

John Aves Educational Project

Guidance Notes and Application form for Scholarship Applicants

These Guidance Notes provides information on the John Aves Educational Project (JAEP) and its scholarship criteria, and helps guide you through completing the application form.

JAEP is part of the YMCA. The Project's aim is to empower disadvantaged young people in the Palestinian Territories, particularly Dheisheh camp in Bethlehem, to fulfill their potential through educational achievement in order for them to better serve their community. JAEP offers at least two new scholarships every year to Palestinian students from Dheisheh camp, with impressive academic and community achievements, whose financial situation hinders them from pursuing undergraduate study within Palestinian Universities.

Scholarship Criteria for the Academic year 2016/2017:

JAEP funds are limited. It could cover up to \$US 1,500 per student per year. JAEP has therefore set the following criteria and priorities which all applicants must meet. For the academic year 2016/2017, the JAEP criteria are as follows:

- Candidates must be Palestinian Nationals from disadvantaged backgrounds;
- Candidates must be residents of Dheisheh camp;
- Candidates must be in genuine need for partial or full funding;
- If the university course costs more than \$US 1,500, candidates must acquire and prove other sources of funding;

- Applicants must apply for study locally, notably at Al Quds University;
- Scholarships are usually offered for undergraduate courses lasting 3-5 years;
- Applicants must provide details of the university courses applied for;
- Applicants must be in their last year of High School, or have finished High School within the last 3 years or are already enrolled at university;
- Candidates must have high academic achievement (a minimum average of 80% or above) in the final High School examinations – *Tawjihi*;
- Candidates already at University must have a minimum GPA of 68%;
- Applications from candidates whose siblings or close relatives are currently being supported by the JAEP cannot be considered.

In addition to these criteria, the applicant should demonstrate dedication to **community service** within the Palestinian Territories. JAEP requires each successful applicant to undertake at least two weeks of community service with educational and social projects during each summer holiday, to promote an ethos of community service within their universities and to be active members of JAEP alumni group upon graduation. Bi-annual reports listing academic grades and other performance measures must be submitted to JAEP representatives according to a mutually agreed timeline set in the JAEP scholarship **award agreement**. Failure to meet these requirements or to perform academically could result in the **termination** of the scholarship.

Scholarships are awarded on the basis of merit. Each application is carefully considered by the JAEP Committee Members. The Committee bases its decisions on academic records, financial need, potential for success, degree of usefulness of study subject to Palestine and/or the community, personal motivations and aspirations, future career intentions and involvement in and dedication to community service.

As there is a high level of competition for scholarships, the Committee unfortunately has to reject several worthy candidates each year. However if the applicant meets JAEP criteria, it is acceptable to apply for a scholarship more than once and some candidates may be successful on their second attempt. **Please note that even if you have previously applied for a JAEP scholarship you need to submit a newly filled application with all the required attachments.**

Applicants are expected to enclose their **academic certificates** and to provide **two references** from academic and community members with their application form. **Please also provide the contact details of your two referees.** One should be an academic referee and one should be a personal referee. **Academic recommendation:** if you are at school we accept a letter from your school teacher (someone who taught you at school) but if you are at university we also need a recommendation from your university teacher (someone who taught you at least one of your major courses). **Personal recommendation:** should not come from a

family member or friend your age but from a community member or an employer who has known you for at least three years. Reference letters can be provided in either English or Arabic. The referees will be contacted by the JAEP should your application proceed to the interview stage and therefore you must include their contact details (preferably professional email addresses).

The Committee does not base its decisions on the level of funding requested but on the criteria and attributes outlined above.

Applications and requested documents should be sent to:

Dr.Ziad Abu Hilal or Ms Dana Salloum
Student Financial Aid Unit
Al-Quds University

Copies of the applications and reference letters (but not other enclosures) should be emailed to:

Ms Anne Aves
info@jaep.org.uk

DEADLINES:

- The deadline for submitting complete applications is **11 July 2016**.
- Shortlisting and interviews with shortlisted scholarship candidates will take place in August (via Skype).
- Final results will be announced by early September.
- Scholarships will be awarded by the beginning of the academic year (Fall Term).

Note: If the Tawjihi results are not announced by the time of the deadline, the applicant may send these as soon as they are available. The same condition applies to offer letters from the university. Awarding a scholarship will be conditional on the receipt of these documents.

Next steps:

We will email to confirm receipt of your application. Only short listed candidates will be contacted for interviews.

APPLICATION FORM

Please complete all the following questions in the spaces provided. Please give as much detail as possible and make sure you enclose all the required documents. Please **type** in your answers. We do prefer that you type in your answers but if this is not possible then you may write your answers but please use black ink and write very clearly and legibly. **DO NOT PIN OR STAPLE DOCUMENTS.** Your information will be shared with JAEP Committee members and Al Quds University Student Financial Aid Unit and will be treated in a confidential manner.

