

Frequently Asked Questions: Al Qasimi Foundation Teacher Scholarships

Below are answers to questions frequently asked by applicants interested in the Al Qasimi Foundation's **Teacher Scholarship Awards**:

Who is eligible to apply for the Teacher Scholarship Awards?

The Teacher Scholarship Awards are open to teachers from all nationalities who are teaching in a Ras Al Khaimah government school. Applicants should have at least three years of teaching experience, however, before applying for a Scholarship.

What types of opportunities does the Al Qasimi Foundation support through its Teacher Scholarship Awards?

The Scholarships provide funding for master's degrees, short-term courses (1-3 month duration), or in-school action research projects.

Academic: Master's degree or short-term course must be in education or closely related to education. The chosen qualification should improve applicants' teaching abilities and effectiveness in the classroom. Qualifications that expand applicants' knowledge of the subject areas they teach may also be considered on a case-by-case basis. For applicants interested in earning their master's degrees, the chosen qualifications must be offered through accredited universities or institutions.

Degrees and short-term courses **ELIGIBLE** for Scholarship funding include: Master's in education, English language courses, TOEFL preparation courses, ICDL courses.

Degrees and short-term courses **NOT ELIGIBLE** for Scholarship funding include: Master's in business (EMBA or MBA), human resources, engineering, other degrees and courses unrelated to education.

Action Research: Projects may be proposed and carried out by an individual or small group of teachers. Proposals should address an identified need related to improving teaching or enhancing student learning in applicants' classrooms or schools.

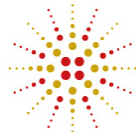
What expenses do the Scholarships cover?

Academic: The Scholarships cover up to 50% of the tuition costs associated with a master's degree or short-term course. The Al Qasimi Foundation does not provide full funding to cover all tuition costs as it is important for recipients to demonstrate their commitment to their own professional development.

Action Research: Scholarships provide up to 10,000 AED in funding based on the budget outlined in the research proposal.

What are the Al Qasimi Foundation's expectations of Scholarship recipients?

Academic: All recipients are expected to conduct a workshop or presentation for other teachers to highlight what they learned in their short-term courses or degree programs. Workshop topics should focus on how the new information can be applied in the classroom.



or school to improve teaching effectiveness. Topic ideas include sharing activities to incorporate into lesson plans, highlighting relevant research findings, or demonstrating new uses of technology. Recipients pursuing a degree must also maintain a B-average throughout their studies in order to remain eligible for continued funding.

Action Research: Recipients are expected to present their research findings to other teachers and to write a short report for the Al Qasimi Foundation summarizing their findings. The short report will be published on the Ras Al Khaimah Teachers Network.

Can Teacher Scholarship Awards be used to cover expenses associated with degree programs, courses, or research abroad?

Academic: Scholarships typically only cover expenses for degree programs and courses offered in the United Arab Emirates. They will not cover tuition or travel expenses associated with qualifications offered overseas.*

Applicants who wish to enroll in online degree programs or short-term courses may be considered on a case-by-case basis. However, such distance learning opportunities must be offered through an accredited overseas institution. In addition, applicants will need to provide a strong justification for their chosen qualifications.

Please note: Emirati teachers wishing to pursue degree programs or short-term courses overseas should contact the [Sheikh Saqr Program for Government Excellence](#) as they may be an alternative source of funding if candidates meet their selection criteria.

Action Research: No, the Scholarships can only be used to cover expenses for research in Ras Al Khaimah and the United Arab Emirates. They will not cover expenses associated with research overseas.

Will Teacher Scholarship Awards cover living expenses while recipients undertake their courses, degree programs, or research?

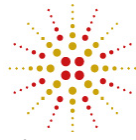
No, Scholarships only cover tuition fees or costs associated with conducting research. Scholarship recipients are expected to maintain their teaching commitments in their respective schools while pursuing their chosen qualifications or conducting their research. Recipients enrolled in short-term courses or degree programs are encouraged to consider professional development options that make use of school holidays, evenings/weekends, or are offered online or as hybrid courses. This will more easily allow recipients to continue working while undertaking their studies.

Will the Al Qasimi Foundation help applicants gain admission to degree programs or short-term courses?

