

ISTANBUL KÜLTÜR UNIVERSITY
DIRECTIVE ON APPLICATION, ADMISSION, AND REGISTRATION OF INTERNATIONAL
STUDENTS
TO ASSOCIATE AND UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE PROGRAMS

MEETING DATE	MEETING NO	DECISION NO
July 21, 2022	2021-2022 / 16	2

Legal Basis

Article 1 – This directive has been prepared in accordance with the General Principles stated in the Council of Higher Education’s (YÖK) regulations regarding the Admission of Students from Abroad and considering the decision allowing universities to admit international students with the approval of the Council of Higher Education, based on Article 14/f of Law No. 6287 published in the Official Gazette dated April 11, 2012, and numbered 28261.

Purpose and Scope

Article 2 – The purpose of this directive is to determine the conditions for the application, admission, and registration of international students to the associate and undergraduate degree programs of Istanbul Kültür University.

General Conditions

Article 3 – Candidates may apply if they are in their final year of high school or have graduated, provided that:

1) They are foreign nationals,

2) In accordance with Article 45/f of the Higher Education Law No. 2547, as amended by Law No. 6287, and the Principles Regarding Admission of Students from Abroad set by YÖK, the following are eligible to apply within the quota for international students:

- Candidates who were Turkish citizens by birth under the Turkish Citizenship Law but lost their citizenship with permission from the Ministry of Interior and can document that they hold a Blue Card issued to those who lost Turkish citizenship upon request,

- Dual citizens whose one nationality is Turkish and who have completed the last three years of their high school education abroad (excluding TRNC) before 01/02/2013, or who completed all their high school education abroad (excluding TRNC schools).

These candidates may apply to the Teacher Training, Law, Medicine, Dentistry, and Pharmacy programs within the international student quota approved by YÖK; however, no more than 10% of the total quota may consist of international students.

3) Foreign nationals who later acquired Turkish citizenship / dual citizens in this status (provided they enrolled in Turkish secondary education institutions before the 2022–2023 academic year),

4) a) Turkish citizens who continued their high school education abroad before 01/02/2013 and completed the last three years of high school abroad (including Turkish schools abroad under the Ministry of National Education, excluding TRNC),

b) Candidates who started their high school education abroad after 01/02/2013 and completed all of it abroad (including Turkish schools abroad under the Ministry of National Education, excluding TRNC),

5) TRNC citizens who reside in TRNC, completed their high school education in TRNC, and possess GCE AL results, as well as those who enrolled in colleges or high schools in other countries between 2005–2010 and hold GCE AL results, may apply.

The following candidates' applications will not be accepted:

- 1) Turkish citizens who completed their entire high school education in Türkiye or TRNC,
- 2) TRNC citizens (except those who hold GCE AL results as described above),
- 3) Dual citizens whose first nationality is Turkish by birth (except those meeting the conditions in Article 3(4)),
- 4) Dual citizens with one nationality being TRNC (except those with GCE AL results as described above),
- 5) Turkish citizens or dual citizens whose first nationality is Turkish by birth, studying in foreign high schools in Türkiye or schools within embassies in Türkiye,
- 6) From the 2022–2023 academic year onwards, applications will not be accepted from former Turkish citizens/Blue Card holders, TRNC citizens, or foreign nationals who enrolled in Turkish secondary schools (except embassy schools and international private institutions listed in the MOBIS system),
- 7) International students registered at the University may transfer (horizontally) to another program only once during their studies. They must complete at least two semesters in their current program before applying for an internal transfer.

Application

Article 4 – Announcements regarding applications are published on IKU's website starting from March. Applications are submitted online, by e-mail, or in person through the IKU International Relations Office within the dates specified in the academic calendar.

a) Eligible applicants include foreign nationals who have achieved:

