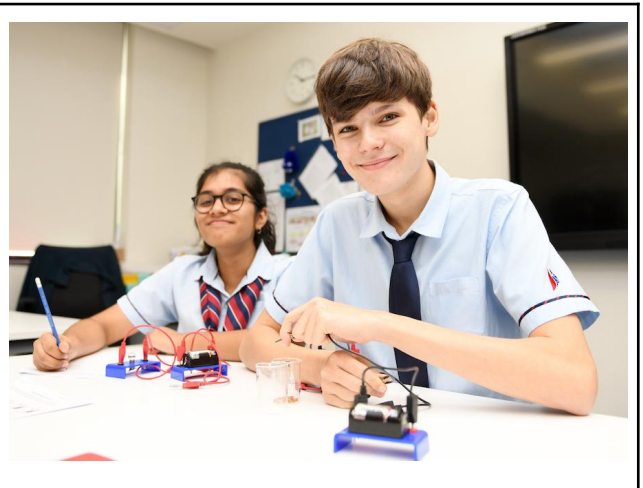


# Scholarship Program Guidelines AY 2021-2022



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## DAA SCHOLARSHIPS

### Introduction

Scholarships are available to both existing and new students who meet the specified criteria (see below). Scholarships are targeted at different age groups with the intention of encouraging and rewarding excellence. The program is applicable to any student in Grade 6 and above currently registered at (internal candidates) or applying for admission (external candidates) to Dubai American Academy. Students are recognized for their capacity to lead and serve, as well as their commitment to making a significant impact within their schools and communities.

Scholarships are awarded in recognition of outstanding achievement or promise in any of the following categories:



### Timeline for Application

Application Period	Application Review	Notification to Family	School Starts
April 1st – May 31st	June 1st – June 30th	June 30th	September (same year)

## Guidelines

1. After careful review of applications, some candidates may be required to undertake an additional stage in the DAA Scholarships assessment process. This is at the discretion of the school and may include auditions, demonstrations of skill and/ or presentations as may be relevant to the category being applied for.
2. Shortlisted candidates may be invited for a final interview with the relevant school principal at their discretion. In addition to excellence in their specific field or talent, students are selected on the basis of their potential to act as role models for their peer group through opportunities for distinction and leadership within their given specialism.
3. Scholars may be given regular opportunities to take on leadership roles within their given specialism.

## Scholarship Process Flow

SCHOLARSHIP PROCESS FLOW	
EXTERNAL APPLICANTS	INTERNAL APPLICANTS
APPLICATION THROUGH WEBSITE	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Complete the online form</li> <li>● Submission of supporting documents (before May 31st, 2021)</li> </ul>	
APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY SUPERINTENDENT	
SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE REVIEWS APPLICATIONS	
AWARDED	NOT AWARDED
Scholarship Committee informs parents or successful application	Scholarship Committee informs parents of unsuccessful application via official

<p>and award via official communication by June 30th *Committee may allocate award to a better fit category if necessary.</p>	<p>communication by June 30th</p>
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## Documents Required

- Completed Scholarship Application Form
- A written personal statement or letter by the student
- Copies of child's previous 2 years' school reports (for external applicants).
- Any supporting documentation, such as recommendation letters, copies of awards/ certificates received, portfolio of results, press clippings and/or video evidence.

## Selection Process

1. Notice of available scholarships will be advertised on an annual basis and will be open for applications between April 1<sup>st</sup> to May 31<sup>st</sup>.
2. Scholarships will be awarded based on merit (components: student essays, letters of recommendation, a student introduction) and the School Scholarship Application Form.
3. External Applicants for scholarships must firstly meet the established enrolment eligibility criteria for entry into DAA prior to being considered for any scholarship.
4. Applicants must choose the best-fit scholarship category and submit only **one** application. Note that should the DAA Scholarships Committee find that the student is a better fit for a different category, a recommendation shall be made and the application reviewed accordingly.
5. After careful review of applications, shortlisted candidates may be invited for a final interview with the DAA Scholarships Committee. In addition to excellence in their specific field or talent, students will be selected on the basis of their potential to act as a role model to their peer group through opportunities for distinction and leadership within their given specialism.
6. Scholarship recipients can expect to be notified by June 30th.
7. Students receiving a scholarship and their parent/guardian must complete a form agreeing to the terms of the scholarship program.