No, applicants are responsible for securing admission to their chosen qualifications at an accredited university or institution. The Al Qasimi Foundation will require proof of enrollment before distributing any funds.

Will the Al Qasimi Foundation help applicants develop their Action Research proposals?

Yes, the Al Qasimi Foundation will support applicants seeking to translate their research ideas into formal research proposals. The first step is for applicants to participate in the Al



Qasimi Foundation's 21st Century Research Program (if they have not done so already). This program walks participants through the stages of developing research proposals and should answer many questions. If further assistance is needed, Foundation staff will work with applicants to refine their ideas so that they can be submitted for funding consideration.

Should applicants contact the Al Qasimi Foundation to discuss the Teacher Scholarship Awards before submitting a formal application?

Yes, applicants wishing to apply for Teacher Scholarship Awards are encouraged to discuss their plans with the Al Qasimi Foundation before submitting an application--especially if they will be requesting funds to support a master's degree. Such preliminary conversations help to ensure applicants' chosen qualifications or proposed research align with the Scholarship eligibility criteria. In addition, staff can answer questions and provide advice on compiling and submitting the required materials.

Is the online application form the only way to apply for Teacher Scholarship Awards?

Yes, only applications submitted through the Al Qasimi Foundation website using the online form will be reviewed and considered for funding. If applicants need assistance completing the form or uploading their materials, they may schedule an appointment with an Al Qasimi Foundation staff member, who will walk them through the process.

After submitting materials online, applicants may contact the Program Manager for Outreach to verify whether their application was successfully received. If desired, they may also deliver a hard copy of their application materials to the Al Qasimi Foundation office, but only after submitting the same materials online.

How long after submitting a Teacher Scholarship Award application will results be announced?

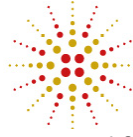
Scholarship applications undergo a preliminary review upon submission to ensure they meet minimum eligibility criteria. Those that meet or exceed the criteria are compiled until the appropriate application deadlines, at which point they are forwarded to the selection committee for collective review.

Academic: Based on the application form and supporting documents, the selection committee will recommend candidates for an interview. Accordingly, these individuals will be notified and invited for a formal interview. Final funding decisions will only be communicated to all applicants after the interview process is complete. As a result, applicants should not expect news on the success of their applications and whether they will receive funding until four to six weeks after the relevant application deadline has passed. Deadlines for the application cycles:

Master's degree programs: June 30

Short-term courses: June 30 and December 31

Action Research: The selection committee will review proposals and make recommendations accordingly. Should questions arise during the review, the committee may contact applicants for additional information or ask applicants to make revisions to their proposals. As a result, the formal review process may take several weeks. Applicants



should not expect news on funding decisions until four to six weeks after the submission deadline has passed.

There are two deadlines in the annual application cycle: June 30 and December 31.

What criteria does the selection committee use to determine Teacher Scholarship Award recipients?

Teacher Scholarship Awards are given based on merit and applicants' commitment to the teaching profession in Ras Al Khaimah. The Al Qasimi Foundation Program Managers and Directors serve as the evaluation and selection committee.

Academic: Personal statements outlining how applicants and schools will benefit from the chosen short-term courses or degree programs are seriously considered. In addition, previous academic performance will also be reviewed. Preference will be given to Emirati teachers.

Action Research: Relevance of the proposed research question and quality of the overall proposal are key considerations for funding decisions. Knowledge of background research and the literature review is also important. Preference will be given to teachers who have completed the Foundation's 21st Century Research Program.

How many Teacher Scholarship Awards does the Foundation provide each year?

The Scholarship review and selection process is competitive, as the Al Qasimi Foundation often receives more applications than it can support. The number of Scholarships awarded each year varies depending on the costs associated with recipients' chosen qualifications and proposed research. Generally, the Al Qasimi Foundation seeks to award up to two Scholarships for teachers pursuing their master's degrees and up to five Scholarships for teachers undertaking short-term courses. An additional two Scholarships are available to support teachers interested in conducting research.

For additional questions regarding Teacher Scholarship Awards not addressed above, please contact the Al Qasimi Foundation at info@alqasimifoundation.rak.ae.