- i. At least 500 in Mathematics out of 800 on the SAT I,
- ii. A minimum of 21 points on the ACT,
- iii. Passing grades on the GCSE exam with:
 - 2 A Levels + 3 GCSE Levels (each at least grade D), or
 - 2 A Levels + 1 AS Level + 2 GCSE Levels (each at least grade D), or
 - 3 A Levels + 1 GCSE Level (each at least grade D),
- iv. An International Baccalaureate diploma with a minimum score of 21,
- v. A minimum score of 4.00 on the ABITUR or FACHABITUR exams,
- vi. In Jordan and Palestine, a minimum average score of 60 in the Scientific Stream of the Tawjihi exam,
- vii. In Lebanon, a minimum diploma score of 11 in the Scientific Stream of the Baccalaureate exam,
- viii. In China, a minimum score of 450 in the relevant subject area of the Gaokao,
- ix. In Syria, a minimum score of 110 out of 210 on the Al-Shahada-Al-Thanawiyya (Baccalaureate) Exam for numerically or equally weighted programs,
- x. In countries such as Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Mali, Cameroon, a French Baccalaureate diploma with a minimum score of 10,
- xi. For Iranian applicants, a Diploma Debirestan score of at least 11/20 and a Pishdanesgahi final exam score of at least 11/20,
- xii. A Matura Certificate or an Abitur Certificate recognized by the Austrian government,
- xiii. At least five passing subjects, including two with "Credit," in WAEC or NECO exams in African countries.

b) Scores from other countries' national university entrance exams,

c) (**Amendment Senate-21.12.2022 2022-2023/3-5**) Istanbul Kültür University's International Student Scholarship Exam (IKÜYÖS) may be used (a minimum score of 30 on IKÜYÖS or equivalent passing scores on other universities' YÖS exams are accepted).

Candidates may also use TR-YÖS exam results conducted by ÖSYM, as recommended by YÖK, to apply to associate and undergraduate programs.

Additionally, international students with a high school GPA of 50/100 or higher (or equivalent) and international students who completed high school in Türkiye with a GPA of 55/100 or higher may apply. For applications based on YÖS results, the Turkish Test score is not considered in placement.

Documents required for application:

1. Application form for international students (available on IKU's website),
2. High school diploma: If in English, a copy; if not, a notarized Turkish translation approved by a Turkish Consulate or the relevant authority (uploaded to the online form),
3. Official transcript: If in English, a copy; if not, a Turkish translation (uploaded to the online form),
4. Copy of passport (uploaded to the online form),
5. Copy of exam result document, if available (uploaded to the online form).

Admission and Quotas

Applications of all international student candidates who apply with national or international exam results or high school GPA and obtain a high school equivalency certificate from the Ministry of National Education or from Educational Attaché Offices of Turkish Embassies will be accepted regardless of their success scores or GPAs.

At the Higher Education Executive Board meeting dated April 30, 2019, it was decided that universities' requests for quotas for the admission of international students shall be submitted to the Council of Higher Education (YÖK) by the date determined by YÖK before the beginning of each academic year.

Evaluation of Applications and Medium of Instruction

Article 5 – The evaluation of applications and placement of candidates are entirely at the discretion of Istanbul Kültür University (IKU). IKU reserves the right to fill or not fill the available quotas. Meeting the application requirements does not necessarily guarantee admission. Applications of students who do not meet the criteria specified in Article 4 (a, b, and c) of this directive will not be evaluated.

The Turkish language proficiency levels of international students will be assessed by the relevant departments under the Rectorate, in accordance with the requirements and documents specified on the websites of the Turkish and Foreign Languages Teaching Application and Research Center (IKÜTÜMER) and the International Relations Office (IRO).

Turkish Language Proficiency Levels:

- C1 and C2 Levels: Turkish proficiency is sufficient. The student may begin their studies.
 - B1 and B2 Levels: Turkish proficiency can be improved in a short time. The student may begin their studies.
 - A1 and A2 Levels: Turkish proficiency is insufficient. Students whose Turkish level is A1 or A2 and who are enrolled in programs where the language of instruction is Turkish are required to study in the Turkish Preparatory Program (paid) until they reach at least B1 level.
- Students who fail to reach the Turkish Proficiency Level (B1) within two academic years and who are not successful in the Compulsory Turkish Preparatory Class cannot continue their education. The student who fails to meet these requirements will be dismissed from the University.

Accepted Exams for Turkish Proficiency:

A minimum score of 70 out of 100 (or equivalent) obtained from Turkish courses offered by Turkish language centers of Turkish universities, the Turkish Language Department of IKU, or Turkish teaching centers of official institutions and organizations (including Turkish embassies abroad), or from Turkish exemption exams conducted by the institutions listed above.

