes many units and departments that provides different services they are:

- Administrative Affairs Office
- Central Warehouses Office
- Engineering and Maintenance Office
- Finance and Audit Office
- Human Resources Office
- Services Office



- General Services Department
- Medical Services Department
- Procurement and Supplies Unit

These units and departments are responsible for:

managing the affairs of the staff members in terms of promotion, termination, job descriptions, and leaves. and the need to employ new administrative staff in the different facilities of the university.

Overseeing university accounts management, and application of all contracts, agreements and transactions between the university and other parties, and preparing periodic financial reports and budget in addition to preparing the final financial statement at the end of each year.

Monitoring the administrative work and the general services at the university

Supervising the engineering office, and matters relating to the university campus, and maintenance, public safety and public services for students, faculty and staff



Cultural Affairs & Public Relations

The unit of Cultural Affairs and Public Relations is an integral part of the AQU's administrative systems. It supervised directly by the president office and assigned central roles and vital activities related to highlighting the bright image of the institution.

The Unit seeks to keep connection with its audience in the local community by establishing genuine communication with them.

It also strives to expand the University's network of cooperation with the public and private sectors. In this respect, it communicates with different groups and organizations through various channels to fulfill the University goals, including social media, emails, press and media, publications, organizing events, seminars, exhibitions, workshops and cultural activities. The unit offers quality services through its specialized departments:

- The Department of Public Relations
- The Department of Designing and Publishing
- The Department of Photography and Media Production



The following are some of the activities that the unit carries out:

- Organizing events and activities including, conferences, exhibitions, workshops, cultural activities and video conferences)
- Designing and publishing leaflets and booklets about the University
- Producing publications documentaries and movies,
- Organizing celebrations (honoring, graduation and eulogy)
- Editing and updating the university website and its pages on social media
- Coordinating visits of local and international delegations



Information Technology Center

The Information Technology Center supports a wide range of computing and network services throughout AQU's campuses. It serves in many areas including the student information and staff services, financial systems, management of wired and wireless networks, provision of internet access and email services, maintenance and technical support, and network storage systems.

The center provides numerous quality services in the fields of Information technology through its 4 main departments:

1. Department of Information System

Supervising the university's computer software systems, including systems analysis, university database management, and computerizing the various university programs including the financial and managerial systems.

2. Department of Electronic Portal and Database

It undertakes the process of planning, implementing and supervising the electronic services provided through the Internet and improving its performance in cooperation with the Information Systems Department and the Networks and Communications Department. Moreover, it provides electronic services for students and staff and offers innovative technologies and learning resources by providing integrated online services through the e-learning systems.



3. Department of Networks and Infrastructure

The department works on providing the necessary infrastructure to provide electronic services with ease, security and high reliability. It offers many services throughout the facilities of the university including preparing the necessary designs for information networks inside and outside the university, connecting the university with its various branches, perform maintenance and periodic updates on servers. It also works on developing the mechanism of managing the backup copies of the university's systems and test them periodically and automating network server performance monitoring processes and increasing their efficiency.

4. Department of Maintenance and Technical Support

The department provides the technical support services and supervising the scientific laboratories and provide technical support for students and staff as users of technology.

It provides its services in two paths, the first one is Desk-help which provides technical support and solutions to the problems of computer and its accessories over the network using remote control software and telephone. The second is Office service which undertake the maintenance of the physical components of a computer and its accessories including (printers, scanners, cameras and ect..) and the installation of the operating system and software required on users of the computers.



Deanships



Deanship of International Relations Affairs

At the International Relations Affairs, we intensify our efforts to promote the university and its strategy abroad as well as strengthening its position at the regional and international levels by creating channels of cooperation with international organizations and establishing strategic partnerships with international universities and research institutions.

The international relations affairs has two departments, they work together to reach the aims of internationalization strategy.

1. The Department of Mobility and Scholarships:

It manages the ICM projects and offers the short/ long term scholarship for both students and staff.

The department constantly works on expanding university global network by seeking new international mobility opportunities and partnerships with the higher education institutes in all over the world.

