

1.3.5 Low or lower-income countries student support

Scholarships for low-income countries during the fiscal year 2023/2024

In alignment with Sustainable Development Goal 1 (No Poverty), the Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport (AASTMT) has provided full scholarships to outstanding students from various Arab countries to promote social equity and reduce financial barriers to higher education.

The academic year 2023/2024 witnessed a significant increase in the number of low-income Arab students, further underscoring the urgent need for enhanced educational support across the region. The Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport (AASTMT) awarded a wide range of fully and partially funded scholarships to students from Sudan, Syria, Somalia, Iraq, Palestine, Lebanon, Libya, Yemen, Nigeria, Pakistan, Mauritania, Djibouti, and Bangladesh. These scholarships were offered in recognition of the challenging political, economic, and humanitarian circumstances affecting these countries, which have limited access to stable education and economic opportunities. The scholarships span key disciplines including marine engineering, business administration, cybersecurity, accounting, logistics, and design.

These initiatives underscore the Academy's strong commitment to poverty alleviation, reducing vulnerability, promoting social mobility, and fostering sustainable human development. By expanding access to quality higher education and strengthening learners' technical and professional skills, AASTMT actively contributes to the core objectives of SDG 1: No Poverty, empowering disadvantaged communities through education, capacity-building, and long-term economic resilience.

The Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport (AASTMT) is committed to fulfilling its regional mission of promoting educational advancement across Arab and African countries characterized by low or lower-middle income levels. This commitment is realized through a range of scholarships and programs specifically designed for international students, thereby facilitating their access to high-quality higher education free from financial barriers.

The Dean of Student Affairs, in collaboration with the Scholarships and International Relations Department, oversees the implementation of these initiatives, which include the following:

1. Comprehensive Scholarship Program for African and Arab Students:

AASTMT annually allocates a limited number of full scholarships for students from economically disadvantaged Arab and African countries. These scholarships cover tuition fees, accommodation, and living expenses for the full duration of study.

2. Collaborative Scholarships with the League of Arab States and Regional Organizations:

Full or partial scholarships are offered in partnership with the League of Arab States, the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), and the African Union to support outstanding students from the least developed member countries.



3. International Student Assistance Initiative:

This initiative provides partial tuition exemptions and access to university housing facilities for students coming from countries affected by economic instability or conflict.

4. Joint Research Scholarships:

These scholarships are awarded to postgraduate students from developing countries to support applied research endeavors in fields such as maritime studies, engineering, and technology, with the goal of enhancing capacity building in their home countries.

5. Social Assistance for International Students:

Through the Student Support and International Student Affairs Units under the Deanship of Student Affairs, emergency aid is provided when necessary to ensure that students can continue their studies without disruption.

Student Support & Expatriates Dep. - Student Affairs

In accordance with the regulations in place to help financially distressed students, the Academy allocates full or partial support according to the case study or through donors for each semester, provided that supporting documents are submitted and each case is studied individually.

Financial Rates for low or lower-income countries student support 2023/2024

- This year, the Academy has strengthened its support for Arab students by applying Egyptian tuition rates to eligible Arab nationals, easing their financial burden and expanding access to higher education.
- The Academy has also enhanced its scholarship offerings for Arab students, with financial reductions ranging between 30% and 70%, reflecting a commitment to widening educational opportunities.
- Further improvements include expanded tuition fee discounts for Arab graduates, ranging from 25% to 30% each semester.
 All cases are carefully assessed by the Financial Support Committees, and the recommended reductions are approved by His Excellency the President of the

Academy to ensure fairness and effective implementation.

• In addition, the Academy continues to increase the number of full scholarships available to students from developing countries—whether at the undergraduate level or within postgraduate programs—on the condition that students maintain strong academic performance.