



USEK International Students Scholarship Program

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1. OVERVIEW

The USEK International Students Scholarship Program (ISSP) is a pivotal component of USEK's internationalization strategy. It is designed to attract students from diverse backgrounds and countries, offering them the opportunity to access USEK's renowned academic programs while gaining valuable insights into Lebanon's history, culture, and geopolitical dynamics. This enriching experience enhances the academic journey for both current USEK students and scholarship recipients by providing exposure to an international learning environment. Additionally, it fosters lasting connections with peers and faculty, promoting a sense of global citizenship and intercultural understanding.

2. BENEFITS OF OUR PROGRAM

The ISSP offers you the chance to:

- access educational opportunities in one of the top universities in Lebanon.
- expand your cultural and scientific knowledge through immersive experiences.
- pursue your higher education at USEK without financial constraints.
- explore the Middle East from a unique perspective, engaging with Lebanese students for a richer cultural exchange.
- enhance your language skills, both within the classroom and in your daily interactions on campus.
- benefit from our [Be-A-Buddy](#) Program, which serves to provide assistance and guidance from our USEK students to help you navigate your journey.
- showcase your athletic talents, with the potential to join our dynamic sports teams.

3. ELIGIBILITY AND SELECTION PROCESS

a. Eligibility

Scholarships are available for specific programs to international students living outside Lebanon. Eligible applicants include students of Lebanese origin residing abroad. Binational students residing in Lebanon are not eligible.

Eligible candidates include international students seeking to pursue either a Bachelor's or Master's degree. Applicants should not be currently enrolled at USEK.

Applicants should meet USEK requirements for [Bachelor's](#) or [Master's](#) programs.

- Undergraduate applicants are required to submit:

- a copy of their passport.
- a motivation letter.
- the official equivalent of the Lebanese Baccalaureate from the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE), if available.
- a proficiency test equivalent.
- an official secondary school transcript for grades 10, 11, and 12, clearly indicating the official curriculum.
- a high school diploma (national or international).
- a recommendation letter from the high school principal, including class ranking.

- Graduate applicants are required to submit:

- a copy of their passport.
- a motivation letter.
- the official equivalent of the Lebanese undergraduate degree from MEHE, if available.

- an updated CV (PDF format – Word documents are not advised).
- two academic recommendation letters.
- a certified copy of the high school diploma (national or international).
- a certified copy of the undergraduate degree from a nationally recognized institution.
- the original official undergraduate transcript, including total credits and GPA.
- Applicants must demonstrate a good academic standing, with a minimum GPA of 80/100 or equivalent for undergraduate applicants and a minimum GPA of 85/100 or equivalent for graduate applicants.

- Undergraduate applicants who meet any of the conditions below are exempt from taking the on-campus USEK English Proficiency Test:

- Redesigned SAT I Evidence-Based Reading and Writing with a score of 550/800 or 16/24 on the Optional Essay.
- Institutional Paper-Based TOEFL PBT with a score of 550/670.
- Computer-Based TOEFL CBT with a score of 213/300.
- Internet-Based TOEFL IBT with a score of 80/120.
- Cambridge First Certificate in English (now B2 First) with a score of C.
- International English Language Testing System (IELTS) with a score of 6/9.

- Graduate applicants applying for the following programs will be required to take the USEK English Proficiency Test (on campus) or an equivalent recognized English Proficiency Test:

- Master of Arts in Education.
- Master of Arts in English Language and Literature.
- Master of Arts in Cinema and Television.
- Master of Science in Biochemistry.
- Master of Science in Biology.
- Master of Science in Neuroscience and Biotechnology.
- Master of Science in Nutrition.
- Master of Science in Actuarial and Financial Mathematics.

- Graduate applicants who meet any of the conditions below are exempt from taking the on-campus USEK English Proficiency Test:

- Applicants who have completed a bachelor's degree (or higher) in a country where English is the official language and where the primary language of instruction for their academic program was English can be exempt from the English placement test.
- English proficiency test score requirements are:
 - TOEFL iBT (Internet-Based Test) ≥ 80 .
 - TOEFL PBT (Paper-based Test) ≥ 550 .
 - IELTS (International English Language Testing System) ≥ 6 .
 - Duolingo English Test ≥ 105 .

- Applicants may be required to undergo additional examinations, including oral assessments, contingent upon the requirements of the respective program to which they are applying.

French Proficiency Test Requirements *(only for programs that require French proficiency)*

Applicants who fit any of the conditions below are exempted from the on-campus USEK French Proficiency Test:

- DELF (B2) or TCF (B2).
- An average of $\geq 10/20$ in French (Grades 10 and 11).

Undergraduate Program-Specific Test Requirements

Below are the program-specific written test requirements:

- Architecture Programs

Redesigned SAT I (Evidence-Based Reading and Writing + Math) $\geq 1200/1600$, or the on-campus USEK Math Entrance Exam $\geq 70/100$.

