THE AGA KHAN UNIVERSITY
Institute for Educational Development

Bachelor of Education (BEd)
Admission Information 2024 - 2025

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THE UNIVERSITY

The Aga Khan University is a pioneering institution of higher education and research that works to improve quality of life in the developing world and beyond. We educate leaders, generate life-saving knowledge and set an example that raises standards in the societies in which we work. We empower women and the disadvantaged, strengthen pluralism and partner with world-renowned institutions to address problems that affect millions of people. A not-for-profit institution, AKU was founded in 1983 by His Highness the Aga Khan. As Pakistan's first private university, we paved the way for the growth of the country's private higher education sector. In the early 2000s, the University expanded to Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Afghanistan and the United Kingdom.

At AKU, students flourish in a supportive environment that embraces diversity, demands excellence and encourages leadership and direct engagement with real-world challenges. Our graduates go on to study and work at eminent universities and organizations around the world, and to make a difference in their home countries.

AKU is open to all, regardless of race, religion, gender or geographic origin. Two-thirds of students and half of faculty members are women. Admission is based on merit, and our needs sensitive financial assistance programme ensures that individuals from lower-income backgrounds are able to attend.

While we do not discriminate on faith, gender or national origin, we are selective in the students we accept. Our selection process varies by academic programmes, but a common criterion includes fluency in English.

INSTITUTE FOR EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, PAKISTAN

Established in 1993, the Institute for Educational Development (IED), Pakistan is an academic entity of the Aga Khan University. IED is mandated to make valuable and relevant contributions towards improving the quality of education in Pakistan and other developing contexts. It works as a catalyst for educational change by developing passionate and transformative educational professionals, influencing educational policies and practices and modelling educational reforms in the under-served areas.

PROGRAMMES

The Institute offers the following programmes for in-service professionals in education, and individuals seeking to pursue a career in education.

- PhD in Education
- MPhil in Education
- Bachelor of Education (BEd)

RESEARCH

Research at IED aims to extend the understanding of core educational issues and contribute to educational problem-solving in the developing world particularly in Pakistan. The Institute focuses on:

- Generating and disseminating contextually relevant knowledge on critical issues ranging from the key problems of classroom teaching and school leadership to concerns related to educational policy.

- Providing a platform for comprehensive dialogue on pertinent educational issues in the developing world.

- Building the capacity of educational researchers through graduate and continuing professional education programmes.

For more information visit www.aku.edu/iedpk

OUTREACH

Through our Professional Development Centres in Gilgit, Chitral and Karachi, we reach out to underserved areas where teachers have very limited opportunities to further their education and schools lack the support and resources to improve their performance.
These centres also implement educational development projects targeting quality reforms in the government and private education systems. Since inception, our projects have improved education opportunities for marginalised communities in some of the neglected and hard-to-access areas in Pakistan.

BACHELOR OF EDUCATION
For aspiring and practicing teachers

The Bachelor of Education (BEd) degree will be 1.5 years long for full-time students and up to 4 years for part-time students. Student teachers will be required to take sixteen (16) 3-credit courses in total, including a practicum and a research project. Students will choose one specialisation out of the four on offer, i.e., Mathematics, Science, English and ECED. Those with 16 years of education (usually equivalent to a four-year university degree) in any discipline will be eligible to apply to the programme. Through this programme, we aim to build the capacity of teachers for the provision of meaningful and long-lasting learning experiences.

AIM AND LEARNING OUTCOMES OF THE PROGRAMME

The programme aims to nurture empathetic and socially responsible teachers who possess the knowledge, skills, and attitudes required to aspire for an increasingly just and sustainable society.

