



## Principles Regarding the Admission of International Students

### A- General Principles:

1) Pursuant to Article 14/f of Law No. 6287, published in the Official Gazette dated 11.04.2012 and numbered 28261, universities wishing to admit students from abroad must obtain the approval of the Higher Education Council to admit international students.

2) a) The collection of quota proposals for universities willing to admit international students from abroad shall be carried out by the Higher Education Council within the framework of a specified schedule,

b) The quotas for the admission of international students from abroad shall be determined by the Higher Education Council in accordance with the programs listed in the previous year's YKS (Higher Education Institutions Exam) Higher Education Programs and Quotas Guide, within the time frame set by the Higher Education Council before each academic term. The proposals from universities shall be received, evaluated, and decided upon by the Higher Education Council. When new programs (admitting students for the first time) are proposed along with YKS quotas for the relevant year, the evaluation of the quotas for the admission of international students from abroad shall be carried out. In cases where programs admitting students for the first time are not included in YKS Additional Placement processes,

c) Furthermore, the continuation of the practice for candidates who have the opportunity to apply for quotas for the admission of international students from abroad, as per the 45/f article amended by Law No. 6287 of the Higher Education Law No. 2547 and the regulations determined by the Higher Education Council, includes candidates who were Turkish citizens by birth according to the Turkish Citizenship Law but lost their Turkish citizenship by obtaining permission to renounce Turkish citizenship from the Ministry of Interior Affairs upon their request. This practice also includes candidates who can prove that they hold a blue card granted to those who lost Turkish citizenship and candidates who, before 01/02/2013, completed the last three years of their secondary education (high school) in a foreign country other than the TRNC (Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus) or completed their entire high school education in foreign high schools (excluding TRNC high schools) with dual citizenship, one of which is Turkish, and candidates with Turkish citizenship, subject to the criteria determined by universities for applying for quotas for the admission of international students from abroad.

i) The continuation of the allocation of student quotas for the programs of Teaching, Law, Medicine, Dentistry, and Pharmacy, which are included in the quotas for the admission of international students from abroad proposed by higher education institutions and determined by the Higher Education Council,

ii) However, it should be noted that, specifically for these programs, the quota for these fields should not exceed 10% for these candidates,

d) The quotas for these programs, as well as information about the language of instruction and preparatory classes, will be published on the Higher Education Council's website.



e) The tuition fees, health requirements, and other conditions for higher education programs will be announced by the universities.

3) Universities wishing to admit foreign students must allocate quotas in associate and undergraduate programs for first education, second education, distance education, and open education programs. However, quotas will not be allocated to programs connected to METEB (e.g., education at vocational high schools, etc.).

4) During the admission of foreign students from abroad, universities are recommended to use and the Higher Education Council approves certain exams for evaluating student applications. There will be no time limit for exams classified as high school completion exams (e.g., Abitur, International Baccalaureate, GCE, Tawjihi, etc.). However, exams classified as university entrance exams (e.g., SAT, etc.) will have a time limit of two years.

5) Starting from the year 2023, ÖSYM will conduct the Turkey International Student Admission Exam (TR-YÖS), with the first TR-YÖS taking place in January 2023. The exam will be offered in Turkish, German, Arabic, French, English, and Russian languages. It is recommended that TR-YÖS results be used for the admission of foreign students by higher education institutions.

6) The determination of the minimum and maximum amount of tuition fees to be collected annually from international students admitted to state universities without exception shall be decided by the Council of Ministers.

7) The tuition fees to be collected from international students admitted to foundation higher education institutions shall continue to be determined by the competent bodies of higher education institutions, as it has been in previous years.

8) In cases where there are no applications or vacancies are not filled for the university quotas for admitting international students from abroad, except for the programs of Law, Medicine, Dentistry, and Pharmacy, if requested by the university; and provided that the quotas set in Article 2/b are not exceeded for other programs of the same university, the relevant boards of the universities shall be able to transfer these vacant quotas. As for the programs of Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy, and Law, transfers can be made with a decision by the Higher Education Executive Board.

### **B- Applicants:**

a) Conditioned on being in the final year of high school or having graduated;

1) Those who are foreign nationals, provided that they have registered before the 2022-2023 academic year, in high school institutions in Turkey (excluding foreign nationals enrolled in Embassy schools, international private educational institutions listed in the MOBIS system, and those brought to our country within the framework of projects conducted by the Ministry of National Education).