8. After final scholarship acceptances are completed and agreement forms signed, unsuccessful applicants who were not selected will receive email notifications from the DAA Scholarships Committee.
9. The DAA Scholarships Committee's decision will be final and binding and no further negotiations regarding the decision will be entered into.
10. Scholarships are awarded on an annual basis and awardees will be required to apply for renewal every year.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### What is the DAA Scholarships program?

Dubai American Academy is offering a 'merit-based' student scholarship opportunity to internal and external students from grades 6 - 12. The program is intended to encourage and reward excellence and recognize students for their capacity to lead and serve, as well as their commitment to making a significant impact within their school and community.

### What types of scholarships are available?

Scholarships are awarded in recognition of outstanding achievement or promise in any of the following spheres:

#### **Academic Excellence**

Scholarships are awarded on the basis of proven outstanding academic achievement, subject to students maintaining a high level of academic achievement. Eligibility is restricted to current and prospective students in Grade 6 onwards.

Scholarships are awarded on the basis of:

- A full report from the candidate's present school (both local and national ranking)
- Results of a verbal and non-verbal reasoning test
- Results of a written examination administered by the awarding school
- An interview with the principal to assess the candidate's calibre and commitment

## Arabic Studies

Scholarships are awarded as a sub-set of Academic Scholarships on the basis of a candidate's proven outstanding academic achievement in the field of Arabic Studies, and are subject to the student maintaining a high level of academic achievement. Eligibility is restricted to current and prospective students in Grade 6 onwards. Scholarships are awarded separately to native speakers of Arabic and non-native speakers who will be assessed on the following criteria:

### *Native Speakers of Arabic:*

- Student must have literary contributions in Arabic (this may include authoring of poetry, novel, story or speech)
- Student must have an active role in spreading the Arabic language and its use inside and outside the school
- Student must have a leadership role within the Arabic department
- Student must be in the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile in terms of grade for internal or external Arabic language exams
- Student must be awarded with prizes relating to the Arabic language (school, national, international)
- Student must perform in front of an audience on a school, national, international level using the Arabic language

### *Non-Native Speakers of Arabic:*

- Student's parents (both mother and father/guardians) must be non-Arab by passport
- Student must be in the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile in terms of grade for internal or external Arabic language exams
- Student must have the ability to express himself fluently in writing and speaking
- Student must show high ability in reading and listening
- Student must evidence high ability in using the language inside and outside the classroom
- Scholarships are awarded on the basis of:
  - A full report from the candidate's present school (both local and national ranking)
  - Results of a standardized proficiency test – written and oral – administered by the awarding school
  - Results of an interview with an Arabic language expert

- Results of an interview with the principal to assess the candidate's calibre and commitment

### **Creative and Performing Arts**

Candidates who demonstrate excellence in areas such as Art, Music, Drama, Debating, etc. Eligibility is restricted to current and prospective students in Grade 6 onwards. Scholarships are awarded on the basis of:

- Rewards and recognition received from relevant internationally recognized awarding bodies
- Results of an audition at the awarding school
- Results of an interview with the principal to assess the candidate's calibre and commitment

### **Sports**

Candidates who demonstrate potential to compete at national or international level. Eligibility is restricted to current and prospective students in Grade 6 onwards. Scholarships are awarded on the basis of:

- Benchmark times and proof of representation honors in relevant sports such as swimming, track and field, rugby, football, etc.
- Meeting necessary admission requirements
- Results of an interview with the principal to assess the candidate's calibre and commitment.