After successful completion of all aspects of the programme, the graduates will be able to:

1. *Demonstrate a systematic understanding of teaching and learning, including in-depth pedagogic and subject matter knowledge of the selected concepts they will teach;*

2. *Demonstrate teaching competencies through applying active learning instructional strategies, including where suitable using technology to promote holistic child development and learning (in cognitive as well as affective domains) leading to pluralistic, active and responsible citizens; demonstrate their teaching competencies;*

3. *Reflect on their own and others' teaching practices in relation to current research in teaching, learning, and pedagogy to improve their teaching;*

4. *Demonstrate a critical understanding of teaching and learning scenarios in their contexts with a view to finding creative and feasible solutions, drawing upon best practices, relevant technology and theories and with commitment to equity and access;*

5. *Articulate their critical insight into teaching and learning through relevant artefacts, blogs, newspaper articles, teaching-learning resources, conferences, scholarly writing, and other verbal and oral communication means;*

6. *Demonstrate their commitment to their personal and peers' continued professional development;*

7. *Have the capacity and necessary training to incorporate various technological tools and resources to facilitate meaningful learning experiences for students;*

8. *Maintain the professional ethics of a teacher such as trustworthy, being honest, and being authentic in all undertakings.*

PROGRAMME STRUCTURE AND DESIGN

The B.Ed. degree programme sits within the HEC's National Qualification Framework (NQF) Level 6 and can be completed in a minimum of 18 months (3 semesters) and a maximum of 4 years. Student teachers (STs) will be required to take 16 courses in all, including a practicum and a research project.

Programme Duration: Min 1.5 – Max. 4 Year		
Semester 1	**Semester 2**	**Semester 3**
5 Courses	4 Courses	4 Courses
1 Course (seminar-based)		
Research		
Practicum		

CURRICULUM STRUCTURE: CORE COURSES AND SPECIALISATION OPTIONS

There are 11 core courses, mandatory for all the student teachers (STs). Additionally, each ST will choose one specialisation out of the four on offer: ECED, Mathematics (secondary), Science (secondary), and English (secondary). Each specialisation comprises of three courses.

Type of Courses	Number of Courses
Core Courses	11 (3 credit each)
Specialisation	3 courses leading to one specialization (9 credit)
Research	1 Course (3 credit)
Practicum	1 Course (3 credit)
Total	16 courses (48 credits)

COURSEWORK

Core courses (3 credits each)
1. Knowledge and Curriculum
2. Pedagogy and Assessment Practices
3. Learners, Learning and Learning Spaces
4. Education in Society: Purposes, Perspectives and Histories
5. Teaching, Learning and Assessment in a Digital World
6. Teachers' Professional Learning
7. School Leadership and Management
8. Equity and Inclusion in Education
9. Research Methods
10. Sustainability Education
11. Contemporary Issues and Trends in Education

Specialisations (3 credits each)
(Students will choose one specialisation)

1. ECED
a. Early childhood education and development
b. Curriculum, Teaching, Learning and Assessment I
c. Curriculum, Teaching, Learning and Assessment II

2. Mathematics (Secondary)
a. Concepts and Processes for Teaching and Learning Mathematics (Numbers and Algebra)
b. Concepts and Processes for Teaching and Learning Mathematics (Geometry, Measurement and Data Handling
c. Critical Issues in the Teaching and Learning of Mathematics

3. Science (Secondary)
a. Teaching and Learning in Science Classroom
b. Pedagogical Content Knowledge for Enhancing Professional Practice in Science
c. Contemporary Issues in Teaching and Learning Science

4. English (Secondary)
a. Introduction to Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL)
b. Language acquisition and pedagogy in TESOL
c. TESOL in context and practice

RESEARCH WORK

A 3-credit school-based research project has been integrated into the programme. From the outset, students are encouraged to be inquisitive and evidence-based practitioners and to think about research problems for their project. They also do a research methods course to become oriented about the theory and processes of educational research. Students are expected to design a systematic inquiry with the goals of gaining insights into teaching and learning, becoming more reflective practitioners, effecting change in the classroom or school, and improving the lives of children.

They are expected to submit a research report of around 6000-8000 at the end of the programme.

PRACTICUM

A key feature of the programme is a school-based practicum. It consists of students spending 240 hours of fieldwork in schools, spread over three semesters. The full-time STs spend, on average, 5 hours per week for 16 weeks each semester in a school. For the part-time STs, this will be spread over 5 semesters with 40 hours in each semester.

The practicum allows the students to apply the pedagogical skills, which they learn in their courses, in real life settings. With a strong element of practicum in the programme, we expect the students to have a nuance understanding of the classroom, the school setting, and the needs of the students.

ADMISSION CRITERIA

Admission to the programmes is based solely on merit and potential commitment to improve the quality of education. Merit will be evaluated through scholastic achievements and performance of candidates in the AKU Admission Test. The commitment of the candidate will be assessed through an interview with a panel of senior faculty at AKU.

