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Tel: +974 4454 0000 Fax: +974 4454 1047 P O Box: 5825 Doha, Qatar info@qf.org.qa

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Student Financial Service Office

Guidelines For Financial Aid Students

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Financial Aid User Account and Application

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The FA application process can be accessed online and is available during the following times:

Financial Aid cycle for students making their first application: April 1 - May 31 inclusive.

- Financial Aid cycle for returning students: February 1 March 2 inclusive.
- Please note that according to your category (new or returning student) you can only create an application within the given dates.

Students must first create an account to get a User ID/FA ID and password. This account will be used for the whole study period and not for one year only. To create the account/register please visit this link <u>www.fas.qf.org.qa</u>, and click New User Registration. Make sure to consider the following:

- 1- Use a valid email that you will be checking frequently in order to be able to respond promptly to Student Financial Service emails. You can include more than one email and choose one as the preferred one for correspondence
- 2- Include a valid passport number
- 3- Write your first and last name as given in your passport

(Note: FAS and FA application work only on English-language software)

After following the process above, your FA account will be created. You will then receive a notification via email that will include details of your new user ID and password (you should immediately change your password to a more personalized one).

Please note the following: This notification does not mean you can use your financial aid account or create an FA application as you first need to receive an activation notification from the university where you study. Student Financial Service will not activate the FA account until activation notification has been received. If for any reason your FA account is not activated for more than 5 working days, you should contact the registrar at your university and seek an explanation.

After you access your account and reset your password, you should click on "apply for financial aid".

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Page 1:

On this page, you are required to provide the following:

1- Current address (the place where you live during your study period) and your contact number, plus your permanent address (the place where your family lives) and a contact number for your family. Please note that if your family is not residing in their home country for work reasons, register where your family resides for work as the current address and the home country as the permanent address.

2- Mention the family's current country of residence: this must reflect on National ID information on page 2 of the financial aid application. For example: if the family resides in Qatar, you must provide your parents' residence permit information. Otherwise, you will need to provide their passport/national ID information. In case your family is not residing in Qatar, you will need to provide their passport details in order to fill in the "national ID information" requirement on p2.

- 3- A copy of your valid passport.
- 4- Your university admission letter.

5- Latest transcript and/or enrolment letter (for student who have completed at least one university semester)

6- GPA (applicable only for those who have completed at least one semester in the university)

7- You must tick "attended term", and choose "Education City, Doha" for terms attended in Qatar campus and "study abroad" for terms attended abroad.

If only attending for one term/semester, you must provide a

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Transferring from another college/university	apply for Housing FA. Qatar residents must provide proof
A returning student	of address (e.g. rent contract) if living far from Doha
Marital Status Single -	



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On this page, you are required to provide the following information:

1. State your parents' current marital status. If you have divorced or deceased parents, you must provide an official certificate stating this status.



- 1- Father's full name, address, national ID, educational background, employment details
- 2- Mother's full name, address, national ID, educational background, employment details
- 3- Copy of your father's passport (or national ID if your father has not been issued with a passport).
- 4- Copy of your mother's passport (or national ID if your mother has not been issued a passport).
- 5- Your Resident's Permit (RP) if you are residing in Qatar
- 6- Your father's RP if your father is residing in Qatar
- 7- Your mother's RP if your mother is residing in Qatar
- 8- List any unemployed siblings and provide details of their passport/ national ID
- 9- Include siblings' RPs if they are residing in Qatar.
- 10- List your siblings' school/ university name, if applicable
- 11- Your current school name and details of tuition fees (please provide payment receipts)
- 12- List any tuition fees relating to your siblings and detail the amount your family contributes toward their education
- 13- Official invoices and payment receipts for your siblings' tuition fees
- 14- If your parents are receiving educational allowances for their children from their employer, you should include official documentation from the employer to state the same in the "educational expenses" section.
- 15- If your parents are receiving educational allowances for their children from their employer, you should include official documentation from the employer to state the same in the "educational expenses" section.

