



Embassy of the  
Arab Republic of Egypt  
in Athens

Ref: (110.1/2023)

Verbal Note

The Embassy of the Arab Republic of Egypt presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Hellenic Republic, and has the honour to notify that Al-Azhar Al-Shareef through Al-Azhar University has announced its annual scholarships for the year 2023/2024 and has allocated two scholarships for Greece.

Enclosed herewith are the rules and regulations for the aforementioned scholarships. Interested candidates are invited to send to the Embassy a soft copy of the required documents before the 25<sup>th</sup> of August 2023. If accepted, candidates will be requested to submit the original copy of these documents upon their arrival to Cairo.

In light of the excellent relations between Egypt and Greece, the Embassy would highly appreciate the assistance of the esteemed Ministry of Foreign Affairs to convey this note to the competent Greek authorities.

The Embassy of the Arab Republic of Egypt avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Hellenic Republic the assurances of its highest consideration.



Athens, June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023

E3: Directorate for Educational, Cultural and Athletic Affairs  
CC: A4 Directorate for Turkey  
CC: A6 Directorate for Arab Countries and the Middle East  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
Hellenic Republic  
Athens

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# Standing rules for accepting foreign students to Al-Azhar Al-Sharif scholarship

## First: General rules:

The following procedures must be observed and confirmed through the Egyptian diplomatic missions abroad.

## Principal times:

-The last time for the arrival of nominations (before the end of June of each year).

-The last time for the arrival of the candidates (the first week of September of each year).

-Beginning of studies in universities / institutes (the beginning of the second half of September of each year).

In case of the nominations are received after the specified date, they will not be discussed and will be returned to the concerned mission, and to overcome the issue of the delay in obtaining graduation certificates for candidates in the same year, nominations of graduate students from two previous years are allowed to be accepted in order to achieve the regularity of the educational process from the beginning of the academic year.

## Fulfill the procedures:

1)The following general conditions apply to all candidate students before starting the rest of the procedures:

A) The candidate must be a citizen of the state and hold its nationality, and of non-Egyptian parents.

B) He should not have previously been nominated to study in the Arab Republic of Egypt or been dismissed from studying on one of these scholarships for any reason whatsoever.

C) He must be medically fit and free from contagious diseases according to an approved medical certificate, and he is physically and psychologically healthy (without any disability).

D) It is not permissible to nominate more than one member of the same family (father - mother - children - husband - wife - siblings) on the scholarship at the same time, that is, in the same year of nomination.

F) The student should not be enrolled in another scholarship in or outside Egypt.



- 2) All documents and papers of the candidates must be completed, approved, and sealed with the emblem of the Republic on one side The embassy before sending it, taking into account that all documents sent are in Arabic, English, or French, or translated from the original language into one of the three languages.
- 3) All nominations are sent to Expatriate Affairs, Training and Technical Cooperation, which handles the nomination procedures.
- 4) That the nominations are according to the number specified for each country by the Expatriate Committee.
- 5) The name of the candidate student must be identical to his name on all the required papers and documents.
- 6) The heads of Al-Azhar missions and the embassy participate in selecting the candidates to award the honorable Al-Azhar, and in the absence of an Azharite mission in the concerned country, Al-Azhar sends whomever it sees fit - through diplomatic channels - with Al-Azhar bearing the costs involved
- 7) Students enrolled in colleges that impose registration fees are exempt from paying these fees.
- 8) Not to grant any student nominated for a scholarship or at his own expense or at the expense of any other party an entry visa except after receiving security approvals and informing the missions abroad of them.
- 9) In case of the student enrolled on a scholarship, whether in Al-Azhar, higher education, or education, withdraws his papers or discharge at his request, and it is taken into account not to nominate him again on any scholarships presented by Egypt with informing the nominating body that this will affect the number of scholarships allocated For this country in the next years.
- 10) The Egyptian embassies abroad address the foreign ministries of the countries accredited to them with the names of students accepted for scholarships, so that these ministries inform their embassies in Egypt, provided that the cultural sector at the Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs is provided with a copy of the memorandum directed in this regard.
- 11) Notify all of our embassies abroad with a certified translation of their passports in Arabic for international students on the granting of Al-Azhar, upon the request of the concerned authorities (security).
- 12) That the study with grants provided by Al-Azhar through the Expatriates Committee is in the Arabic language, and in the event that the student wishes to study in one of the English or French languages, the candidate will bear the relevant additional fees.
- 13) Not to pay heed to any requests to increase the number of SCHOLARSHIP allocated to any country except after filling the grants already allocated during the academic year.



14) The student shall bear any costs resulting from changing the travel date or canceling it, as well as bearing the value of the return ticket in the event that the scholarship is not completed.