Candidates applying to programs that require a Compulsory English Preparatory Class must take the Foreign Language Proficiency Exam administered by the Department of Foreign Languages. Students who are successful in this exam begin the first semester of their faculty or vocational school. Students who meet one of the exemption criteria stated in the IKU Department of Foreign Languages Education and Teaching Regulations are exempt from the English Proficiency Exam. Students who do not take or fail the English Proficiency Exam must enroll in the English Preparatory Class.

Students who can prove that they have achieved the minimum required scores on international proficiency exams accepted by the Senate within the last two years, or whose proficiency is recognized by their previous higher education institution, are exempted from the Foreign Language Preparatory Class.

Registration

Article 6 – Registrations are carried out by the Registrars' Office within the dates specified in the academic calendar each year.

Students whose final registration is completed will receive their student ID cards from the Registrars' Office.

- The student must be physically present at registration. If the student cannot attend in person, they may authorize a legal representative through an official power of attorney to complete the registration.
- Candidates with missing, falsified, or altered documents during the application, placement, or registration process will not be registered. Even if their registration is completed, it will be canceled upon detection.
- Students wishing to be exempted from English or Turkish Preparatory Classes must personally apply to the Department of Foreign Languages or İKÜTÜMER with their documents. These units will notify the Student Affairs Department in writing of the student's exemption status.

Applications from international candidates who applied with their national or international exam results or high school GPA and obtained a high school equivalency certificate from the Ministry of National Education or from Educational Attaché Offices of Turkish Embassies will be accepted, and their registration will be carried out within the YÖK-approved quotas for the relevant academic year, regardless of their scores or averages.

Documents Required for Registration:

1. Original high school diploma (or provisional graduation certificate for recent graduates). If the diploma is not in English, a Turkish translation prepared by a sworn translation office is required.
2. **(Amendment Senate-31.08.2023 2022-2023/21-2)** International students are not required to submit a high school equivalency certificate at registration. However, Turkish citizens by birth who completed their high school education abroad must provide a "Certificate of Equivalence" obtained from the Turkish Ministry of National Education or the Turkish Embassy/Consulate in their country, proving that their high school diploma is equivalent to Turkish high school diplomas. A copy is taken upon submission of the original (the original is returned to the student). Temporary equivalence certificates are collected in original form at registration. These students must also submit the documents specified in Article 12.
3. Official transcript showing the courses and grades obtained in high school, approved by the high school principal, along with its English or Turkish translation prepared by a translation office (the original is returned to the student).
 - Candidates graduating from high schools affiliated with the Turkish Ministry of National Education are not required to submit transcripts.
 - If the diploma and transcript appear on the same document, no additional transcript or diploma is required.

4. Original exam result document or a printed copy from the official website where the results can be verified.
5. Copy of passport pages showing identity information and validity period. If no English section is provided, a notarized Turkish translation approved by a notary or Turkish foreign representative office is required.
6. For students from countries that are not visa-exempt, a “Student Visa” or equivalent (tourist visa, e-visa) must be obtained from a Turkish Embassy. Foreign students already residing in Türkiye must submit a copy of their new residence permit obtained from the Istanbul Provincial Directorate of Migration Management with a student certificate from the University.
7. New Residence Permit: International students entering Türkiye with a student visa must submit their residence permit to the Student Affairs Department by the beginning of the following academic term.
 - Students who fail to obtain their residence permit without a valid reason accepted by the Immigration Office will not be allowed to renew their registration or select courses in the next term. Their situation will be reported to the relevant dean’s office, the Rectorate, and the Istanbul Provincial Directorate of Migration Management.
8. Internationally recognized Foreign Language or Turkish Proficiency Certificate.
9. Bank receipt showing payment of tuition fees.
10. Six (6) passport-sized photos.
11. Health insurance (not required for Blue Card holders or Turkish citizens).
12. Turkish citizens by birth who completed their high school education abroad must submit entry–exit records to Türkiye (available from Provincial Police Directorates, Border Gates Offices, or via e-Government).

Education and Training

Article 7 – International students are subject to the provisions of the IKU Associate and Undergraduate Education, Training, and Examination Regulations regarding all educational matters.

Tuition Fee

Article 8 – The tuition fee amount is determined by the Board of Trustees upon the recommendation of the University Administrative Board.

Enforcement

Article 9 – This directive enters into force upon the approval of the IKU Senate.

Execution

Article 10 – The provisions of this directive are executed by the Rector of Istanbul Kültür University.