



Revised Admission Policy

Ref: UC/P 517/2021

As approved by University Council Decision No. UC/2162/14/2020-21 of meeting No. UC/14/2020-21 held on Thursday the 15th of July 2021.

Admission Policy

1. Introduction

Ahlia University (AU) offers high quality education designed to produce graduates who are distinguished by their professional competence, uncompromising ethics and responsible global citizenship.

Applications are welcomed from all students regardless of race, colour, gender, religion, nationality or physical or specific learning disabilities. Admission to AU is selective and competitive based on academic achievements, and up to the limits of available seats as determined by the university.

2. Inclusiveness and Diversity

In line with Ahlia University's core values which include inclusiveness, the University is committed to widening access and participation through outreach and financial aid. Admission is purely based on merit whereby AU strives to ensure a clear, fair, and equitable admission process, that leads to diversity, and equal opportunity for all learners.

3. Disability and Special Needs

Ahlia University welcomes students with disability and special needs to any programme offered. Students with disability and special needs are identified as students with physical or specific learning/invisible disabilities that require additional support and care, in order to reach their full academic potential. Examples include, but are not limited to, hearing and vision impairment, limited motor skills, Attention Deficit Disorders (ADD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), and limitations in executive functioning.

Applicants are required to officially declare their disability or special need during the application stage by filling in the relevant section in the application form.

4. Selection and Offers

Ahlia University operates a clear and transparent framework for application, selection, and admission. The Deanship of Student Affairs is responsible for overseeing the selection and offer process via a centralised and dedicated constituent directorate. The Directorate of Admission and Registration is responsible for all operational aspects of the process and provides advice and support to prospective students. The selection and offer process is conducted in partnership with the academic departments in all colleges.

The admission policy is designed to ensure the following:

- Selecting motivated students based on their academic ability and potential
- Providing students with accurate, transparent, consistent and timely information
- Using appropriate methods to select suitable students for their chosen programme
- Selecting students that are committed and self-disciplined

An admission offer to Ahlia University is contingent on the applicant demonstrating sufficient academic preparation and potential for success.

5. Compliance

Ahlia University admission policy is carefully designed to ensure full compliance with the Bahrain Ministry of Education, and the Higher Education Council (HEC) rules and regulations relevant to student admission and credits transfer.

The University adopts best practice, in line with the standards and expectations set out by the Bahrain Education and Training Quality Authority (BQA). The University admission policy ensures full compliance through formal arrangements, clear admission requirements and equal opportunities for genders, students with special needs, and underrepresented groups.

Compliance with AU entry requirements does not necessarily entitle an applicant to admission. The University reserves the right to accept or reject applicants based on the university's rules and regulation.

6. Application Integrity

Ahlia University regards integrity as a core value that encompasses honesty, truthfulness, and transparency. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that all information provided is accurate and complete. The University reserves the right to reject or dismiss applications, cancel offers or withdraw registration if an applicant is found to misrepresent information through omission, data falsification, or fraudulent documentation.

7. Appeal against Admission Denial

Ahlia University believes that applicants who are denied admission or transfer to a programme offered by the University should be given the opportunity to appeal against the denial of admission/transfer decision. An appeal can be made by applicants who have a serious and compelling reasons to justify their appeals against their admission/transfer denial decision. Additionally, appeals against admission/transfer denial may not necessarily result in the acceptance of the admission/transfer requests.

Applicants who are denied admission/transfer to the University will be informed of their right to appeal against the denial decision immediately upon informing them of the admission/transfer denial decision and there will be no discrimination or prejudice against any applicants who makes an appeal. Applicants must apply for appeal within the period specified by the university.

8. Review

Ahlia University aims to regularly review its processes and practice. The admission process is monitored annually to ensure appropriate access and participation. The admission policy is normally reviewed by the Student Admission Committee (SAC) once every three years based on student performance, feedback from stakeholders, *inter alia*. Any changes proposed by the SAC are subject to the approval of the University Council.