Please attach a recent photograph here

Personal Information:

1. First Name:
2. Father's Name:
3. Surname:
4. Nationality:
5. Male/Female:
6. Date of Birth:
7. Place of Birth:
8. Marital status (single/ married/ engaged/ other, please specify):
9. Number of children (if applicable):

Address / Contact details:

Do you live in Dheisheh camp? (mark an X next to your answer)

-Yes

-No

1. Permanent Address:
2. Telephone (landline):
3. Telephone (mobile):
4. Email(s):
5. Skype:
6. Name and contact details of primary Contact Person (e.g. parent / list type of relationship):

Family Details:

1. Number of Family Members currently living in your Household:
2. Number of Brothers and Sisters:
3. How many of your siblings (brothers and sisters) are still living at home with you?
4. Number of Family Members still in Schools:
5. Number of Family members currently at Universities:
6. Father's Occupation:
7. Mother's Occupation:

Education:

High School

1. Name of your High School (not university):
2. Location of your High School:
3. High School (Tawjihi) Stream (mark an X next to your answer):
a. Scientific stream..... b. Literature stream.....
4. Average grade for last school year completed:
5. Tawjihi grade, if applicable):
6. Year of graduation from High School

University

If you are not at University yet please go to next section below. If you are already at University please fill this section before proceeding to next section below.

1. Name of your University:
2. Location of your University campus:
3. Name of your Department:
4. Title of your University course:
5. Current University GPA:
6. Expected Year of graduation:

Finance:

1. What is your family/household average monthly income? (Please give a close estimate):
2. Does your family have any other sources of income or financial support? (Mark an X next to your answer) -Yes..... -No.....

3. How many **working** members are there in your family household? (insert number)
4. Do you have any financial responsibilities, if yes please explain?
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5. Do you have any kind of disability and/or chronic health issues, if yes please state what? Provide medical reports where possible. (In case of equal merit, preference may be given to candidates with disability).
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6. If your university course is to cost more than the JAEP limit of \$US 1,500 please list your other source(s) of funding and provide documented proof where possible.
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Employment and other experience (work, internship, or voluntary):

1. Please list and describe all **paid or unpaid jobs** you have held to date.

- **Tick** here if all of this does not apply to you

(A)

Name of employer/institution:
Paid work or internship (specify):
Position held:
Responsibilities (nature of work and tasks):

Dates and duration:

(B)

Name of employer/institution:
Paid work or internship (specify):
Position held:
Responsibilities (nature of work and tasks):

Date and duration:

2. Please list and describe any **volunteer** work you have undertaken

What subject (Major) do you intend to study at University (or are already studying) and why did you choose this subject? (approximately 100 to 150 words):

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What is the duration of your University course of study (how many years)? Please include start and end dates (month/year):

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What are your future career plans? How will your chosen subject help you achieve this? Please be as detailed as you can (approximately 250 to 350 words):

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How do you plan to serve and help your community during and after your time at university? How will your chosen subject help you do this? (approximately 200 to 300 words):

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Referees

Please provide below the details of your two designated referees (one academic and one personal). We will contact the referees if you are shortlisted.

Note: Academic recommendation: if you are at school we accept a letter from your school teacher (someone who taught you at school) but if you are at university we also need a recommendation from your university teacher (someone who taught you at least one of your major courses). **Personal recommendation:** should not come from a family member or friend your age but from a community member or an employer who has known you for at least three years. Reference letters can be provided in either English or Arabic. The referees will be contacted by the JAEP should your application proceed to the interview stage and therefore you must include their contact details (preferably professional email addresses).

First Referee

Name:
Position and job:
Email address:
Telephone number(s):
Address:
How long have you known this referee?
What is his/her relationship to you?

Second Referee

Name:
Position and job:
Email address:
Telephone number(s):
Address:
How long have you known this referee?
What is his/her relationship to you?

About JAEP

How did you hear about JAEP scholarships? Mark an X next to the appropriate answer or answers:

- Ibdaa
 - A friend
 - Fellow student
 - Al Quds university website
 - Al Quds university staff.....
 - JAEP website.....
 - Other (please specify)
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I certify that my answers to questions on this form as well as any supporting information/documents that I have provided are true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Signature:

Date:

Checklist of Attachments:

1. Copies of School Certifications for eleventh and twelfth classes
2. Copy of your Tawjihi Transcript (exam results)
3. Recommendation letters from your teacher/professor and a member of the community. **Academic recommendation:** if you are at school we accept a letter from your school teacher (someone who taught you at school) but if you are at university we also need a recommendation from your university teacher (someone who taught you at least one of your major courses). **Personal recommendation:** should not come from a family member or friend your age but from a community member or an employer who has known you for at least three years. Reference letters can be provided in either English or Arabic. The referees will be contacted by the JAEP should your application proceed to the interview stage and therefore you must include their contact details (preferably professional email addresses).
4. Recent personal photograph
5. Copy of your personal ID card
6. An offer letter from the university, or if already enrolled at university please include transcripts showing all grades to date.