Candidates currently working in the public or private sectors in Pakistan and overseas may apply

Eligibility Requirements:

- Minimum 16-years of qualification in any discipline.

NOTE: Please note in some cases the University asks for other additional documents to better understand and evaluate applicant's eligibility as per University and regulatory body requirements.

To further process the application, the applicant are asked to provide the equivalence for their academic credentials from Higher Education Commission (HEC).

APPLICATION PROCESS SUMMARY

Candidates are evaluated in stages:

Stage I	Online submission of application.
	Applications are reviewed and only eligible candidates are invited to write an AKU Admission Test
	HEC attested Degrees/marksheets must be uploaded **or** 16-years of HEC equivalence (If applicable or applying with foreign qualification) **or** HEC attestation evidence that you have applied for it at the time of application.
Stage II	Candidates who are shortlisted based on the Admission Test will be required to: • submit relevant academic documents • attend interviews with senior faculty members of the University.
Stage III	Final selection is based on an overall assessment of each candidate's dossier which is formally approved by the University's Admission Review Committee.

ADMISSION TEST

NOTE*: The test will be conducted online onsite on computers.*

The Admission Test comprises of two components: English Language and Constructive Response Questions:

- The English Language component evaluates a candidate's competency in the English language.
- The constructive response questions exam will assess candidates' critical thinking, analytical and writing skills.

The programme brochure and sample test paper may be downloaded from our website: https://www.aku.edu/admissions/bed/Pages/home.aspx

The University does not provide any special preparation for the Admission Test nor does it authorise any publication or preparatory classes for this purpose.

SHORT-LISTING AND INTERVIEWS

Candidates will be shortlisted on the basis of the Admission Test. Interviews will be conducted for shortlisted candidates only. The purpose of the interview is to assess a variety of attributes, including motivation, maturity, social and cultural awareness, knowledge of educational issues in developing nations and evidence of interest, and commitment to the programme.

Interviews will be conducted in Pakistan. For all candidates who reside overseas, interviews will be conducted virtually.

VALIDITY OF TEST SCORES

The AKU Admission Test scores are valid for a period of two years from the date the test is written.

APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION

Applications for admission will be accepted from **January 14 to March 14, 2024.** Candidates must apply online by logging on to www.aku.edu/apply-online

Applications must be submitted via the online process. Applications will only be accepted if a candidate completes following:

1. Submit the application form online. *(Candidate will receive a copy of the application form on their registered email as a confirmation when the application is submitted successfully)*

   In the form please upload the following

   i. Upload the application fee on the online form.
   ii. Upload CNIC/NICOP both sides as one file or relevant Passport pages (for foreign nationals)
2. As a mandatory requirement:
   a. HEC attested undergraduate mark sheet/ degree (16 years) or a receipt from HEC as evidence that an application has been submitted. *(front and back copy pdf)*
   b. HEC equivalence for 16 years of education or receipt from HEC as evidence that an application has been made. (if applying with Post RN BScN or foreign qualification)
3. Upload Detailed curriculum vitae (see CV specification section)

Incomplete applications or submission of applications after the deadline is not accepted.

NOTE FOR ALL CANDIDATES

Candidates are requested to ensure they meet application eligibility requirements before applying. These are listed in the programme brochure. Moreover, candidates are responsible to complete the application and other requirements according to the published instructions and time schedule.

Aga Khan University reserves the right to admission; to revoke admission and registration if an application is discovered to be inaccurate or incomplete, or if supporting documents are discovered to be fraudulent. Any candidate who presents a fraudulent document in support of an application for admission may be identified to other universities and colleges.

Candidates may apply for multiple programmes simultaneously. Candidates who are shortlisted for interviews in multiple programmes will be required to provide their order of preference. This information will remain confidential with the Admission Office, and the candidates must attend interviews for all shortlisted programmes. If the candidate is accepted in more than one programme, the preference order provided by the Candidate will be considered by the University, the University reserves the right in its absolute discretion to offer the programme, which it determines to be the most suitable for the Candidate and the decision made by the University will be final.

ADMIT CARD

The admit card to allow you to write the test will be received by candidates who apply online on their portal and/or through an email.