### **Innovation and Digital Technology**

Scholarships are awarded on the basis of candidates demonstrating potential to excel in the areas of innovation and digital technology (coding, computational thinking, cryptology, app development, etc.) Eligibility is restricted to current and prospective students from Grade 6 onwards. Scholarships are awarded on the basis of:

- A full report from the candidate's present school
- Successful presentation/demonstration of an innovation project to the GEMS Scholarships Committee
- Results of an interview with the principal to assess the candidate's calibre and commitment



Additionally, candidates may be asked to demonstrate the following:

### Personal Skills

- a. Candidates should provide an example to demonstrate any four of the below skills (maximum 500 words across all skills):
  - Critical thinking and problem solving
  - Collaboration and team-work
  - Agility and adaptability
  - Leading by influence
  - Research skills
  - Curiosity and imagination
  - Growth mind-set, resilience and grit
  - Digital and technology skills
  - Ability to take on board feedback
  
- b. Global Challenge – Candidates should provide a solution to one of the following challenges (maximum 200 words):
  - Energy
  - Space
  - Education
  - Health
  - Global ethics
  - Governance
  - Self-development
  - Nutrition (food and water)
  - Prosperity (economic growth)
  - Sustainability (population and resources)
  - Security (disaster resilience, crime and justice)
  - Environment (climate change and pollution)
  
- c. Candidates can choose to submit a video lasting no longer than three minutes on themselves – biography, passion, skills and why they want an innovation scholarship

### 2. Innovation Initiatives

- a. Candidates should provide a write-up on one or more innovation initiatives/projects (maximum 300 words).

- b. Candidates should mention the problem being solved, the solution and how they went about researching and building the initiative/project. What would they need to build and scale the initiative/project?
  - c. Candidates should provide links and photos where applicable.
3. Letter of recommendation from SLT/mentor/accredited individual – someone credible, not related to the candidate and who has been involved in the student's academic and/or innovation process, covering the following:
- a. Attitude
  - b. Passion
  - c. Evidence of being innovative in their thinking
  - d. Why the student deserves the innovation scholarship

### How to apply for a scholarship?

Applicants must firstly meet the established enrolment eligibility criteria for entry prior to being considered for any scholarship. The online form must be completed and supporting documents uploaded. See the Scholarship Website page for details: <https://www.gemsaa-dubai.com/Admissions/Scholarships>

### How much is the scholarship?

Those awarded a scholarship may benefit from a concession ranging from 5-25% off their annual school fees. Dubai American Academy intends to offer scholarships to exceptional students who can become ambassadors for our school values and role models for all our students as part of our commitment to the UAE National Agenda. Scholars may be given regular opportunities for prominence and leadership within their given specialism. The tuition fee concession is reviewed annually.

### Can a student with outstanding fees apply for a scholarship?

Families with outstanding fees will be ineligible to receive a scholarship. Families with unpaid fees in the current year may have the scholarship withdrawn unless all outstanding fees are paid by the end of the relevant term. Any default may result in cancellation of the scholarship for the current year.



### What is the duration of the scholarship?

In order to maintain the highest standards and keep our scholarship awardees motivated to continue excelling in their areas of interest, scholarships are awarded for a single academic year, and awardees are required to apply for renewal on an annual basis. Annual scholarship renewal will depend on the student's engagement and academic progress, and will be determined each year. The program will be reviewed every year to ensure continuous excellence.

### Is the scholarship renewable? What is the criteria?

Students may renew their scholarships but must apply annually to be considered. They must meet the application requirements, and are evaluated against the following criteria:

- Maintenance of required grades in all subjects.
- Maintenance of course pacing requirements, completing courses on time without extensions.
- Fulfilment of attendance requirements as identified in the student handbook.
- Participation in all mentoring meetings and activities unless excused by the mentor.
- Representation of the candidate's school in their area of specialism.
- Demonstration of expected academic progress and progress in the specialist area for which the scholarship was awarded.

Note: DAA reserves the right to add or modify the above criteria at its discretion.

### Can I apply for more than one scholarship?

Students may apply for **only one** scholarships application category. Students are linked to their "best fit" scholarship, and should the DAA Scholarships Committee find the student is better suited for another award type, this will be taken into consideration.

**Does the tuition fee concession include uniforms and school transportation costs?**

The tuition fee concession does not include other school fees such as registration fees, uniforms, bus transportation, school trips, camps, etc.

**Can the scholarship amount be exchanged for cash?**

No.

**Is the Scholarship transferable to other students?**

No.

## Terms and Conditions

### 1. APPLICATIONS AND OFFER LETTERS

1.1 These terms and conditions (the Terms) shall:

- a. apply to all applications made in respect of any Scholarship; and
- b. apply to any Award of Scholarships made by Dubai American Academy, unless expressly stated otherwise in any Offer Letter.

