Study in Saudi Scholarship Guideline

Saudi Ministry of Education scholarships for international students – via the Study in Saudi platform

Please note: this guideline was compiled from public information about the official Study in Saudi platform and several scholarship websites. The official portal itself could not be opened directly. Dates, benefits and amounts differ by university and by year, so confirm everything on **studyinsaudi.moe.gov.sa** (also reachable as studyinsaudi.sa) and on your chosen university's page before applying.

1. Overview

Study in Saudi is the official multilingual platform of the Saudi Ministry of Education (announced on 19 October 2022) that centralises admission, scholarship and study-visa services for non-Saudi students. It is **not a single scholarship** but a gateway to scholarship seats at Saudi public universities (27+ institutions), covering diploma, bachelor's, master's, PhD and postdoctoral tracks. Students from more than 160 nationalities can use it, and the interface is available in ten languages including English and Urdu. A scholarship is an academic seat awarded to a non-Saudi student; you cannot apply for the same scholarship at the same academic level more than once.

Funding body	Ministry of Education, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
Platform	studyinsaudi.moe.gov.sa (Study in Saudi)
Levels	Diploma, Bachelor's, Master's, PhD, postdoctoral; also exchange, training and research visits
Types of seats	Fully funded, partially funded and paid (self-funded)
Application fee	None on the platform (per the sources reviewed)
Universities	27+ Saudi public universities; up to 3 can be selected in one application (reported)

2. Types of Scholarships

Type	What it means
Fully funded	Covers the entire tuition and related academic fees for long-term educational visas, plus financial assistance for living expenses. Awarded on academic excellence, competence and talent; applicants submit academic certificates and recommendation letters.
Partially funded	Available with long-term and short-term educational visas. The student receives full benefits but is exempt only from some tuition fees and charges.
Paid (self-funded)	Available with long-term and short-term educational visas. The student pays all tuition fees and related expenses; no automatic benefits.

3. Benefits of Fully Funded Seats

- Tuition and related academic fees covered
- Monthly financial allowance (living stipend). The amount varies by university and degree level; check the university's page for the exact figure.
- A financial allowance on arrival in the Kingdom
- Housing accommodation during the study period
- Healthcare for the student and, according to regulations, accompanying family members
- Annual travel tickets for the student and family members, according to regulations
- Access to all benefits given to other students of the institution
- Free residence permit for the duration of study, issued with a university letter after arrival (reported)

Educational visa benefits: no sponsor needed on arrival; students may bring dependents; part-time work is allowed during studies and full-time during academic breaks; practical training is allowed for up to two years after graduation; family members may receive visitor visas and may work in Saudi Arabia.

Exact benefits (for example stipend amount, flights and family allowances) differ between universities and programs. Review each institution's scholarship page before applying.

4. Eligibility

- Open to non-Saudi students worldwide (160+ nationalities), subject to each university's and degree level's criteria.
- At least **16 years old**; guardian consent is required for applicants under 18.
- A valid passport (at least six months' validity from the intended entry date for the visa).
- A medical report proving freedom from contagious diseases.
- Certificates and official documents certified by the authorities specified by the institution (often legalisation/apostille or embassy attestation, with certified translation where needed).
- Proof of proficiency in the language of study (English or Arabic, depending on the program), except for Arabic-language programs.
- Police clearance may be requested by some institutions.
- You must not have previously received a scholarship at the same level from a Saudi institution.
- Programs also have their own entry requirements (previous degree, grades and any tests); check each program page.

5. Required Documents

The exact list is shown for each program on the platform. Commonly required items:

- Completed online application form
- Valid passport copy
- Academic certificates and transcripts (certified/legalised, with translation)
- Recommendation letters (for scholarship seats)
- Medical report on contagious diseases
- Proof of English or Arabic proficiency (IELTS/TOEFL or similar, depending on the program)
- Guardian's approval letter if under 18

- Police clearance certificate, if requested
- Financial statement or guarantee for self-funded or partial seats
- For Master's and PhD: CV, motivation letter and research proposal where required by the program

6. Important Dates

Deadlines vary by degree level, by university and by whether the applicant is inside or outside Saudi Arabia. The 2027/28 calendar had not been confirmed in the sources reviewed.

Item	Dates
2026/27 international round (reference)	Preferences from 19 April 2026; applications roughly 20 May to 31 May 2026. Other sources and universities quote 21 May or 14 June for bachelor's, and later dates (up to 30 October 2026) for postgraduate programs.
Individual university windows	Some universities run separate windows. Example: King Abdulaziz University accepted non-Saudi applications from 16 September to 6 October 2026.
2027/28 round	**Not yet confirmed.** Based on the usual pattern, the main international round is expected around April–June 2027, with postgraduate windows possibly running later. Check the platform regularly.
Academic year start	Fall semester, usually August/September

7. How to Apply

1. **Create an account** on studyinsaudi.moe.gov.sa with a valid email and accurate details matching your passport.
2. **Complete your profile** and choose the type of scholarship (external for applicants outside Saudi Arabia, internal for residents).
3. **Browse programs and choose universities** (up to 3 reported), degree track and scholarship type.
4. **Upload documents** in the requested format and submit before the deadline.
5. **University review:** your chosen university reviews the application, then the Ministry of Education processes approved applications.
6. **Receive the acceptance letter.**
7. **Apply for the educational (D1) study visa** through the platform using your acceptance letter, passport, medical certificate and, if applicable, proof of financial capability. Documents may need legalisation through the Saudi Embassy or consulate.
8. **Arrive in Saudi Arabia**, attend the airport reception and university orientation, receive your class schedule and begin studies.

Apply only through the official platform or the university's official page, and avoid agents who charge fees or promise guaranteed seats.

8. Preparation Tips

- Start legalisation/attestation of degrees and transcripts early; it can take several weeks.
- Prepare your passport, medical report and language certificate before the portal opens.
- Compare universities on the platform: stipend, housing, language of study and program availability differ widely.
- Check the scholarship page of each university for the exact benefits and its own deadline.
- Write a clear motivation letter and, for postgraduate programs, a focused research proposal.
- Keep checking your email and the platform for updates on application status.

9. Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Is Study in Saudi one scholarship?

No. It is the Ministry of Education's gateway to scholarship seats at Saudi public universities; benefits depend on the university and degree level.

Q. Is there an application fee?

The platform does not charge an application fee according to the sources reviewed.

Q. Are all seats fully funded?

No. There are fully funded, partially funded and paid (self-funded) seats. Check the seat type before applying.

Q. Can I bring my family?

The educational visa permits dependents, and fully funded seats may include healthcare and tickets for family members under regulations. Confirm the conditions with your university.

Q. Can I work while studying?

Part-time work during studies and full-time work during academic breaks are permitted under the educational visa.

Q. Is the 2027/28 round open?

Not confirmed in the sources reviewed. Check the platform; the main round is usually in spring.

Q. Is IELTS required?

It depends on the program and language of study. Arabic-language programs do not need an English test.

10. Official Links

- Study in Saudi platform: studyinsaudi.moe.gov.sa (also studyinsaudi.sa)
- Ministry of Education: Scholarships in Saudi public universities page (moe.gov.sa)
- Platform user guide (PDF) published by the Ministry of Education

Compiled on 19 November 2026 from public information on the Study in Saudi platform (including Ministry of Education material summarised in public references) and scholarship websites. Dates, benefits and requirements change; always verify on the official platform and the university's website.