2. The Department of Projects

It prepares and manages the different projects of the university including CBHE Erasmus+, and infrastructure development projects. It also works on fundraising the projects that aim at upgrading the facilities of the university.



Memorandum of Understanding

Al-Aqsa University obtained full memberships in UNIMED, the Association of the International Universities, the Association of the Arab Universities, the Association of the Arab-European Universities, the Association of the Islamic World Universities and the Palestinian European Academic Cooperation in Education program (PEACE).

The University has strong cooperative relations with various international associations in the academic field. It has many MoUs and cooperation agreement with universities in all over the world and a strong network of cooperation with international foundations, cultural attaches of Arab and foreign embassies and international cooperation agencies.



Deanship of Graduate Studies

Since 1994, we have been offering our postgraduate services through the joint program of graduate studies with Ain Shams University in Egypt. It is entrusted with the overall supervision of the university's graduate programs and grants degrees in various specializations with over 10 master and doctorate programs. Graduate Studies at AQU is an exciting environment to pursue innovative, career-ready education. As we believe that graduate studies are where the next generation of careers and ideas are born, we provide our graduate students with the academic environment to pursue world-changing research, we also continue to seek out the needed infrastructure to run our programs, including excellent faculty members, specialized facilities and the latest techniques and technologies available.

As we consider how best to continue to build our research and innovation and excellence in the years ahead, and we know the needs of the community, we constantly coordinate with the Ministry Higher Education and Scientific Research to develop further graduate studies programs.



Deanship of Scientific Research

The Deanship of Scientific Research aims at encouraging basic, applied and developing research conducted by the university students and faculty members. This can be achieved through setting research policies, offering rewards and giving priorities to researches which serves the Palestinian community. Therefore, the deanship bears the responsibility to help and encourage scientists in producing applicable research and transfers their knowledge to the university students, especially the postgraduate students through specialized postgraduate programs.



Deanship of Student Affairs

The deanship of student affairs is responsible for providing students with services such as giving information, as well as giving grants and waivers as well as providing experiences outside of university such as community service hours to promote students' personal growth and development. Moreover, the deanship supports students' activities through the department of extracurricula activities. It also creates the right environment for the students to form the students' parliament which is an assembly of all the student structures at the university and it serves as the hub of the students' activities. Every new academic year, the deanship of student affairs organizes events to welcome the newcomers and provides them with student's manual guide, press releases and helps them to choose the best study program which meets their potentials and attitudes.



Deanship of Planning and Development and Quality Assurance

The deanship seeks for drawing strategies, policies, systems and procedures for the continuous improvement of the university's academic programs and facilities through the implementation of the developmental projects and strategic plan that support the achievement of institutional excellence.

The deanship strives to let AQU meet the requirements and standards of local and global quality in order to ensure the highest quality of learning, teaching, research and administration in the university. The deanship always seeks to improve the academic and administrative process of the university through monitoring and evaluating the performance of the academic and administrative staff, developing the educational and research process, and enhance community service in order to achieve the university's vision of becoming a pioneer institution of higher education generating skilled graduates who contribute towards the development of the local and global communities.



Deanship of Continuing Education and Community Service

The deanship aims to spearhead the university's community engagement in areas of critical importance to the Palestinian society. Through the appropriate use of financial and human resources, the deanship seeks to provide our community with different services such as; training courses, information technology, administrative and technical consultations. The deanship also promotes students' civic engagement through various initiatives that serve the community.

Based on a deep belief that mankind is the most valuable treasure in the world, we work hard to serve our community and improve the abilities of our people. Accordingly, the deanship has recently established specialized departments and centers, among these departments, a crucial one is the department of following-up graduates which is concerned with improving the abilities of graduates, and the center of Studies and Public Opinion Measurement which is concerned with measuring the Palestinian public opinion towards all political, economic and social issues in the Palestinian community



Deanship of Admission and Registration

Deanship of Admission and Registration aims to provide the best services for admission, registration, archiving and data preservation, in addition to community service through the development of human and material resources and the optimal employment of information and communication technology. The deanship uses a sophisticated computerized system that covers all its activities with precision, transparency and full central control and facilitates the online services for the students including registration of courses, transcripts and all other needed documents.