1.2 By submitting a Scholarship Application Form or accepting an Offer Letter you agree to be bound by the terms and conditions set out herein.

1.3 Further terms and conditions may be set out in an Offer Letter applicable to a particular Award. No terms or conditions endorsed on, delivered with, or contained in the Acceptance of an Offer Letter shall form part of an Award except to the extent that Dubai American Academy expressly agrees in writing.

### 2. APPLICATION PROCEDURE

2.1 Notice of Scholarships being offered will be advertised by Dubai American Academy on an annual basis and will be open for applications by eligible candidates until May 31st. Applications will not be considered if the completed Scholarship Application Form is not received by the Submissions Date.

2.2 Scholarships will be awarded based on merit (components: student essays, letters of recommendation, a student introduction) and a fully completed

School Scholarship Application Form together with the supporting documentation specified therein as being required. Applications will not be considered if the required information and/or documents are incomplete or not submitted.

- 2.3 Applicants should be aware that DAA does not guarantee that any Scholarship will be Awarded, and DAA accepts no responsibility or liability for any damages, costs or expenses an applicant may incur as a consequence of any failure to award or delay in awarding any Scholarship for any reason. In order to be eligible to receive any Scholarship all candidates must meet the established enrolment criteria. Candidates for Scholarships must demonstrate the ability to pay all tuition fees in the event that a Scholarship is withdrawn or is not renewed in respect of a subsequent Academic Year.
- 2.4 There are a limited number of Scholarships available. Scholarships will be awarded based on availability, merit and performance abilities. Dubai American Academy is under no obligation to award all or any Scholarships. Scholarships are granted, renewed and withdrawn at the sole discretion of Dubai American Academy. The DAA Scholarship Committee's decision will be final and binding.
- 2.5 Before final selection, candidates may be interviewed by the Superintendent/CEO or the DAA Scholarship Committee (or both).
- 2.6 Candidates are able to apply for their best-fit Scholarship. In the event that a candidate is potentially eligible for a different Award then DAA may, but is not obliged to, contact the Candidate in advance of making an Award in order to discuss the candidate's preferences.

### 3 ACCEPTANCE OF A SCHOLARSHIP

- 3.1 Awards of Scholarships shall be made to successful applicants for Scholarships (each an Offer Recipient) by Dubai American Academy in writing via an official offer letter (Offer Letter). DAA will aim to issue Offer Letters by June 30th.
- 3.2 Awards shall be accepted by Offer Recipients in accordance with the terms of the applicable Offer Letter. In particular, an Award must be accepted by the date indicated in the Offer Letter. If the Offer Recipient declines or does not take up the Award within such time frame, DAA may revoke the Offer Letter and award the Scholarship to another candidate.

- 3.3 The terms of the Award and the Scholarship as specified in the Offer Letter are non-negotiable.
- 3.4 It is a requirement of each Award that an Offer Recipient is fully registered and enrolled with DAA no later than three (3) weeks prior to the commencement of the Academic Year, and remains so for the duration of the Scholarship. Where an Offer Recipient fails to register with DAA by such date, DAA reserves the right to revoke the Offer Letter and the Award with immediate effect.
- 3.5 In the event that there are outstanding tuition fees or other amounts payable to Dubai American Academy by the parents or legal guardians of payable of an Offer Recipient ("Outstanding Fees") the Award shall not be capable of Acceptance until such Outstanding Fees have been discharged. In the event that Outstanding Fees accrue during any Academic Term during the Academic Year to which a Scholarship relates DAA may, at its sole discretion, cancel the Scholarship in respect of all subsequent Academic Terms, unless the Outstanding Fees are paid by the end of the Academic Term to which they relate.

#### 4 NOTIFICATION OF UNSUCCESSFUL APPLICATIONS

Dubai American Academy shall use reasonable endeavors to notify unsuccessful candidates via email from the DAA Scholarship Committee as soon as reasonably practical. Due to the large number of applications for Scholarships it will not be possible for candidates to request or receive individualized feedback and no further correspondence regarding any decision, determination or award made by the GEMS Scholarship Committee will be entered into.

