

SCHOLARSHIPS & FINANCIAL AID

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SCHOLARSHIPS & FINANCIAL AID

OFFICE OF SCHOLARSHIP AND FINANCIAL AID

The Office of Scholarship and Financial Aid provides students with a centralized gateway to everything related to government, private, and University scholarships, AUK financial aid, and government allowances. The office serves more than fifty percent of the student population as scholarship students, in addition to the cohort of students who wish to apply for a scholarship or allowance. The office works with other University units to optimize students' educational experiences by communicating and implementing all applicable University and award sponsors' rules and conditions and managing relevant processes and applications as per set guidelines.

Services Provided by the Office

The Office of Scholarship and Financial Aid serves the University student body, in addition to award sponsors and internal departments. The Office receives and processes scholarships, financial aid, and allowance applications in coordination with the involved internal and external bodies. In addition, it centralizes all scholarship, financial aid, and allowance-related communications and announcements to the University's student body or departments, as relevant. The Office also corresponds with and generates academic and financial reports for scholarship sponsors. Its operations are scheduled with the University's academic year, and the government scholarship and allowance applications cycles.

AUK ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS

At the beginning of each academic year, AUK offers a limited number of merit-based academic scholarships (based on a student's academic aptitude, performance, and achievement), to its most academically deserving first-time and continuing students. Students interested in applying to this award when announced, must meet all the requirements of their category. The AUK scholarship criteria, application eligibility and processes, and application due dates are listed below:

Scholarship Application Eligibility Criteria for First-Time College Students:

- Must have at least 3.75 high school GPA or higher.
- Will be evaluated on academic measures, including but not limited to, high school grades, TOEFL scores, and class rank.

Scholarship Application Eligibility Criteria for Continuing Students (earned 60 AUK credits or more):

- Scholarship applications will be evaluated on various academic measures, including but not limited to the AUK cumulative GPA and total earned hours at AUK as set and announced by the University Scholarship Committee.

Scholarship Application Process and Deadlines:

When a scholarship application period is announced for a new academic year, the following documents must be submitted to the relevant office prior to the announced application deadline and before the commencement of the fall semester of the academic year as follows:

First-Time College Students

- Complete admissions application.
- Complete AUK Scholarship Application Form for New AUK Freshman Applicants.
- Submit documents to the Office of Admissions prior to the application deadline announced on the University website.

Continuing Students

- Complete AUK Scholarship Application Form for Junior & Senior AUK Students.
- Submit form to the Office of Scholarship and Financial Aid prior to the application deadline announced via AUK email.

Applications will be reviewed by the University Scholarship Committee. All applicants will be informed of their application status of the academic year. Although AUK strives to acknowledge and award all its deserving students, eligibility to apply for the AUK Academic Scholarship award does not guarantee the applicant an award.

Retention of Scholarship

Recipients of an AUK scholarship award may not combine it with any other award or tuition assistance provided to them by the University, PUC, or any other sponsor. In such a case, the recipient will be required to choose one award.

Recipients must maintain the following academic standings to retain their AUK scholarship award at AUK:

- Maintain a cumulative AUK GPA of 3.50 or better by the end of each semester.
- Register for 12 credit hours or more per regular semester (Fall and Spring semesters).
- May take a leave of absence only after submitting a deferral request through the Office of Scholarship and Financial Aid and receive the approval of the supervising University committee.

PUC SCHOLARSHIPS AT AUK

Each academic year, the Private Universities Council (PUC) allocates a number of internal government scholarship seats to students who are Kuwaiti, or are children of Kuwaiti mothers, based on their high school, or diploma, or transfer, or AUK academic standings. The PUC's scholarship covers tuition fees and book allowance for its awardees. A few seats are assigned each semester to AUK students. These seats are determined by current market demands and distributed based on institutions' capacities.

PUC Internal Scholarship Rules & Conditions

- The recipients should not be government employees, or on 'study leave', or a recipient of any other type of award throughout the duration of their study (government institutions include both those with supplementary and independent budgets).
- The recipients must adhere to the rules and conditions of the university they are admitted to.
- The recipients must adhere to all the decrees and decisions issued by the Private Universities Council—Ministry of Higher Education in the state of Kuwait.
- The scholarship has a limited number of language and remedial courses an award recipient can register for and repeat, defined by the PUC per scholarship category, without the possibility of an extension.
- The recipients are committed to maintain a full-time status (register for a minimum of 12 credit hours) per regular semester (fall and spring). Recipients in their graduation semester may be exempt from this condition as per their degree completion status.

- The scholarship covers the tuition and book allowance only, and does not cover any late registration fees, or tuition fees due for courses withdrawn after the add/drop week without violating the abovementioned full-time status condition; the tuition of any such withdrawn course will be charged to the recipient.
- The scholarship only covers the tuition of the maximum credit hours assigned to complete the scholarship major in accordance with the University degree requirements and as per the University catalog.
- The recipients must not register in courses that are not used towards their assigned scholarship major, and the tuition of any such course will be charged to the recipient.
- The recipients cannot change their assigned scholarship major without the approval of the University and the PUC. The recipients are financially liable for the tuition fees of any courses not transferrable towards the new scholarship major.
- The recipients must register in all regular semesters (fall & spring) and may take a leave of absence only after applying for a scholarship deferral through the Office of Scholarship and Financial Aid and receiving the approval of the University and the PUC.
- The scholarship will be cancelled for recipients who are dismissed from the University.
- Academically dismissed recipients whose scholarships have been cancelled may submit a Scholarship Reinstatement application when they meet the PUC's announced conditions for scholarship reinstatement.

OTHER SCHOLARSHIPS AT AUK

Several private sponsors approach AUK to provide financial support to students, based on either merit or need. These sponsors, in coordination with the University administration, set their own application criteria, award rules and conditions to assure they meet their objectives while achieving the maximum benefit to the students. Any such application opportunities are communicated to AUK students through the Office of Scholarship & Financial Aid via AUK email, and applicants are considered by the relevant committees of each such award.

AUK FINANCIAL AID PROGRAM

AUK awards a limited number of financial aids to its currently enrolled non-scholarship students based on financial hardship. The financial aid is only partial and depends on the applicant's financial status. Students who want to apply for this program must have earned a minimum of 45 AUK credit hours and must be in 'good' academic standing. AUK financial aid covers tuition only (not University fees) for a maximum of two semesters of an academic year (not including summer), for up to 12 credits per semester. The program does not cover the tuition fees for withdrawn or failed courses, and the recipient would be fully liable for the tuition fees of such courses.

Financial Aid Application Process

Students who want to apply for this program must complete and submit the application form made available for each application period, alongside the required documents, before the announced deadline. The rules, conditions, and the required documents of a set financial aid application period are announced by the University administration prior to the beginning of said period via AUK email. Incomplete and/or misrepresented and/or late applications will not be considered. Submission of a complete financial aid application package does not guarantee acceptance.

Retention of Financial Aid

Recipients of AUK financial aid may not combine it with any other award or tuition assistance provided to them by the University, PUC, or any other sponsor. In such a case, the recipient will be required to choose one award, or else be disqualified.

Recipients must maintain the following academic standings to retain their AUK financial aid at AUK for the period they have received it:

- Maintain a cumulative AUK GPA of 2.00 or better by the end of the semester.
- Register for at least 12 credit hours per regular semester (e.g. fall and spring semesters), unless it is the recipient's graduating semester.