



# The Scholarship Report 2022 / 2023

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# Introduction

Birzeit University constantly strives to promote a stimulating learning environment for its students. This commitment stems from a belief that students are the driving force toward a brighter future, prosperity and development in a society. Today, with a student body exceeding 15,000, the challenges have become greater, especially since the university community, which is an extension to the Palestinian society, faces considerable challenges on a daily basis. These difficulties include ongoing harassment by the Israel occupation.

Despite these obstacles, Birzeit University seeks to provide financial aid to students through the Scholarship Program, based on academic excellence and financial need. Financial aid programs attract high-achieving students and provide financially disadvantaged students with the opportunity to complete their studies. The need-based scholarships ensure that financial difficulties do not stand in the way of students' education and enable them to secure meaningful employment, support their families and serve and build their communities.

Birzeit University safeguards the right to education of Palestinian students through offering financial aid programs and initiatives, along with outstanding academic programs in teaching, research, community service and external networking. This integration between the scholarships and academic programs enables the university to graduate cohorts of students who, in addition to being committed to patriotic and humanitarian values, demonstrate creative critical thinking and exhibit a strong sense of initiative and responsibility toward society and the environment. It also promotes academic and research excellence and encourages local and global intellectual production initiatives. Without your support, Birzeit University will not be able to make quality education accessible to everyone.

Many friends and supporters express their solidarity with Palestinians by supporting Birzeit University, as they believe that supporting the university and its students is a form of advocacy that allows them to fulfil their duties to the Palestinian youth. These contributions enable Birzeit University to provide world-class academic programs that satisfy the aspirations and ambitions of the students. At the same time, it supports the financial stability of the university and its capacity to provide a quality learning environment and to sustain its role in the face of unpredictable challenges and difficulties.

Thank you.

## The Scholarship Program

Birzeit University's Scholarship Program was established as a comprehensive student aid scheme that ensures students from all backgrounds have the means and the opportunity to complete their studies at the university, especially those from towns and villages under the threat of Israeli land confiscation.

Through establishing partnerships and collaborating with the university's friends and supporters, Birzeit University seeks to provide higher education to all Palestinians and support students who demonstrate academic excellence or those who cannot afford the tuition fees. Your support enables Birzeit University to create a comprehensive intellectual atmosphere that stimulates creativity and entrepreneurship and contributes to the university's capacity to provide the finest education to all students and to satisfy their aspirations.

### The Scholarship Program Statistics for 2022/2023

During the 2022/2023 academic year, more than  
**\$6.94m** in financial aid was allocated to students

Nearly **6,500** students benefited from the scholarships, grants and loans from various sources

The scholarships ranged between full and partial, and **46%** of the total student body benefitted from the scholarships

The university supporters, including individuals and local and international organizations, provided scholarships for

**3,000**  
students

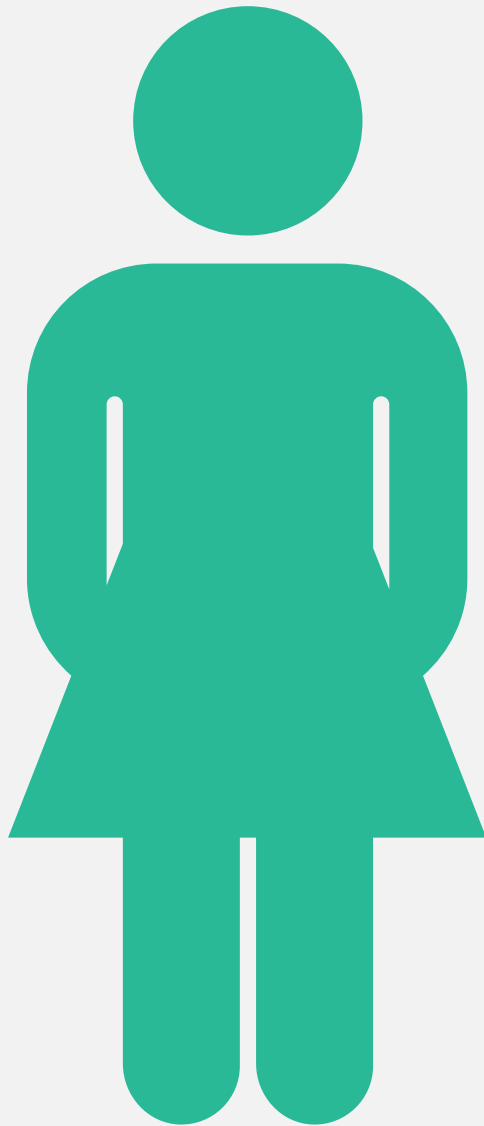
The university also provided scholarships for the ten highest achievers in the Palestinian General Secondary Education Certificate, in addition to sibling discounts and merit-based scholarships.