The Deanship includes three units, the unit of admission, the unit of registration, and the unit of graduation services. The three units work on important vital tasks that serve all students and seek to facilitate their affairs and provide them with all the help they need in regards of academic matters.



Deanship of Libraries

Connecting people with knowledge is one of our main goals. The library of the university provides the right environment for gaining Knowledge, enhancing the scientific research, and easily access to digital resources for researchers both students and researchers.

The library hosts a large collection of materials in different fields such as science, technology and humanities. The library holds over 50.000 printed items can be found in two languages English and Arabic, and many more in other formants. The library's resources include books, magazines, as well as digitalized resources.

Library Sections

The library divided into:

1. Administration Office
2. Lending and Reference Services Section
3. Cataloging and Classification section
4. Periodicals, Letters and Publications Section
5. Electronic Services Section
6. Supplying Section



Faculties



Al-Aqsa University offers a range of academic programs that meet the local, regional and international market needs and always seeks to introduce new programs to cope with global changes.



Faculty of Medical Sciences

It includes 2 departments:

- Medical Laboratory sciences
- Nursing



Faculty of Computers & Information Technology

It includes 3 departments:

- Computer Science
- Networks Technology & Mobiles
- Applied Information Technology.



Faculty of Applied Sciences

It includes 4 departments:

- Physics
- Chemistry
- Mathematics
- Biology

Faculty of Arts and Human Sciences

It includes 8 departments:

- Arabic Language
- English Language
- French Language
- Geography
- Sociology
- History and Archeology
- Islamic Studies
- Library Sciences



Faculty of Education

It includes 4 departments:

- Teaching Methods
- Educational Supervision
- Psychological Counseling
- Pedagogy and Educational Management



Faculty of Fine Arts

It includes 3 departments:

- Fine Arts
- Art Education
- Decor and Interior Design



Faculty of Media

It includes 3 departments:

- Journalism
- Public Relations
- TV. & Broadcasting

Faculty of Management and Financing

It includes 3 departments:

- Accounting
- Business Administration
- Management Information System (MIS)



Faculty of Physical Education & Sports

It includes 2 departments:

- Sports Education
- Sport Training



Al-Aqsa Community College of Intermediate Studies

It grants diplomas in:

- Electronic Press
- Business Administration
- Child Education
- International Secretary
- Tourism and Hotels Management
- Information Technology
- Multimedia
- Non-governmental Organizations Management
- Occupational Therapy
- Media and Public Relations
- Banking and Finance
- Data Security
- Programming of Smart Phones Application





Graduate Studies

The university grants the doctoral degree in:

- Psychological and Educational Counseling
- Educational Management

The university grants the master degree in:

- Arabic Language - Literature
- Contemporary Historical Studies
- Psychological Counseling
- Chemistry
- Educational Management
- Curricula and Teaching Methods
- State Management and Good Governance
- Law and Public Management
- Leadership and Administration
- Diplomacy and International Relations
- Accounting and International Arbitration
- Sport Education
- Cyber-physical Systems