2) Those who were born Turkish citizens but lost their Turkish citizenship by obtaining permission to renounce Turkish citizenship from the Ministry of Interior Affairs, and those who can prove that they hold a blue card (provided that they have registered before the 2022-2023



academic year, in high school institutions in Turkey), in accordance with Article 7 of Law No. 5901, which states, 'Children born to a Turkish citizen mother or father within a legal marriage are Turkish citizens,' are encouraged to review the Turkish Citizenship Law when applying for quotas for international student admissions.

**3)** Individuals who obtained Turkish citizenship through naturalization after having a foreign nationality, as well as dual citizens in this situation (provided that they have registered before the 2022-2023 academic year, in high school institutions in Turkey),

**\* 4) a)** Turkish citizens who were attending secondary education abroad before 01/02/2013 and completed the last three years of their secondary education (high school) in a foreign country other than the TRNC (Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus) can apply for quotas for the admission of international students from abroad. This includes those who completed their entire high school education in foreign countries outside of the TRNC in Turkish schools established under the Ministry of National Education.

**b)** Candidates who started their secondary education abroad after 01/02/2013 can apply for quotas for the admission of international students from abroad if they completed their entire secondary education (high school) in a foreign country other than the TRNC (Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus). This includes those who completed their entire high school education in Turkish schools established under the Ministry of National Education in foreign countries outside of the TRNC.

**5)** Acceptance of applications from TRNC nationals who have completed their secondary education (high school) in TRNC and possess GCEAL exam results, as well as those who have registered at colleges and high schools in other countries between 2005-2010 to receive education and possess or will possess GCE AL exam results.

**b)** From the candidates,

**1)** Those who are Turkish citizens and have completed their entire secondary education (high school) in Turkey or TRNC,

**2)** Excluding TRNC nationals who have completed their entire secondary education (high school) in TRNC and possess GCE AL exam results, as well as those who have registered at colleges and high schools in other countries between 2005-2010 to receive education and possess or will possess GCE AL exam results,

**\*3)** Dual citizens described in paragraph 2 of article 3, who have Turkish citizenship by birth as their primary nationality, excluding those who meet the conditions in paragraph 4 of article 3.

**4)** Dual citizens with one of their nationalities being TRNC, excluding those who have completed their entire secondary education (high school) in TRNC and possess GCE AL exam results, as well as those who have registered at colleges and high schools in other countries between 2005-2010 to receive education and possess or will possess GCE AL exam results.



- 5) Turkish citizens or dual citizens described in paragraph 2 of article 3 who are studying at schools within the Turkish embassies in Turkey and foreign high schools in Turkey,
- 6) Not accepting applications from TRNC citizens and individuals who will enroll in secondary education institutions in Turkey starting from the 2022-2023 academic year, as well as those who have renounced Turkish citizenship or hold blue cards, and foreign nationals (excluding foreign nationals enrolled in embassy schools, international private educational institutions listed in the MOBIS system, and those brought to our country within the framework of projects conducted by the Ministry of National Education).

#### C- Principles Regarding University Admission Conditions:

- 1) Countries should formulate the principles for the admission of international students, including the minimum scores for methods such as their national exams, international exams, high school (secondary education) grade averages, university-administered exams, etc., in the form of a directive or regulation accepted by university senates, and submit it for approval by the Higher Education General Assembly.
- 2) Adding a financial guarantee amount to the terms and conditions determined by universities to ensure that the financial resources of students coming from abroad will enable them to pursue higher education in our country.
- 3) Legally, the universities in our country should issue acceptance letters or equivalent documents to foreign candidates they admit to our country. Regarding candidates who apply in the interim period, if the relevant higher education institution conducts an examination and the applicant meets the application requirements, a 'pre-acceptance letter' or equivalent document may be issued for the next academic year, not exceeding one-third of the previous year's international student admission quota for the respective university, provided that it is approved by the relevant higher education institution.
- 4) To enable students from abroad to choose our country's universities in their preferences, the preparation of documents and catalogs that promote our universities, the encouragement of our universities to participate in education fairs abroad, and the establishment of Foreign Student Offices within universities to assist applicants or arriving students.
- 5) High education institutions should determine and specify in their academic calendars the application schedule within the framework of the quotas for international students from abroad, and they should also report information about registered students to the Higher Education Council Presidency.
- 6) It is considered appropriate that the Turkish language proficiency of students coming from abroad should be evaluated by the relevant higher education institution based on the conditions and required documents set by the university where they have earned their admission rights.

\* : It has been arranged based on the decision made by the Council of State, 8th Chamber, regarding the suspension of execution, in accordance with the authority granted to the Executive Board in the Higher Education General Assembly meeting held on May 21, 2014, and the decision made on July 16, 2014, regarding the candidates who can apply.