**Notice:**

- If it appears that any student does not fulfill any of the conditions referred to, he will be deported immediately and return to his country will be at his own expense.

**Second:**

**scholarships offered by Al-Azhar:**

- 1) Al-Azhar Al-Sharif shall bear the expenses of bringing all students nominated to grant the honorable Al-Azhar and their return expenses in case the students succeed and obtain a university degree.
- 2) A foreign student (graduate of the university or postgraduate studies only) is permitted to carry an extra weight of 20 (twenty) kilograms, and the cities of the mission shall bear the expenses of this extra weight.
- 3) Reserve grants are allocated and used in case the grants allocated to countries have been exhausted, and they are placed at the disposal of the Grand Imam, Sheikh of Al-Azhar, the number of (105) grants, the President of Al-Azhar University, the number of (65) scholarships, and the Foreign Ministry's Committee for Foreign Affairs, according to the committee's savings.
- 4) In the absence of available places in the cities of the Islamic mission, the student bears the responsibility of finding housing for him outside the cities at his own expense and the approved external scholarship is disbursed to him.
- 5) In the event of the death of a foreign student enrolled on a scholarship, the Islamic mission cities bear the costs of burial procedures in their cemeteries.
- 6) It is preferable that the nomination be made over the grants decided for some countries by Islamic societies recognized by the country to which the candidate belongs, and that handles Muslim affairs in coordination with the Egyptian embassy in this country.
- 7) It is allowed to apply for the qualification for two years prior to Arab students and three years for non-Arabs and South Sudan.
- 8) The necessity of taking into account the retrieval of the ticket for the student who has apologized for the scholarship from the side of the embassy, not to hand it over to him again, and return it to the cultural sector at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (expatriate affairs, training and technical cooperation) through the embassy, and not to dispatch the alternative candidate until after the embassy is given the final approval of his acceptance.



### **Conditions for scholarships of Al-Azhar Al-Sharif:**

- 1) That the candidate student is a Muslim
- 2) That the student be a resident of the same country from which he is a candidate. Countries that have civil wars are excluded from this condition.
- 3) That there is no institute in his country that grants a qualification equivalent to the one he wishes to obtain.
- 4) Al-Azhar Al-Sharif made sure of the equivalence of the qualifications of the candidate for admission.
- 5) The necessity of observing the accuracy when selecting the incoming student on the Azhar scholarship.
- 6) It is not permissible to transfer any scholarships related to a previous academic year except after obtaining the express approval of the Foreigners' Committee at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

### **Required documents for candidates to join Al-Azhar University:**

- 1) Al-Azhar secondary school certificate or its equivalent, notarized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the country to which the candidate belongs, approved by the Egyptian embassy and sealed with the seal of the Republic's logo.
- 2) A statement of the academic subjects studied by the candidate in the high school diploma or its equivalent, authenticated and approved by the Egyptian embassy as a guide when nominating according to the candidate's wishes.
- 3) The original birth certificate indicating the mother's name and nationality, authenticated by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the country to which the candidate belongs and approved by the Egyptian embassy, and in the event that the mother's name and nationality are not included in the birth certificate, any other document that clarifies this can be attached, provided that it is notarized and approved by the two parties referred to. To them.
- 4) Number (6) recent photos of the candidate, with his name written on the back and his nationality
- 5) A copy of the candidate's passport, provided that the passport is new or renewed and valid for use.
- 6) A certificate of good conduct issued by the authority that nominates the student.
- 7) A medical certificate approved by the Ministry of Health from the country of the candidate student that he is medically fit, free from infectious diseases (immunodeficiency - hepatitis - tuberculosis ... etc.) and is physically and psychologically healthy (there is no disability), and this certificate is certified by the embassy Egyptian.



8) A statement that the high school diploma obtained by the student qualifies him to join the university in the country from which he obtained the certificate, authenticated by the Egyptian embassy.

**Required documents for candidates to enroll in high studies at Al-Azhar University:**

- 1) The documents mentioned in items No. (3-4-5-6-7) of the previous item.
- 2) The original university certificate or a copy of it, notarized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the candidate's country and approved by the Egyptian embassy there.
- 3) A transcript of the grades obtained by the candidate in the academic years (each year separately), authenticated by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of his country and approved by the Egyptian embassy there.

