

## STUDYING IN ALGERIA

In Algeria, public education is free and is a constitutional right.

The country had only 3,000 students after its independence in 1962, and now records:

- 80.2% of literacy rate, 87.2% for men and 73.1% for women.
- 63.6% of training age population each year.
- 96.7% schooling rate.

The Algerian university network has one hundred and four (104) higher education institutions spread over the fifty-eight (58) wilayas, covering all the national territory.

This network consists of fifty (50) universities, thirteen (13) university centers, twenty (20) national graduate schools, ten (10) preparatory schools, eleven (11) normal graduate schools and two annexes.

Currently, the scientific research network, under the supervision of the Ministry of Higher Education, has thirty-one (31) institutions including thirteen (13) research centers, twelve (12) research units and six (6) research agencies.

Vocational education in Algeria currently has 1,297 institutions with 422 specialties, covering 22 professional branches.

### Educational System of Algeria

Algeria's education system is mainly managed by three ministries:

- Ministry of National Education.
- Ministry of Training and Vocational Education.
- Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research.

All foreigners wishing to study in Algeria must have a student visa.

The central administration of education in Algeria is backed by those of national institutions and branches of the wilayas.

In addition to the three ministries mentioned above, education is also run by:

- National Literacy Center (CNA).
- National Institute of Educational Research (INRE).
- National School Publications Office (ONPS).
- National Office for Distance Education and Training (ONEFD).
- Center for Supply and Maintenance in Didactic Equipment and Materials (CAMEMD);
- National Institute of Educational Personnel Training (INFPE).
- National Examination and Competition Office (ONEC).
- National Educational Documentation Center (CNDP).
- National Program Commission (CNP).

- National Board of Education and Training (CNEF).
- National Education and Training Observatory (ONEF).
- National Educational and Linguistic Center for Teaching in Tamazirt.
- National Center for the Integration of Educational Innovations and Development of Information and Communication Technologies (CNIIPDTICE).
- Wilayas Education Directorates.

It is also worth mentioning the participation of Ministry of Youth and Sports, Ministry of Health and Population and Hospital Reform and the Ministry of National Solidarity, Family and Status of Women. Moreover, parent associations provide moral and material support while participating in school life.

To study in Algeria, being fluent in Arabic language is necessary for many courses. French is a language used only for scientific subjects and is taught as a foreign language in the same way as English and Spanish.

#### **Observation:**

Graduate and post-graduate students from training ministerial departments, in addition to the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, who do not have a command of the learning language, receive one year of intensive language training at the language training institutes of the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research.

The language training year shall be integrated into the overall duration of the training curriculum and shall be entitled to the same benefits.

A list of foreign students requiring such training is sent annually to the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research.

A system of continuous monitoring and annual or end-of-academic course evaluation ensures the quality of proportionate education in public and private institutions. A diagnosis of strengths and weaknesses in the learning process is made to ensure levels of understanding, assimilation, and absorption of information.

#### **How to register for University Course:**

To register in an Algerian university, a foreigner must go through three stages:

- First of all, you have to fill out a greeting card online, it is available on sites reserved for pre-registration. A choice of 10 universities, field subjects or schools can be registered. During this formality, you must indicate your choice at the baccalaureate (or equivalent), your general average, the marks with the highest coefficient and the place of graduation. Credential evaluation made by the Commission of Equivalency of the Ministry of Higher Education allows to determine the acquired knowledge and the year in which the student can register.
- Following this formality, the national computerized processing service will make an initial selection to check the students' choices and suggest them an assignment in a specific field or course.

- After this assignment, you must contact the indicated institution to submit the registration file, pay affordable administrative fees, collect the administrative registration confirmation documents, and find out the university program. A set of documents must be provided to complete the final registration file.

These include:

- originals of degrees and their equivalence.
- assignment form.
- a birth certificate.
- two stamped envelopes including your address.
- three identity photos.
- an information sheet provided by the higher education institution.

Where an assignment proposed by the system is not suitable for the person concerned, this latter may lodge an appeal online. It will be treated according to the pedagogical report in force during the current academic year and in relation to the capacity of the other host institutions.

Scholarship can be obtained. This requires a bachelor's degree, or a high school diploma recognized by Algerian universities, a visa, or a memorandum of understanding, and perfect command of Arabic language (for some subject fields whose courses are only in Arabic).

The Algerian academic year begins in October and ends in July. However, it is not necessary to wait until the last moment to carry out the search and registration, there are many applications, measures to be followed and obtaining of a visa take some time.

### Student Visa:

A foreign national must have a student visa to study in Algeria. To obtain it, the applicant must apply for a certificate of registration at the institution where he is posted. He must also have health insurance and repatriation insurance covering all relevant costs, prove that he has financial means to meet all his needs and pay all the costs related to the studies (or give a taking in charge certificate), and provide documentary evidence of domicile or accommodation.

### Academic equivalency diploma

To pursue a university course in Algeria, the foreign national is subject to obtaining an equivalency diploma issued by the Algerian Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research. Registration to complete the application must be made online, on the Ministry's website.

Then, to take the equivalency diploma, he must present himself to the administration with all his original degrees and certificates. They must be authenticated by the issuing institution and by the Algerian diplomatic representation of the country of origin.

## Which University to Choose in Algeria?

As mentioned above, there are 50 universities in Algeria. There are also 13 university centers, 11 normal schools, 10 preparatory schools and 20 national higher schools. These establishments are spread throughout the territory.

The oldest university is the University of Algiers (commonly known as “La Fac centrale”), it was founded in 1879. It manages the programs of literature, law, medicine, and science. Most of the other institutions were established after the independence of Algeria in 1962.

Proportional education has the same quality throughout the country, the curriculum, and other factors such as family ties or personal preferences may encourage one to go to a specific city.

Algeria is an ideal country for studying the history of antiquity and the history of Arab culture and philosophy.

Studying in Algeria is recommended for fields related to the oil industry (geology, geophysics, mathematics). The health efforts in Algeria also make it an interesting country for medical studies.

## Scholarship:

The scholarship offered by Algeria shall take in charge:

- Your tuition.
- Your accommodation and transport.
- A monthly stipend during your studies.

However, the airline ticket is not included in the program. It is at the student’s cost.

Sources:

Ministry of National Education.

Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research.

Ministry of Vocational Training.