

For Immediate Release



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AUB partners with Al Ghurair Foundation **offering scholarships to young Arab achievers**

The American University of Beirut (AUB) has recently partnered with the Abdulla Al Ghurair Foundation for Education (AGFE), joining a network of the foundation's partner universities around the world, giving the chance for bright students with financial difficulties to gain a scholarship to study at AUB for their bachelor's or master's degrees and eventually use their skills, expertise, and experiences to give back to the Arab World.

This partnership allows students accepted to AGFE's STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) Scholars Program to study at AUB with a scholarship that covers tuition and provides access to mentorship, academic advising, career support, hands-on experiences, community service and volunteering opportunities, and access to a network of Al Ghurair scholars from all around the Arab world.

"The AGFE scholarship program is at the heart of AUB's mission statement and offers the opportunity for highly-achieving and gifted Arab students to study at one of the top universities of the region. The program also has a community service component that nurtures leadership qualities and commitment to civic engagement among the AGFE scholars", said Dr. Malek Tabbal, who oversees the AGFE scholarship program at AUB.

The AUB-AGFE partnership provides the scholars with the right tools and opportunities to be critical thinkers and explorers, and to solve challenging real-world problems. It aims to facilitate the access of these young Arab achievers to work opportunities with top employers across the industries, and to allow them to contribute to regional prosperity in a variety of fields.

"This journey is not only about studying or scoring high grades, but also about molding your personality and arming yourself with knowledge and experience to become an active citizen who can lead the change and development", said student Angie Fares who is pursuing her bachelor's degree in Biology at AUB under the AGFE STEM Scholars Program. She continues, "Al

Ghurair program and AUB are teaching me how to become a more responsible, autonomous and aware member of my society through volunteering, workshops and internships. Hence, this program guides you towards intellectual and social excellence while animating your eagerness to serve your community.”

Students eligible to apply to the Al Ghurair STEM Scholars Program at AUB must hold an Arab citizenship and no other, and be academically high-achieving with a cumulative GPA of no less than 85%. Applicants must be in financial need of a scholarship and able/willing to provide relevant proof. They must also apply separately to, or be already pursuing, an undergraduate or graduate degree in a STEM-related program at AUB. Applicants to the undergraduate level must have graduated from high school within the past four years.

Since the start of the AUB-AGFE partnership in Fall 2016-17, 57 students in two cohorts have been accepted to the AGFE STEM Scholars Program at AUB.

“Being part of the first cohort for AGFE STEM Scholars Program was indeed a privilege itself, to a life changing opportunity that has enabled me to access my full educational potential, and to a mindset that promotes the change I want to see in our Arab world: youth, education, and STEM,” said bachelor’s student in civil engineering at AUB, Ola Ezzeddinne.

Students of the first cohort began their studies under the program in Fall 2016, whereas students of the second cohort started in Fall 2017. The chance for additional students to apply and join in Fall 2018 as part of the third cohort is open.

More information about the AGFE STEM Scholars Program can be found on this link: <http://www.alghurairfoundation.org/en/content/stem-scholars>.

Application to Al Ghurair Foundation scholarship for students interested in AUB will be open as of Sunday December 3rd and until Sunday January 14th. In parallel, students must be applying or planning to apply to AUB for admission to an undergraduate or graduate degree in a STEM-related program for Fall 2018.

ENDS

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Note to Editors

About AUB

Founded in 1866, the American University of Beirut bases its educational philosophy, standards, and practices on the American liberal arts model of higher education. A teaching-centered research university, AUB has more than 700 full-time faculty members and a student body of about 8,500 students. AUB currently offers more than 130 programs leading to bachelor's, master's, MD, and PhD degrees. It provides medical education and training to students from throughout the region at its Medical Center that includes a full-service 420-bed hospital.

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