

Policy subject: Equitable Access and Admissions Policy	Policy number: 1/P.D/2024	Date of last revision: 2024/11/15
Implementing body: Academic Affairs Department	Implementing start date: 2024/11/20	Policy reference: Planning And Development Department

Overview

The Equitable Access and Admissions Policy at Palestine Ahliya University ensures fair, inclusive, and non-discriminatory admission for all applicants. It promotes diversity, equality, and inclusion, supporting candidates from all backgrounds while upholding equity and social justice.

Objectives

- **Promote Equal Access:** Ensure fair admissions for all, regardless of race, gender, socioeconomic status, disability, or personal circumstances.
- **Foster Diversity:** Build a student body reflecting diverse perspectives and experiences for a richer learning environment.
- **Support Inclusivity:** Provide accommodations and alternative entry routes to ensure all applicants have equal opportunities to study.
- **Ensure Transparency:** Maintain clear and consistent admissions criteria and procedures for applicant trust and clarity.
- **Commit to Non-Discrimination:** Uphold diversity, equity, and inclusion, ensuring all individuals are respected and treated fairly.

Scope

This policy applies to all individuals seeking admission to Palestine Ahliya University, including:

- Undergraduate and graduate applicants
- Applicants from diverse and underrepresented backgrounds
- Students with disabilities or special needs

- Transfer, mature, and international students

Statements

1. **Non-Discrimination:** Palestine Ahliya University does not discriminate based on race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, age, disability, religion, socioeconomic status, or any other characteristic protected by law in the admissions process.
2. **Accommodation and Support:** Palestine Ahliya University is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for applicants with disabilities to ensure they have equitable access to the admissions process and subsequent education.
3. **Inclusive Criteria:** Palestine Ahliya University's admissions criteria are subject to the admissions criteria circulated by the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, which are updated annually and thus are the same as those of other universities.
4. **Ongoing Review:** The admission process is reviewed regularly to ensure that it is in line with best practices in equality and inclusion, and responds to changing demographic needs and educational priorities. And to ensure that there are no violations of any of the conditions announced and circulated through the university's official channels

Procedures

1. **Application Process:**
 - A. **Obtaining an application:** Palestine Ahliya University provides the opportunity to obtain an application through an application card sold at approved university points and the application is unified.
 - B. **Acceptance or rejection of the application:** The student receives the acceptance or rejection message automatically without human intervention to ensure equality and justice..
 - C. **Required documents:** After the student is accepted, unified tests, academic records, and other relevant documents must be submitted.
 - D. **Interview (If Applicable):** Some programs may require interviews to better assess the suitability of candidates based on their personal experiences, goals, and commitment to diversity.

2. Financial affairs

- A. **Fee's payment:** After the application process is completed, the student pays the tuition fees through various payment channels.
 - B. **Financial Aid:** Palestine Ahliya University offers financial aid packages and scholarship opportunities aimed at addressing the financial barriers faced by applicants from low-income backgrounds.
3. **Advising Services:** Dedicated staff are available to assist applicants who may need support in navigating the admissions process, particularly those from underrepresented or marginalized backgrounds and people with disabilities

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs):

1.	Percentage of Admitted Students from Low-Income Households
2.	Percentage of Students Receiving Financial Waivers
3.	Number of Students Admitted Based on Financial Need Assessment