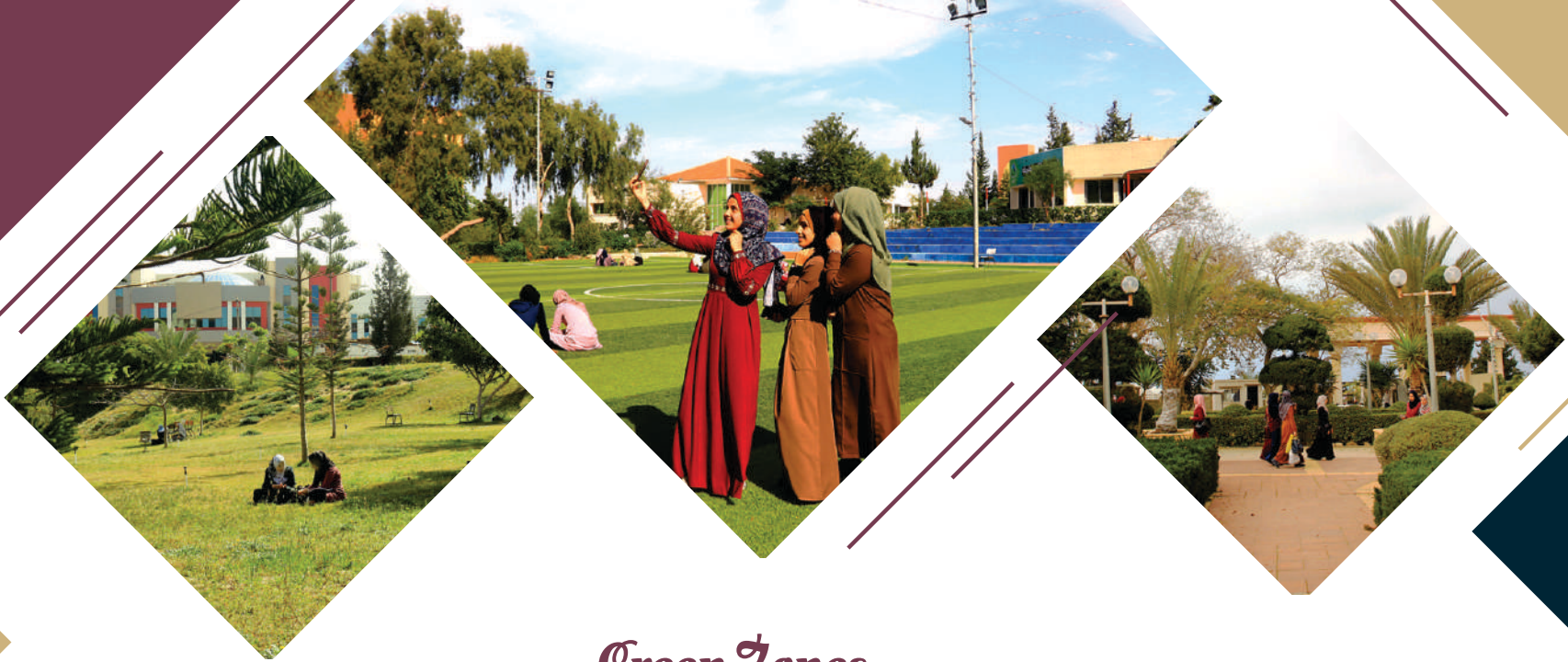


Facilities



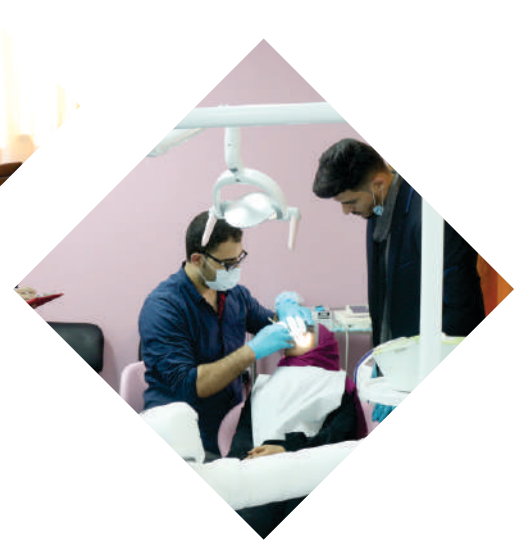
Public Utilities

The university has many public utilities which students can use and spend their free time in, some of which are: cafeterias, small shops, parking lots, playgrounds, sport halls and many other entertainment utilities.



Green Zones

The University enjoys a beautiful view of the sea, in addition to many green zones and lush gardens surrounding the different facilities of the university, which enhance the atmosphere of the university



Computer Laboratories

Seeing the integral role of information technology in the world and the widespread use of IT in many disciplines, the university provides modern and smart computer labs for students to develop their skills in using modern technology.