Parent's Current Martial Stat	us				
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Tel: +974 4454 0000 Fax: +974 4454 1047 P O Box: 5825 Doha, Qatar info@qf.org.qa

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Page 3:

On this page, you are required to provide the following:

- 1- The amount your family is willing to pay towards your education for the upcoming academic year.
- 2- Your father's annual income (their total salary and allowances or business income).
- 3- Your mother's annual income (their total salary and allowances or business income).
- 4- Your annual income (total salary and allowances or business income) if applicable.
- 5- Your spouse's annual income (total salary and allowances or business income) if applicable.
- 6- If a brother, sister or other legal guarantor is your income source, please include their income details in the section allocated for noting your spouse's income.
- 7- An up-to-date official income letter from your father's employer.
- 8- An up-to-date official income letter from your mother's employer.
- 9- An up-to-date official income letter from the employer of any other legal guarantor (if applicable).
- 10- An up-to-date one-year stamped bank statement for each account owned by your father.
- 11- An up-to-date stamped bank letter/account certificate (an official letter from the bank stating account ownership and account number) for each account owned by your father.
- 12- An up-to-date one-year stamped bank statement for each account owned by your mother.
- 13- An up-to-date stamped bank letter/account certificate (an official letter from the bank stating account ownership and account number) for each account owned by your mother.
- 14- An up-to-date one year stamped bank statement for each account owned by yourself (if applicable).
- 15- An up-to-date bank letter/account certificate (an official letter from the bank stating account ownership and account number for each account) owned by yourself (if applicable).
- 16- An up-to-date one-year stamped bank statement for each account owned by your spouse or other legal guarantor (if applicable).
- 17- An up-to-date stamped bank letter/account certificate (an official letter from the bank stating account ownership and account number for each account owned) by your spouse or other legal guarantor (if applicable).
- 18- If a business is a business source, provide business registration papers, an up-to-date balance sheet and an up-to-date income statement. Provide one year of up-to-date stamped bank statements for this business and an up-to-date stamped bank letter. Also, provide a business tax form (if applicable).
- 19- If real estate is an income source, or income comes from bank interest and dividends, emergency funds or pensions, provide amounts and any related official documents.
- 20- Note: Any online bank statements must be stamped by the issuing bank.





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Page 4:

On this page, you are required to provide the following:

1- List any scholarship or other sources of funds you will be receiving during your time studying at university (excluding QF financial aid and family support), if applicable

2- List QF or university scholarships, if applicable

3- Students eligible for FAFSA or US Federal Aid must apply for FAFSA and US Federal Aid and list their awards

4- If you are receiving any of the above scholarship/funds, provide official documentation from the granting organization, stating the same.

5- Print out, sign and upload the Student Release form

6- Print out, sign and upload the Parent Student Declaration and Obligation form

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List all the external agencies/ Foundations/ Governments to which you are applying for financial aid or scholarships. Please attach documents for each.

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QF Scholarship document if applicab	
Letters of other Schola Add attachment	ships and Aids Description View File
1 Add attachment	Other granting organization scholarship /funding document Click Download link to get both forms. If links did not work, visit qf.org.qa > topics > Student Sinancial Services
Student Release form Parent and Student Declaration	 > Student Financial Services, you will be able to get the forms as PDF copies. After filling and signing the forms, scan them and upload them
and declarat	financial guarantor that will sign the FA contract on form, in case "other" is chosen you will have ore information in the same page
Guarantor for FA Contra	ct & Repayments



Page 5:

In this page, you are required to provide the following:

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1- Details of your family-owned house location, year of purchase, original price, amount left to be paid and the present market price (if applicable)

2- The house purchase deed/ownership certificate

3- Details of the total value of other properties and their ownership documents, which should be uploaded in the "Asset Information" and "Land and Building" sections

4- List the total savings owned by the family and upload official up-to-date bank or monetary institute documents to verify the amount. In case the amount includes cash in hand, upload a handwritten document to state the same

5- List the total value of investments owned by the family and upload official up-to-date bank or monetary institute documents to verify the amount

6- List details of any automobiles owned by your family and upload valid and complete car registration documents for each vehicle.

Does your family own a home? Image: Yes No *Location Purchase Original Still left to *Present Mar Year(YYYY) Purchase Price be paid Value Formity hourse value, details	
*Location Year(YYYY) Purchase Price be paid Value	
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Please list the value of the following family assets(if any)	
Asset Amount Country	
1 Land & Buildings(other than home)	
2 Savings(Bank, cash in hand) Value and	
3 Investments(such as stocks & bonds)	
4 Others(jeweleries, antiques, etc.)	
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Page 6:

On this page, you are required to provide the following:

1- Details of the amount paid by your family towards house rent for one year (if applicable)

2- Educational expenses, which will automatically appear on this page, reflecting the details already given on page 2. Note: Your educational expenses will not be calculated at this stage. It will only be counted after Student Financial Service starts processing your application

- 3- The amount paid by your family to the tax department (if applicable)
- 4- A list of all other daily expenses (for one year)
- 5- Provided details of up-to-date medical expenses, if applicable
- 6- Provide an up-to-date official tax form for each income earner in the family (if applicable)
- 7- Provide an official up-to-date rental contract
- 8- If you don't have an up-to-date rental contract, provide an up-to-date rent payment receipt
- 9- If expenses exceeded income, explain the reason and provide official documents to state the same.