students benefitted from these scholarships



students were awarded merit-based scholarships



The university attaches great importance to providing scholarships for female students, who comprise

**62%**

of the total student body

Female students account for

**65%**

of the total number of scholarship recipients

# The Endowment Fund at Birzeit University

In 1999, Birzeit University launched its Endowment Fund in order to secure the financial sustainability of the university, proceed with development plans and uphold academic excellence.

Believing that qualified students should not be denied access to education, need-blind admission is fundamental to our ability to provide financial aid for students in need to complete their education. Birzeit University provides higher percentage of student financial aid than any other university.

Proceeds from the Endowment Fund support the university's financial aid program and ensure it remains unaffected by any overarching economic difficulties or funding gaps. As part of Birzeit University's endowment strategy, a portion of the returns is used to provide scholarships to students, while the remaining part is re-invested into the capital to ensure the endowment's sustainability and growth over time.

# Scholarship Selection Process

Students who receive scholarships or other forms of financial aid are selected by the university's Financial Aid Unit based on several criteria. Scholarship selection begins with the students filling out a Financial Aid Application through the university's Ritaj web portal, where they detail their economic status and their family's sources of income, along with other information. In a transparent, fair and multi-layered process, the Financial Aid Unit reviews these applications, verifies the shared information and, in certain cases, carries out field visits to verify the status of applicants. Scholarships are awarded by the Financial Aid Unit together with the Scholarships and Financial Aid Committee, which ensures that every student selected for financial aid meets the university's criteria and conditions of the relevant scholarship.

The lists of students eligible for financial aid, as well as the students' details, financial aid applications and academic status, are reviewed on a term-by-term basis.

## Testimonials from Scholarship Recipients

### Abdulrahman Shaheen

Computer Science Student

I extend my gratitude and thanks to you for nominating me and granting me this valuable opportunity. I cannot express how thankful I am, for your support means so much to me and makes a real difference in my academic life and future plans.

I want to thank you for your generosity that allowed me to study at this distinguished university and to pursue my interests in a discipline that I find inspiring and interesting. I chose Birzeit University due to its academic excellence and its modern and developed labs that will enable me to develop my set of skills and capacities.



### Tuleen Abu Jnaid

Law Student

The support I received from Birzeit University's Scholarship Program helped me study at Birzeit University and pay the tuition fees. I extend my thanks to the donors, and I thank all of you for the continued support that you provided for my colleagues and me. You have my deep appreciation and gratitude.





## Ramiz Awlad Mohammad

Physical Education Student

I thank the donors for granting me this scholarship. Without it, I would not have been a student at Birzeit University. I also would not have had aspirations and hopes in a professional career despite the difficulties and obstacles I face.



## Yazan Yousef

Computer Engineering Student

I extend my deep thanks and appreciation to the donors for their generous efforts. The scholarship helped me and helped other students continue their education in view of the challenging conditions that we confront in Palestine. God bless you, and thank you again.



## Mirna Samrin

Marketing Student

I want to extend my deep thanks and gratitude to you for your outstanding efforts and the generous support you provide for students in need. I am deeply grateful to you, and I will not forget this generous gesture.



## Hiba Daghlas

Doctor of Pharmacy Student

All gratitude and love for those who stand with students, contribute to their education and ease their financial burdens. You are kind and deserve to be an exemplary of generosity and giving. You give us optimism and remind us that our Arab society is interconnected and preserves people's dignity and honor. I extend my sincere thanks and gratitude to you.





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