In cases where the admit card is not received 12 days before the date of the test; candidates must email the Admission Office at ied.ro@aku.edu for the required information and application details. If a candidate would like to write the test at a different test centre from the one originally noted in the application form, candidate must inform the admission office via email at least 72 hours before the test so that information can be sent to the Test Centre. Walk in candidates are not encouraged.

Please Note:

The University does not take responsibility to conduct the test for candidates who walk into a Test Centre without information.

Please Note:

To be allowed into the Test Centre to write the Test, candidates must bring:
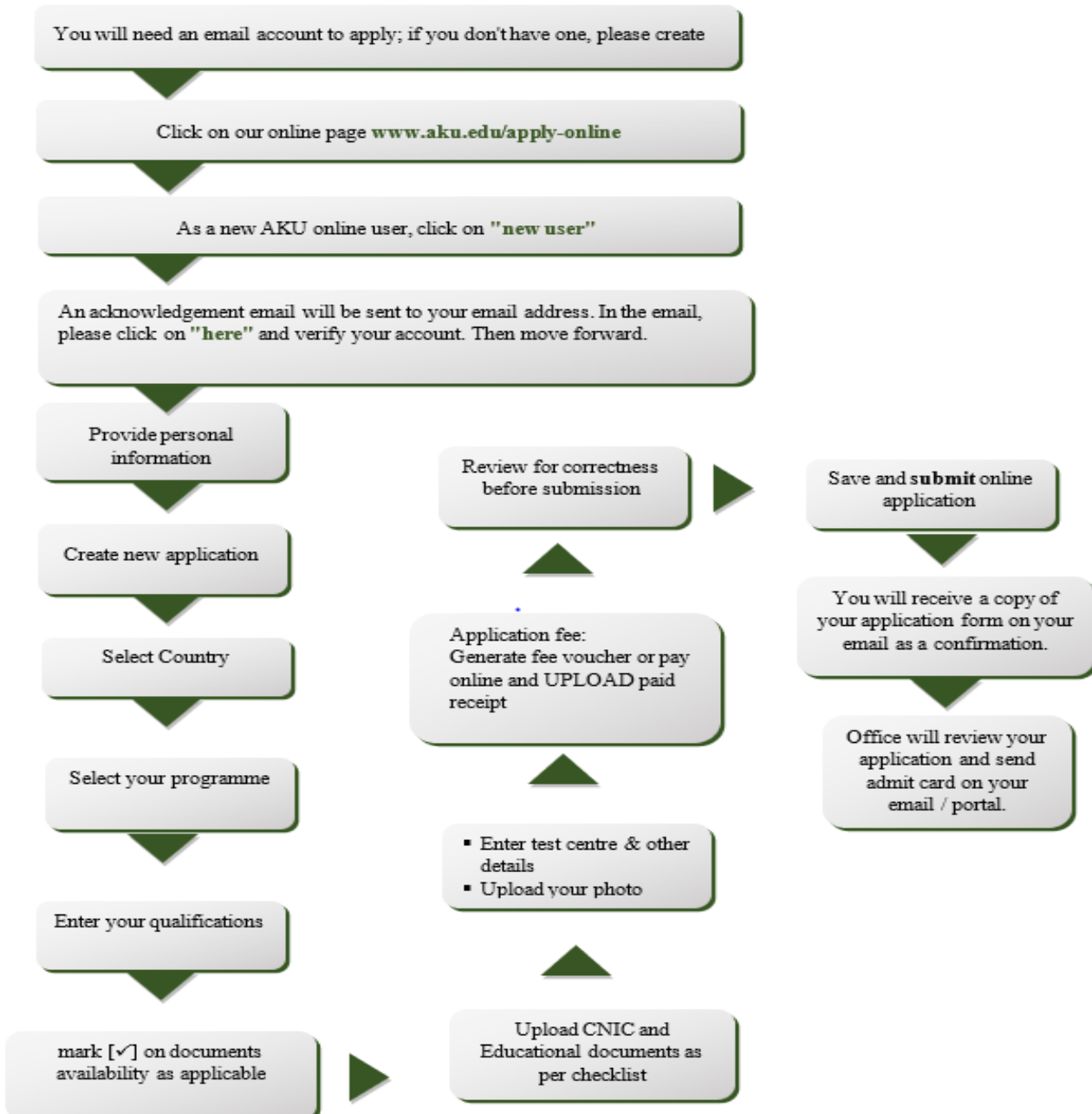
A hard copy of the admit card issued by AKU   **AND**
▪ A valid current photo ID card/original CNIC/college ID card/enrolment card for identification.