**Required documents for candidates to enroll in Al-Azhar institutes:**

- 1) The documents mentioned in items No. (3-4-5-6-7) of the previous clause.
- 2) The original academic certificate attested by the Egyptian embassies abroad or by the cultural offices in these embassies or the Egyptian interests' interest missions in the countries from which these students come, provided that it is also authenticated by the Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

**Notes:**

- 1) Bring the original documents when the candidate comes to the Arab Republic of Egypt.
- 2) It is stipulated that whoever is admitted to the first grade of middle school among the students nominated for the scholarship of Al-Azhar Al-Sharif who does not speak Arabic must not be less than (12 years) and not more than (30 years) and age gradation is taken into account in relation to the other grades. As for Arabic speaking students, they shall be treated in relation to the condition. Age is the treatment of Egyptian students, and no exception to this condition is permitted.
- 3) Transfer certificates are not considered for new students, and a placement test is held for each of them in the manner determined by the General Administration for the expatriate students to determine the appropriate grade for his academic level to join Al-Azhar institutes.
- 4) The student is not allowed to change the type of study for which he is coming.
- 5) New students are distributed to the Egyptian governorates in accordance with the decree of Al-Azhar.
- 6) In the event that the candidate arrives later than the date of the start of the study, he will be enrolled in the Institute of Special Studies and sit for an admission contest exam in the following year, and the student will not object to the result of this exam.



7) Interest in the Nile Basin countries for their strategic importance for Egypt.

**Conditions to be met in special studies:**

1) The General Secretariat of the Islamic Research Complex, in conjunction with the Al-Azhar Institutes Sector, organizes special studies in religious and Arab sciences. These special studies are not considered educational stage nor do they grant scientific qualifications, and new arrivals students who do not speak Arabic who do not possess scientific qualifications at all or who hold qualifications join them. It is not equivalent to qualify them to study at Al-Azhar institutes, and this study qualifies those enrolled in it scientifically and linguistically so that they can enter the placement test to join the appropriate classes for them in the Islamic Envoy Institutes and other Al-Azhar institutes after taking this exam.

2) Foreign students who possess academic qualifications lack some legal and Arab subjects and this study is according to what is determined by the Equations Committee of Al-Azhar and on the basis of the curriculum applied in Islamic scholarship institutes and other Al-Azhar institutes, as well as students who wish to study Islamic and Arabic and do not wish to enroll. With Al-Azhar institutes or the university and without any connection to the institute's curriculum or plan.

3) A LEVEL test is conducted for those enrolled in private studies starting from the first of October of each year for those wishing to join the Al-Azhar institutes, in order to determine their academic level, in accordance with the rules and regulations issued by a decision by the Sheikh of Al-Azhar.

**Documents required to take the equivalent procedures for postgraduate studies:**

- 1) A copy of the secondary school certificate.
- 2) The original bachelor's or bachelor's degree, authenticated by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the country to which the candidate belongs, and the Egyptian Embassy in the country. The certificate is at least good overall.
- 3) The original transcript for the four years of study for each division, indicating the academic year for each group .. provided that it is authenticated by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the country to which the candidate belongs and by the Egyptian embassy in the country.
- 4) The faculty guide (the study plan of the college or institute), showing the scientific content of each subject in the years of study and the number of hours for each subject documented and approved by the college or institute.

- 5) Five (5) photographs and (5) copies of the submitted certificates and papers.
- 6) A letter from the embassy to which the student belongs in the Arab Republic of Egypt agreeing to study at Al-Azhar.
- 7) An equivalent fee of (500) Egyptian pounds.
- 8) All papers submitted are in Arabic and authenticated by all authorities.

**Financial provisions:**

**(The value of the monthly scholarship in Egyptian pounds)**

Statement	Special studies Islamic Envoys Institute	Faculties of Al- Azhar University	HIGH STUDIES
Students residing inside the Islamic mission cities	1000	1000	1000
Students residing outside the cities of the Islamic mission	1500	1500	1500
A one-time recruitment allowance	equivalent to( a one-month scholarship)		
scholarship books every year	Allowance for one month scholarship books every year, condition for success		
Graduation scholarship	equivalent to one month scholarship		
scholarship print letter	two months scholarship		



- The value of the scholarship is paid to the incoming student from the date of arrival (students whose subjects are exempt from registration with the Travel, Immigration and Nationality Documents Authority), and from the date of registration for students of the rest of the countries, on the condition that they submit a statement indicating his enrollment in the study within three months from the date of arrival in Egypt, and if he does not submit the papers within . That period is his entitlement to the scholarship from the date he submitted it to the Department to join the study.

**Notes:**

Grant to print the thesis: It is required to submit a report from the professor, the general supervisor of the thesis, stating that the student has finished preparing his thesis for printing and its validity for discussion.

-The full monthly grant is paid to the student, and the original grant is reduced by 30% of its value when he stays to repeat for one academic year in one class. If he remains to repeat for the second time in the same class, the scholarship will be suspended, provided that the scholarship will return to him after his success, starting from the first of October.

-The monthly scholarship is cut off if the student travels outside Egypt and for the duration of his travel abroad for any reason.