

# QATAR SCHOLARSHIP

EAA PROGRAM AT AUB

# “ACE TALKS” COMPETITION

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AMERICAN  
UNIVERSITY  
OF BEIRUT

التعليم | education  
فوق | above  
الجميع | all



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Qatar Scholarship - EAA program at AUB proudly announces its first competition in 2023 “ACE Talks.” The competition is open to the students of the Qatar Scholarship-EAA program at AUB who would like to compete in public speaking, writing, presenting, and creative thinking. The contest is a learning experience that provides students with a challenge framework, which enables them to employ and enhance the skills they acquired throughout their academic journey at AUB and through their participation in Qatar Connection.

## “ACE TALKS” OVERVIEW

“ACE TALKS” is a contest of public speaking where students are invited to conceive, write, and present their point of view on a topic of their choice, with an academic, social, cultural, or scientific relevance while utilizing techniques they learned at AUB or through Qatar Connection. The competition will take place during the months of April, May, and June 2023. The finalist will present their ACE talks during the Qatar Scholarship-EAA program graduation ceremony in June 2023 in front of President Khuri and a wide AUB audience.

The competition is divided into **four stages**.



## STAGE 1 FIRST ENTRY

Students who wish to participate in the competition must submit a one-minute video to introduce the topic of their choice and briefly elaborate on it, within the time limit. Students must follow the **TEDx talks style and format**.

The video should be accompanied by a short paragraph introducing the topic and explaining the choice.

Selected students will pass on to the next stage.

> **Selection criteria:** Topic (Importance, Relevance, Impact), delivery (pronunciation, voice articulation, confidence), body language, logical reasoning, and content development.

> **Deadline: Monday April 25, 2023.**

## STAGE 2 INITIAL SELECTION

Participants who were selected from the first stage will be required to submit a second video in which they deliver a **3-to-4-minute talk** on a topic selected from a provided list of subjects. The list of topics will be inspired by the initial students' submission during Stage 1.

> **Selection criteria:** Creativity & innovation in addressing the topic and delivery techniques.

> **Deadline: Sunday May 28, 2023.**

## STAGE 3 THE SEMI-FINALE

Semi-finalists will be invited to **give their talks on stage in front of a jury**, who will select students to compete in the finals. Semi-finalists who are not selected to move to the final stage will receive prizes as a token of appreciation for their participation.

> **Selection criteria:** Convincing arguments, presentation style, and delivery technique.

## STAGE 4 THE FINALE

Selected finalists will present their ACE talks during the Qatar Scholarship-EAA program graduation ceremony in June 2023 in front of President Khuri and a wide AUB audience. Ranking and winners will be announced directly on stage after a live voting by the jury and the public.

## JUDGING, VOTING AND PRIZES

The judging during stage 1 and stage 2 will be achieved by an expert jury that will value content creation, public speaking skills, writing skills and presentation style. The scoring and judging will be done after the completion of submission of all videos.

The semi-finale will be judged by a live jury after the semi-finale presentation schedule is finalized. Prizes will be given to those who do not make it to final stage but made it to the semi-finale.

Scoring during the Final stage will be composed of scores from live voting as well as grades of the previous stages. Winners will be announced at the end of the graduation ceremony.

**Valuable prizes and certificates will be received by all finalists.**



## WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

Students who currently are enrolled in Qatar Scholarship – EAA program at AUB and who haven't graduated in Fall 2022 – 2023 or earlier.

## RULES AND REGULATIONS

All entries must be the participants' original work. Any proof of plagiarism will automatically rule out the participant from the competition. In case of use of copyrighted materials, they must be properly credited following AUB guidelines.

Entries that do not respect the time-limit and the guidelines will not be considered for the competition.

Entries must be submitted in English and received through the official Competition Submission form. The form will be open to accept applications from Wednesday April 13, 2023, to April 25, 2023, at midnight. Late and/or incomplete submissions will not be considered for the competition. A confirmation email will be sent to each participant after they complete the form.

The form includes a stipulation of consent and release granting Qatar-Scholarship – EAA program at AUB the right to display submitted entries and use them for educational, promotional purposes in all media, without further permission.

Any sort of discrimination and/or offense based on race, gender, religion, or sexual orientation will automatically disqualify an entry. Violation of copyrights may also exclude the submission.

Qatar Scholarship – EAA program at AUB highly values students' privacy. Any information shared with the program is subject to AUB privacy policies and terms of use