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Page 7:

On this page, you are required to provide the following:

- 1- List the value of loans taken by your family from official monetary institutes or banks (if applicable)
- 2- List the reason for each loan
- 3- List the monthly installments of each loan
- 4- List the outstanding balance of each loan
- 5- List the maturity date for each loan

6- Provide official stamped up-to-date documentation (a liability letter) to verify the details of each outstanding loan balance and any monthly installments being paid

7- List the number of people employed by your family (either at home or through the family business – if applicable) and list employees total annual wages

8- Provide documents to verify the total amount of wages paid

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Hav	e you or any of the de	ependents in yo	ur family household ta	aken out loans?	0	Yes 🔘 No	
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A	dd attachment	Description)t	
1 A	1 Add attachment Description 1 Add attachment List the number of people employed by your family (if applicable) and list their total annual wages. Provide documents to verify the total amount of wages paid						

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Page 8

Filling out this part of the FA application is optional for students and guarantors/parents. If you wish to include any extra explanation or mention special circumstances, you may write them on page 8 and upload any applicable supporting documents. Note: Student Financial Services reserves the right to ask you for more clarification and or for to provide documents if necessary.

Page 9

Read the Parent and Student Declaration and click <u>Accept and Validate</u> button. The application will then be submitted to Student Financial Services for review.

Parent and Student Declaration:

- I understand that my application will not be reviewed until all required documents are submitted to Qatar Foundation and all fields on this financial aid application form are filled out.
- I will inform Qatar Foundation in writing within 15 days if my circumstances change in any way that might affect any amount of financial aid I have received, or you have paid/or are likely to pay on my behalf.
- I understand that if I give you false information, or do not provide you with complete information, you may withdraw my financial aid at any time and will not be able to apply again.
- I agree to repay the amount I have received or that has been paid on my behalf in the line with the relevant Qatar Foundation policies as amended from time to time.
- To the best of my knowledge and belief, the details I have given on this form are complete and accurate.
- I agree to provide you with any further information you may ask for.
- I authorize the Qatar Foundation to verify any information relevant to my Financial Aid application and to contact resources including but not limited to the following:

Employers (past or present), Schools, Banks, Chamber of Commerce, and Ministry of Interior. I also authorize the aforementioned to release the requested information to representatives of the Qatar Foundation throughout my enrollment in an Educational City branch campus/center.

• I understand that all related information to my Financial Aid award is confidential and by sharing this info with others, I jeopardize my receipt of Financial Aid.

• I understand that I need to inform Qatar Foundation -Student financial services of any changes affecting my Financial Aid application within 10 business days (scholarship, change in income, expenses, etc).

• I understand that I need to inform the Qatar Foundation -Student financial services in case one or more of the following occurs:

- I need to take a leave of absence.
- I withdraw from the university.
- I transfer to another university.
- I change my program of study (major).

• I understand that failure to do any of the above would result in a 1.25% penalty that will be added to the outstanding amount of my Financial Aid Ioan.

• I understand that I must demonstrate good conduct within the education city community.



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Need-based Loan

Qatar Foundation Student Financial Services offers need-based financial aid in the form of interest-free loans. International students residing in or out of Qatar can apply for FA only after getting university admission at one of the Qatar campus universities situated within Education City, Doha. Students must also continue to study full-time with a GPA equal to, or higher than, 2,5 to be eligible for financial aid.

Housing

Need-based financial aid to cover housing costs can only be considered for students with family residing outside Qatar, or students with family residing far from Doha (Dukhan, Al Wakra, Al Khor, Mesaieed).

Study Abroad

FA students can apply for need-based loans to study abroad within datelines that will be provided to universities' registrars each year. A student's GPA must be equal to or higher than 3. FA students can apply for only one semester abroad and this should not be the graduation semester. Students should provide the Student Financial Services office with an official letter from their university's registrar stating approval to study abroad, destination, and the breakdown of costs.

Summer Courses

FA students can apply for need-based loans for Summer Courses before 31st of May of every year. Any summer course should not be a repeated course and should expedite the graduation. Students should provide the Student Financial Services office with an official letter from their university's registrar stating the module codes of the courses being taken and the total cost.

User ID and Password

You need to remember your FA user ID and password. If you forget your password, click on the forgotten password link and follow the instructions.