Without these documents, AKU reserves the right not to allow you to write the Test.

APPLY ONLINE

Follow the steps below to apply for an academic programme online:

You will need an email account to apply; if you don't have one, please create

Click on our online page **www.aku.edu/apply-online**

As a new AKU online user, click on **"new user"**

An acknowledgement email will be sent to your email address. In the email, please click on **"here"** and verify your account. Then move forward.

Provide personal information

Create new application

Select Country

Select your programme

Enter your qualifications

mark [✓] on documents availability as applicable

Upload CNIC and Educational documents as per checklist

▪ Enter test centre & other details
▪ Upload your photo

Application fee: Generate fee voucher or pay online and UPLOAD paid receipt

Review for correctness before submission

Save and **submit** online application

You will receive a copy of your application form on your email as a confirmation.

Office will review your application and send admit card on your email / portal.

PLEASE UPLOAD THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS WHEN APPLYING ONLINE

Note: The photograph should be in JPEG format with 2 MB size and all other documents should be in PDF format with 5 MB file each.

1. A passport size coloured PHOTO. (It must show your full face and reflect your current appearance)

2. CNIC / NICOP (front & back copy) / relevant passport pages (for foreign nationals)

3. Detailed curriculum vitae (CV) in PDF as specified in the brochure

4. As a mandatory requirement:

   a. HEC attested undergraduate mark sheet/ degree (16 years) or a receipt from HEC as evidence that an application has been submitted. *(front and back copy pdf)*

   b. HEC equivalence for 16 years of education or receipt from HEC as evidence that an application has been made. (if applying with Post RN BScN or foreign qualification)

5. Application Fee: - **Applying from AKU residential countries* is Rs. 7,000/-**
                       - **Applying from AKU non-residential countries is US $ 150/-**
                       - **(see mode of payment section for details)**

The application fee is non-refundable.
Candidates must ensure eligibility before applying.

*Afghanistan, Burundi, Kenya, Pakistan, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda

DOCUMENTS REQUIRED UPON SHORTLISTING

CANDIDATES WILL BE REQUIRED TO SUBMIT HARD COPIES OF THE FOLLOWING (HEC ATTESTED) DOCUMENTS TO THE ADMISSION OFFICE:

1. Secondary School Certificate (SSC) or equivalent

2. Higher Secondary School Certificate (HSSC) or equivalent

3. Consolidated Mark Sheet / Degree of Undergraduate Qualification / equivalent to 16 years of Education attested by (HEC)

4. 16 years of HEC equivalence (If applicable or applying with foreign qualification)

5. Detailed curriculum vitae (CV) - as specified in the brochure

6. Latest mark sheets / progress reports, if currently enrolled in any other institution (if applicable)

MODE OF PAYMENT

Candidates may pay the application fee through any of the following modes. ***When the fee is paid, please upload the receipt on the online admission portal to complete the application.***

- ## FEE VOUCHER (FOR PAKISTANI CURRENCY ONLY)

  Please follow these steps to pay the application fee through fee voucher:

  1. On the application home page, please click on "Application Fee Information"
  2. For **payment options**, select "Fee Voucher"
  3. Click "Yes" to generate the voucher *(make sure that your pop ups aren't blocked)*
  4. Take the printed voucher to any branch of Habib Bank Ltd (HBL) and pay the fee. ***(Please do not transfer online)***
  5. Upload the paid voucher by clicking the "Upload Button" on the proof of payment section.