#### 5 FORM OF SCHOLARSHIPS

- 5.1 It is acknowledged and agreed that all Scholarships will be awarded on the basis of a concession to, or reduction in, the tuition fees that would otherwise be payable in respect of the Scholar for the Academic Year in relation to which the Scholarship has been awarded. Scholarships shall not apply to, be set-off against or reduce any other fees or payments that may be payable to Dubai American Academy or any third party (including any registration fees, government or municipality fees, the cost of any uniforms, books, transportation, extracurricular activities, curricular or extracurricular trips, camps or expeditions) in relation to a Scholar's enrolment.

- 5.2 In no circumstances shall any Scholarship Award be exchangeable for cash in part or in full.
- 5.3 Unless expressly stated in the Offer Letter, any Scholarship shall take the form of a reduction to the benchmark tuition fees that would otherwise be payable by a Scholar. In particular, in the event that an Award is accepted it may not be used in conjunction with any other discount to tuition fees (in particular, no Scholar shall, unless expressly stated in an Offer Letter be eligible for any Founders, Sibling, Corporate or other fee concession or reduction).
- 5.4 Scholarships are not transferable and cannot be accelerated to an earlier date or deferred to a later date.

## 6 TERM AND RENEWAL OF SCHOLARSHIPS

- 6.1 Each Scholarship is awarded in respect of a single Academic Year.
- 6.2 Scholars are eligible to reapply for a further Scholarship in respect of subsequent Academic Years, however, the renewal of any Scholarship shall be considered together with all other applications for Scholarships and be available at the sole discretion of Dubai American Academy. Renewal of a Scholarship will depend on each Scholar's engagement and academic progress.

## 7 WITHDRAWAL OF SCHOLARSHIPS

- 7.1 In order to be eligible to receive any Scholarship all Scholars must continue to be registered and enrolled with Dubai American Academy throughout the Academic Year to which the Scholarship relates. In the event that a Scholar ceases to be registered or enrolled with DAA at any time during the term of their Scholarship, DAA may revoke the Scholarship with immediate effect.
- 7.2 In the event that Outstanding Fees accrue during any Academic Term during the Academic Year to which a Scholarship relates Dubai American Academy may, at its sole discretion, cancel the Scholarship in respect of all subsequent Academic Terms, unless the Outstanding Fees are paid by the end of the Academic Term to which they relate.
- 7.3 It is acknowledged and agreed that each Scholarship is awarded subject to the Scholar:
- (a) maintaining course pacing requirements, completing courses on time without extensions;

- (b) meeting attendance requirements as identified in the student handbook;
- (c) meeting DAA's behavioral standards as defined in the student handbook;
- (d) participating in all mentoring meetings and activities required by DAA, unless excused by the mentor;
- (e) agreeing to represent the Awarding School in their area of specialism;
- (f) demonstrating expected academic progress and continuous improvement in the specialist area for which the Scholarship was awarded; and
- (g) demonstrating model students behavior towards their contemporaries, teachers and other adults; and
- (h) Satisfying any other criteria set out in the Offer Letter (the "Offer Criteria").

If at any stage Dubai American Academy determines in its sole discretion that the Scholar has failed to meet any Offer Criteria, then DAA may withdraw the Scholarship with effect from the commencement of the following Academic Term.

7.4 Dubai American Academy reserves the right to withdraw a Scholarship immediately and without notice to the Scholar where it is determined by the school that such Scholar has misled DAA about any aspect of their eligibility to receive the Scholarship. Under any such circumstances, DAA shall be entitled to seek repayment of any portion of the benefit of a Scholarship which has been availed by the Scholar prior to such determination.

## 8 PUBLICITY AND PROMOTION

8.1 In accepting any Award each Scholar (and their parents and legal guardians) hereby expressly consents and grants express permission to Dubai American Academy and such persons as DAA may authorize from time to time to use the Scholar's name, image and any applicable case study information in any publication, marketing, or advertising associated with Dubai American Academy, and/or GEMS Education and/or the Scholarship (including but not limited to the DAA and GEMS Education websites, social media channels, print and electronic media). Each Scholar agrees to ensure that DAA is regularly updated in the event that there is any change to the Scholar's relevant contact details, and that DAA holds a non-School email address



through which the Scholar (or their parents or legal guardians) can be contacted at all times.