- Business Programs

Redesigned SAT I (Evidence-Based Reading and Writing + Math) $\geq 1100/1600$ or the on-campus USEK Math Entrance Exam $\geq 70/100$.

- Humanities and Art Programs

Redesigned SAT I (Evidence-Based Reading and Writing) $\geq 550/800$ or Essay SAT $\geq 16/24$.

- Sciences Programs

Redesigned SAT I (Evidence-Based Reading and Writing + Math) $\geq 1100/1600$ or the on-campus USEK Math Entrance Exam $\geq 70/100$.

- Sports enthusiasts who wish to participate in athletic activities at USEK are encouraged to apply.

b. Selection Process:

- Eligibility Check

An initial review of all received applications will be conducted to ensure they meet the minimum eligibility criteria.

- Verification of Documents

The scholarship committee will ensure that all required documents have been submitted. Undergraduate applicants are required to submit specific proficiency test results while graduate applicants are required to submit proficiency test results for certain programs. These are outlined under "Eligibility" above.

- Academic Evaluation

Applications will be evaluated based on academic performance.

- Review of Extracurricular Activities

The committee will assess the applicants' involvement in extracurricular activities.

- Review of Letters

All applicants will be evaluated based on the content and quality of their motivation and recommendation letters.

- Faculty Interview

Online interviews/oral examinations with relevant heads of departments may be required. Applicants will receive communication regarding the scheduling of assessments/interviews.

- Diversity and Inclusion Consideration

The committee will strive to ensure diversity and inclusion in the final selection, considering factors, such as nationality, background, and life experience.

- Final Selection

Based on the comprehensive evaluation, the committee will make the final selection of scholarship recipients.

- Notification

All applicants will be informed of the committee's decision regarding their application.

- Completion of Declaration of Document Submission Form

Applicants will be required to sign a form whereby they pledge to provide the necessary equivalent documents, certified by the Ministry of Education and Higher Education in Lebanon (MEHE), within six months of their registration.

N.B. The Scholarship Committee will oversee the selection process, which is designed to be transparent, fair, and free from discrimination.

4. WHAT THE SCHOLARSHIP COVERS

The scholarship covers full tuition fees for Bachelor's and Master's programs, excluding remedial courses. However, applicants are responsible for covering [registration](#) fees per semester, travel to and from Lebanon, as well as living expenses.

N.B. Students may be required to complete remedial courses under specific circumstances and for certain programs.

5. CONDITIONS FOR MAINTAINING THE SCHOLARSHIP

Continued eligibility for the scholarship in successive semesters is contingent upon the GPA that applicants maintain throughout their studies. For bachelor's programs, a minimum GPA of 80/100 is required, while for master's programs, the minimum GPA is 85/100.

The USEK International Students Scholarship will be forfeited in any of the following instances:

- Academic probation.
- Change of academic program.
- Interruption of studies.
- Term withdrawal (WW).
- Part-time enrollment (less than 12 credits per semester for undergraduate studies or less than 6 credits per semester for graduate studies).
- Upon decision of the Disciplinary Council in the event of a breach of the Code of Conduct.
- Enrollment in an exchange program.

6. APPLICATION DEADLINES

Fall Semester 2025-2026: April 1, 2025.

Spring Semester 2025-2026: September 28, 2025.

Applications are not accepted for summer sessions.

7. PROGRAMS OFFERED

Bachelor's Programs	Credits
<u>Bachelor of Business Administration (Emphasis: Audit)</u>	99
<u>Bachelor of Business Administration (Emphasis: Finance)</u>	99
<u>Bachelor of Business Administration (Emphasis: Management and Entrepreneurship)</u>	99
<u>Bachelor of Business Administration (Emphasis: Marketing)</u>	99
<u>Bachelor of Business Administration (Emphasis: Transport and Logistics)</u>	99
<u>Bachelor of Business Administration (Emphasis: Business Computing)</u>	99
<u>BS in Architectural Studies</u>	138
<u>BA in Design and Applied Arts</u>	108
<u>BA in Communication and Visual Arts</u>	108
<u>BA in Digital Media</u>	108
<u>BA in Cinema and Television</u>	102
<u>BA in Education (Emphasis: Basic Education)</u>	96
<u>BA in English Language and Literature</u>	96
<u>BA in French Language and Literature</u>	96
<u>BA in Modern Languages and Translation</u>	96
<u>BA in Journalism</u>	96
<u>BA in Performing Arts</u>	96
<u>BA in Philosophy</u>	96
<u>BA in Psychology (Emphasis: Clinical Psychology)</u>	96
<u>BA in Psychology (Emphasis: Industrial Psychology)</u>	96
<u>BA in Social Sciences</u>	96