- ## ONLINE PAYMENT THROUGH DEBIT/CREDIT CARD (PAKISTANI & US$ CURRENCY)

  Follow these steps to pay application fee online through a debit / credit card:

1. On the application home page, please click on "Application Fee Information"
2. For **payment options**, select "Online Payment" and click yes *(make sure that your pop ups aren't blocked)*
3. Complete your payment details on online web portal: https://payonline.aku.edu/
4. Upload the payment acknowledgement email or screenshot by clicking the "Upload Button" on the proof of payment section.
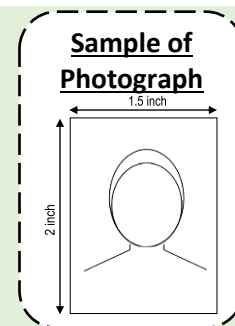
In case you are unable to receive the payment acknowledgement, please notify the Finance Office by emailing your query along with tracking Id, name, and programme name at student.finance@aku.edu

PHOTOGRAPH SPECIFICATION

Your photograph is a vital part of your application. Please follow these instructions carefully.

- Passport size coloured photograph with a plain background; taken within the last 1 week to reflect your current appearance.
- File size and format: 2 MB and JPEG format.
- The photo should show a clear front view; full face of the person.

If your photograph does not reflect your current appearance, the University will not allow you to write the Admission Test

Sample of Photograph

1.5 inch

2 inch

CURRICULUM VITAE (CV) SPECIFICATION

Your CV must include the following:

- qualifications with grades/percentage and passing year
- work experiences with job responsibilities and duration (if any)
- courses undertaken or completed at AKU (if applying with standalone courses)
- other Continuing Professional Development (CPD) courses
- list of publications (if any)
- other additional information to support your application

FEES AND FUNDING

Admissions to all the academic programmes at Aga Khan University are based on merit and are needs blind, i.e. without considering the financial background of the student.

Upon acceptance into an academic programme, a student who is unable to pay for the cost of education at the University, may apply for financial assistance.
The financial information including student's fee paying status, fee structure and financial assistance is available on: www.aku.edu/admissions/fees-and-funding

STUDENTS ON SPONSORSHIP FROM EXTERNAL AGENCIES

Students expecting to receive sponsorships or scholarships from external agencies to complete the programme are requested to submit the relevant documents and approval letter from external agency when accepting the offer of admission.

For more details, please contact Admission Office, Aga Khan University, Institute for Educational Development, Karimabad, Karachi 75950, Pakistan. Phone: +92 21 3634 7611-4, Ext: 8633.

ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation for outstation students is arranged in the hostels managed by the University. These are shared, non-air-conditioned, furnished accommodation. Hostel space is restricted to students from outside Karachi only and is offered to graduate programme students, when available. Accommodation is limited.
A fee is charged for all accommodation. Accommodation charges for the 2024-2025 session is available online along with the fee structure. Meals may be purchased separately from the University's cafeteria.
All students living in the university hostels are expected to conform to rules and regulations. Residence is conditional upon proper use and care of the property, considerate behaviour and periodic reappraisal of the student's need for such accommodation.

CONTESTED DECISIONS

In all matters pertaining to the selection of students, fees, grants, evaluation of scholastic performance, discipline and student affairs, the decision of the University shall be final. Appeals in matters of student selection will be considered within 15 days of the announcement of the new class only if the appeal cites circumstances suggesting that the University has violated provisions of its Charter or that there has been failure to comply with the admissions procedure as described in this document.

KEY DATES FOR 2024-25 ADMISSIONS

January 14 – March 14, 2024	**Admission Open:** Apply online via www.aku.edu/apply-online

Sunday, May 12, 2024	***AKU Admission Test -Pakistan***	**Test Centres** Chitral, Gilgit, Karachi, Islamabad
	AKU Admission Test - Overseas	*Overseas centres will be confirmed if there are at least 10 candidates to write the test*

Please note: *Timings and address for the venue will be stated on the admit card. In case of a change, candidates will be notified through email.*

Upon Shortlisting - June	• *Consolidated Mark Sheet / Degree of Undergraduate Qualification / equivalent to 16 years of Education attested by (HEC)* ▪ *HEC equivalence* (if applicable)*
June	Interviews
August	Mandatory Course: Learning to Learn in the 21st Century
September 2024	Commencement of Classes

HEC equivalence applicability: 16 years of HEC Equivalence (If applicable or applying with foreign qualification)*

DISCLAIMER

This booklet contains information about the programmes offered by Aga Khan University, Pakistan for the academic year 2024-25. The information provided is subject to change over time. Candidates aiming to apply for programmes in any other academic year are requested to get updated information about minimum eligibility requirement, application and admission process through University Admission Office.

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