Health Clinic

The clinic provides both staff and students with medical and health services and helps raising awareness about general health.



Centers:



Centers of Astronomy and Space Research

The mission of the center is to encourage the Palestinian youth to educate about the sciences of space and astronomy; in response to the greatness of the ancestors and the Palestinian contribution to contemporary scientific achievement. Despite all obstacles we can achieve progress and recognition among the nations.

Center of Studies and Measurement of the Public Opinion

The center was established in 2017 due to the university beliefs of the importance of public opinion polls on various issues and their role in the sustainability process by monitoring and measuring the Palestinian public opinion towards all political, economic and social issues on the Palestinian community to set appropriate plans and policies by the persons in charge



The Geospatial Data Center for Education, Research and Development (GDC-ERD)

Since the Geographic Information Systems and Remote Sensing is an important source of digital geospatial data at in the Gaza Strip, and a strong resource of the Palestinian National Geospatial Data Infrastructure; Al-Aqsa University developed the (GDC-ERD) center to cope with the needs of the researchers and the specialists.

Tuition Waivers and Exemptions

<i>The waiver</i>	<i>Conditions</i>	<i>Activation of the waiver</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Children and wives of martyrs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daughters of martyrs must bring a proof of being single • The social status of wife must be widowed 	The first semester	100%
Social relief cases	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Necessary documents must be provided by the UNRWA or the Ministry of social Affairs 	The second semester	50%
The Keepers of the Holy Quran	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A certificate from the Ministry of Awqaf. • The student must pass an oral exam with a percentage of 80% 	The second semester	50%
95% and above percentage in the secondary school (Tawjihi)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The scholarship continues as long as the GPA is over 90% 	The first semester	100%
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The scholarship continues as long as the GPA is between 85- 	The second semester	50%

<i>The waiver</i>	<i>Conditions</i>	<i>Activation of the waiver</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Siblings in the institution or one of the parents and their children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Each of the siblings will get a 25% waiver 	The second semester	25%
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The waiver which will be granted to the third or more sibling more will be 50% 		50%
A married couple	A marriage certificate is required	The second semester	25%
Spouses and children of employees / retired employees in the institutes of the Ministry of high Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A marriage certificate is required from the spouse Daughters must bring proof that they are unmarried The son of a retired employee must bring a certificate proving that he is not working A certificate from the Ministry of education is required. 	The first semester	100%

<i>The waiver</i>	<i>Conditions</i>	<i>Activation of the waiver</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
94.9-90% percentage in the secondary school (Tawjihi)	The scholarship continues as long as the GPA is over 85%	The second semester	50%
The first ranking students of the discipline	The students GPA must be over 80%(at least 12 hours)	The second semester	100%
The second ranking students of the discipline	The students GPA must be over 80%(at least 12 hours)	The second semester	50%
Children of the political detainees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A certificate proving that the parent is under Israeli arrest is required • Daughters must bring proof that 	The second semester	100%
Former political detainees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A certificate proving that the person was detained and liberated from Israeli detention 	The second semester	50%

<i>The waiver</i>	<i>Conditions</i>	<i>Activation of the waiver</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Incoming refugees students from (Syria-Libya-Yemen)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A certificate from the Ministry of education is required. • Daughters must bring proof that they are unmarried. • The waiver is valid as long as the students GPA is 70% and above. 	The first semester	100%

<i>The waiver</i>	<i>Conditions</i>	<i>Activation of the waiver</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Children of employees/retired employees of the Ministry of Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A certificate from the Ministry of education is required. • Daughters must bring proof that they are unmarried. • The waiver is valid as long as the students GPA is 70% and above. 	The first semester	50%
Lukemia patients/thalassemia patients	A certificate from the ministry of health is required	The first semester	100%
Students with disabilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A certificate from the Ministry of Health • The waiver is determined by the degree of disability 	The first semester	70-100%
Children of AQU employees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A copy of the Id's of the employee and student are required. • A document from personnel's affairs is required 	The first semester	100%