- 8.2 Scholars may be required to attend internal and external events held by the Dubai American Academy and photos and videos of Scholars at the event (along with their name, school and Scholarship), may be used for promotional purposes by DAA, GEMS Education and / or our partner organizations, including but not limited to DAA and GEMS Education websites, social media channels, print and electronic media.
- 8.3 Scholars may be required to attend and represent DAA in any national or international competition relevant to their area of excellence.
- 8.4 Each Scholar waives the right to inspect or approve the finished product, the advertising copy or other matter that may be used in connection therewith or the use to which it may be applied. If a Scholar does not wish for their details to be passed on to media or used for promotional purposes, they must notify the DAA Scholarship Committee in writing.
- 8.5 Each Scholar hereby consents to Dubai American Academy contacting them at any time following completion of the Scholar's studies to seek updates regarding how the Scholarship may have impacted upon or influenced the Scholar's career.
- 8.6 Each Scholar acknowledged that in the course of administering the Scholarship Dubai American Academy may have access to certain confidential information about the Scholar. Dubai American Academy undertakes to use all reasonable endeavors to keep such information confidential and not to share such information with any third party without the Scholar's prior consent. Each Scholar hereby agrees that nothing in these terms and conditions shall be taken to prevent Dubai American Academy from making any disclosure required under any laws in any jurisdiction.

## 9 CHANGES TO THESE TERMS

- 9.1 Dubai American Academy reserves the right to amend or make changes to these Terms at any time where such a change arises as a result of changes in regulations or legislation affecting all or any of the Scholarships.
- 9.2 Dubai American Academy may unilaterally amend or make changes to these Terms by giving any candidate, Scholar (or their parents / legal guardians) at least one (1) month's written notice of DAA's intention to do so. In the event that Recipients do not wish to accept any such revised terms, Recipients reserve the right to terminate this Agreement by written notice to the School.

## 10 MISCELLANEOUS

- 10.1 If the whole or any part of any provision of these Terms are void or unenforceable in any jurisdiction, the other provisions of these Terms, and the rest of the void or unenforceable provision, will continue in force in that jurisdiction, and the validity and enforceability of that provision in any other jurisdiction will not be affected.
- 10.2 These Terms shall be interpreted according to the laws of the United Arab Emirates.

## 11 DEFINED TERMS

In these Terms the following defined terms shall have the following meanings:

Academic Year means the Academic Year of Dubai American Academy.

Academic Term means each term of the Academic Year of the Dubai American Academy.

Accepted means the candidate's parent or legal guardian having counter-signed the Offer Letter and Acceptance shall have the corresponding meaning.

Award means an offer of a Scholarship on the terms set out in an Offer Letter (which shall be deemed to incorporate these Terms).

Dubai American Academy Scholarship Committee means the committee formed by Dubai American Academy from time to time for the purposes of assessing applications for and awarding Scholarships.

Offer Letter has the meaning given in Clause 3.1.

Offer Recipients has the meaning given in Clause 3.1

Scholar means a candidate who has received and Accepted and Offer Letter.

Scholarship means a scholarship offered by Dubai American Academy to the existing or prospective students.

Scholarship Application Form means the application form in the form prescribed by Dubai American Academy from time to time.

### Publicity and Promotion

If a student is offered a scholarship, he/she has agreed to become an ambassador for Dubai American Academy. Scholar details including name, school, photograph, video and scholarship awarded may be passed on to media and used by Dubai American Academy and/or partner organizations for promotional purposes, including



but not limited to the DAA website, social media channels, print and electronic media.

Scholarship recipients may be required to attend internal and external events held by Dubai American Academy, and photos and videos of awardees at the event (along with their name, school and scholarship) may be used for promotional purposes by DAA and/or our partner organizations, including but not limited to the DAA website, social media channels, print and electronic media.

Scholarship recipients may be required to attend and represent Dubai American Academy in any national or international competition relevant to their area of excellence.

The scholarship recipient also waives the right to inspect or approve the finished product, the advertising copy or other material that may be used in connection therewith, or the use to which it may be applied. If a scholar does not wish for their details to be passed on to media or used for promotional purposes, they must notify Dubai American Academy in writing.