Offer Acceptance

Log in to your FA user account> Accept/Decline Awards> click Aid Year > tick Amounts> accept all.

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Note: you can only accept an award after submitting and uploading the FA contract. The awarded amount cannot be paid to your university if you failed to accept the award and submit the FA contract.

FA Contract

After receiving FA award, you must sign the FA contract within 10 working days, after which you can accept the offer on your FAS account online.

If both, the student and his guarantor are in Qatar; both parties have to sign the contract in person, at the Student Financial Services office.



- If one of the parties (guarantor or student) or both are outside Qatar, the FA contract should be signed in front of a notary public. Any party based inside Qatar should sign the contract at the Financial Services Office in person.
- > The original signed contract should be submitted to Qf Financial Services office.

Please note that:

- The Student Financial Service Office can accept signatures that match:
- 1. Qatari ID signature
- 2. Passport signature
- 3. Other countries ID signature
- The signatures should be original no scanned or printed copy is acceptable.
- The student's signature should be accompanied by the guarantor's signature on every page.
- The FA contract should be signed with a blue pen.
- Never use a corrector or cross out a word using pen on the contract.
- Student & guarantor information (page 6) must be filled out prior to arrival to Student Financial Services office.

A notary public can attest any document or writings, by stamping the related documents with an official seal which is considered an authentication on those documents, especially if concerned parties are living outside the State of Qatar.

Once the FA contract has been signed, and Student Financial Services has approved the original copy, you must upload a scanned copy to you FAS account and accept the online FA offer.

Please note that if you have submitted a non-signed the contract and accepted the online FA offer, your award will be automatically canceled by the first week of the academic year.

Missing Information and Documents:

After your FA application has been completed and submitted, it will be queued for review. If there is missing information or documents it will remain unprocessed until you complete all requirements.

1- New students/first time applicants will receive an email notification, to the email address you picked as your preferred one when you created your FA account, from a Student Financial Services officer indicating missing information or documents. This notification will indicate the required format for each document (no bigger than 2 MB PDF for each file). It will also include a deadline for providing missing information to avoid your application being rejected.

2- If returning students who have previously applied for financial aid have omitted to include any documents or information, the application will be rejected and an email notification will be sent out stating the same and directing the applicant to contact an officer (whose name and email address will be given in the notification) within 3 working days. Then, the Financial Services officer will send an email including details of required format for each missing document (no bigger than 2 MB PDF for each file). The email will include a deadline for submitting the requirements, in order to avoid having the application rejected.

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Misleading Documents and Information

Hiding information or providing misleading information or fake documents will lead to immediate rejection of the student's application and you will be banned from applying again.

Transfer, Leaving University, Leave of Absence and Medical Leave

• If you decide to transfer to another university within Education City, you will need to inform us before the transfer takes place and provide an official letter to state the same from your current university plus an admission letter from university you are transferring to. You also need to check with our office to find out which semesters will be considered eligible for financial aid.

• If you decide to leave Education City, you must approach our office to provide an official letter from your university to state both the period and the reason for leaving and you must sign a repayment agreement and a repayment plan.

• In the case of a leave of absence due to personal, academic or disciplinary reasons, you must approach our office to provide an official letter from your university to state both the period and the reason for the absence and to sign a repayment agreement and a repayment plan.

• In the case of medical leave, you must approach our office to provide an official letter from your university to state both the period and the reason for any absence, and to sign a repayment agreement and a repayment plan.

• If you do not return after an agreed period of time, either you or your guarantor will have to fulfill the repayment obligations as per the signed repayment plan.

Please note that, a repayment agreement and a repayment plan must be signed by both the student and his/her guarantor and notarized if needed. (The FA contract signatory procedure applies to repayment agreements and plan documents)

Loan Repayment after Graduation

Repayment starts six months after graduation

- 1- <u>Paid service:</u> Students can repay their loan by working in an organization included on a list approved by Qatar Foundation. Most governmental and semi-governmental organizations in Qatar are on this list. In the case of paid service repayment, the employee receives their full salary and their years of services count as repayment. The total number of working years required to complete payment will depend on the total awarded loan amount, and can only be calculated upon graduation.
- 2- *Loan repayment*: Employee will pay fifteen percent of his monthly net income, until the loan is fully repaid.
- 3- If you do not find employment within six months of your graduation, please contract our office on <u>fao-repayment@qf.org.qa</u>
- 4- If you plan to continue postgraduate studies, you guarantor will have to start repayment six months after your graduation.