<u>BS in Actuarial and Financial Mathematics</u>	96
<u>BS in Biochemistry</u>	96
<u>BS in Chemistry</u>	96
<u>BS in Biology</u>	96
<u>BS in Computer Science</u>	96
<u>BS in Human Nutrition and Dietetics</u>	96
<u>BS in Information Technology</u>	96
<u>BA in Music</u> (Emphasis: Music Industry)	96
<u>BA in Music</u> (Emphasis: Music Education)	96
<u>BA in Music</u> (Emphasis: Musicology)	96
<u>BA in International Relations</u>	96

Master's Programs	Credits
<u>Master of Business Administration</u> (Emphasis: Finance)	39
<u>Master of Business Administration</u> (Emphasis: Marketing)	39
<u>Master of Business Administration</u> (Emphasis: Financial Engineering)	39
<u>Master of Arts in Education</u> (Emphasis: Administration of Education)	36
<u>Master of Arts in Education</u> (Emphasis: Support of People with Special Needs)	36
<u>Master of Arts in Education</u> (Emphasis: Supervision and Pedagogical Coordination)	36
<u>Master of Arts in English Language and Literature</u>	36

<u>Master of Arts in Cinema and Television</u>	36
<u>Master of Arts in Conservation, Restoration of Cultural Property and Sacred Art</u>	36
<u>Master of Arts in Performing Arts</u> (Emphasis: Drama Therapy)	36
<u>Master of Arts in Performing Arts</u> (Emphasis: Theater and Drama Studies)	36
<u>Master of Arts in Psychology</u> (Emphasis: Industrial Psychology)	36
<u>Master of Arts in Psychology</u> (Emphasis: Clinical Psychology)	36
<u>Master of Science in Biochemistry</u> (Emphasis: Pharmacology and Cosmetology)	36
<u>Master of Science in Biology</u> (Emphasis: Molecular and Cellular Genetics)	36
<u>Master of Science in Neuroscience and Bio-technology</u> (Emphasis: Integrative and System Biology)	36
<u>Master of Science in Neuroscience and Bio-technology</u> (Emphasis: Molecular and Cellular Neuroscience)	36
<u>Master of Science in Nutrition</u> (Emphasis: Food Service Management)	36
<u>Master of Science in Nutrition</u> (Emphasis: Nutrition and Public Health)	36
<u>Master of Science in Nutrition</u> (Emphasis: Clinical Nutrition)	36
<u>Master of Science in Actuarial and Financial Mathematics</u>	36
<u>Master in Interior Architecture</u>	42
<u>Master of Arts in Diplomacy and International Security</u>	36

8. FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

I have applied for a scholarship. When will I find out if I am successful?

Notification of the scholarship results will be sent to you via email. You can expect to receive this notification by May 30, 2025 for Fall Semester 2025-2026 applications and by November 28, 2025 for Spring Semester 2025-2026 applications.

What must I do to maintain my scholarship?

To retain the scholarship, it is crucial to uphold the standards for which it was awarded. This entails maintaining a good academic standing, with a minimum GPA of 80/100 for bachelor's degree students and 85/100 for master's degree students.

Does USEK offer specific guidance and services for international students?

Certainly! As an international student at USEK, you will receive personalized support to seamlessly integrate into the USEK community and ensure a successful experience. Upon your arrival, you will participate in an orientation session for all new students and a welcome session specifically designed for international students. These sessions will provide you with essential information for your stay at USEK and in Lebanon.

You will also be paired, through our [Be-A-Buddy](#) program, with a Lebanese buddy who will assist you with administrative procedures and introduce you to the vibrant student life at USEK.

Will I receive assistance in applying for a visa or residency permit and finding accommodation in Lebanon?

Selected applicants will receive guidance on applying for a visa or residency permit in Lebanon. On-campus dormitories at USEK are available for female students only. For more information, you can

contact the Student Affairs Office at sao@usek.edu.lb. If you are interested in learning about off-campus dormitories, we can provide you with a list of dorms and studios in the region. Please note that USEK does not assume any responsibility regarding any external dorm owners or managers.

What makes a good motivation letter?

A strong motivation letter must effectively express genuine enthusiasm, highlight relevant qualifications and aspirations, and demonstrate a clear vision for the future. It should explain how receiving the scholarship aligns with your academic and career goals, highlighting relevant experiences and accomplishments that demonstrate your qualifications and commitment. Additionally, it should address the scholarship criteria and showcase how your values and aspirations resonate with those of the scholarship and USEK. Overall, the letter should be concise, professional, and persuasive, leaving a strong impression on the selection committee.

What makes a good letter of recommendation?

A compelling letter of recommendation must provide specific insights into your academic prowess, personal attributes, and potential for success in your studies. It should be written by an individual who is well acquainted with your academic achievements and can offer a credible assessment of your qualifications. The letter should include concrete examples and anecdotes that highlight your strengths, contributions, and unique qualities relevant to your field of study.

Who can I contact if I need more information?

For more information, you can contact the International Affairs Office (IAO) at internationalscholarships@usek.edu.lb.