



**The Arab Open University Award Bylaw
for Student Excellence**

الجامعة العربية المفتوحة
Arab Open University

Approved by University Council No. 63

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Introduction

Students constitute the real mainstay of the Arab Open University (AOU). There can be no real meaning for any effort or work if it did not reflect on students, whom are considered the main outcome of the academic process. Hence is the attention accorded by the University to encourage students and support those who excel, as such support is of high importance, for it provides true moral sustenance and embracement by the academic institute for its outstanding students.

Article 1: Title

The present bylaws shall be named: “The Arab Open University Award Bylaw for Student Excellence.”

Article 2: Definitions

Unless the context indicates otherwise, the following words and expressions shall have the meanings specified hereunder:

The University	The Arab Open University
The Director/Rector	The Director/Rector of an Arab Open University branch or campus
The Branch	An Arab Open University branch or campus

Article 3: Award Objectives

The prize aims to:

- Encourage student excellence in AOU’s different academic areas.
- Present and recognize excellence in academics, which provides an incentive for other students.
- Follow-up the performance of excellent students so that they maintain their outstanding levels.

Article 4: Award Types

The prize is assigned and presented annually to the winners of the three categories as follows:

- 1) The winner in this category should have successfully completed 36 credit hours.
- 2) The winner in this category should have successfully completed 66 credit hours.
- 3) The winner in this category should have successfully completed 96 credit hours.

Article 5: Award Components

The prize consists of the following:

- 1) A certificate and shield bearing the AOU title and the name of the winner.
- 2) A monetary prize of US \$500 for each winner, as detailed in Article 4 herein.

Article 6: Nomination Conditions

- The nominee must have completed the number of credit hours for his/her group in accordance with Article 4 herein.
- The nominee ought to have a GPA of not less than 3.7 points out of 4.0.
- Recommendation letters by two academic staff whom taught the nominee explaining why he/she should be nominated for the prize.
- The nominee must be active in one of the University's clubs or in serving the community, in collaboration with the Student Affairs Department (SAD).

Article 7: Award Announcement and Awarding Procedures

The prize is announced and awarded as follows:

- 1) The Rector shall announce the start of application and nomination for the Student Excellence Prize. Subsequently, all students are informed of the nomination conditions.
- 2) SAD shall receive all applications and prepare all nominations of applicants who meet the nomination conditions for each of the three groups named in Article 4 herein.
- 3) The process of sorting, checking, and declaration of results is undertaken by a committee formed and headed by the Rector. Its members consist of the Assistant for Academic Affairs, the student Affairs Officer, as well as all Programme Coordinators.

Article 8: Principles of Selection

Selection of winners must be based on the following benchmarks:

- Obtaining the highest GPA in each category described in Article 4 herein.
- Displaying a sense of belonging to the University; respecting its rules and regulations and having no prior penalties.
- Active participation in extracurricular activities and student clubs.
- Not having failed any course.
- If the nominees have the same GPA, the prize shall be divided equally among the winners.

Article 9: General Provisions

- A) The current bylaws herein shall override any previous bylaws relating to or having the same title or subject matter.
- B) Rectors of AOU branches are responsible for implementing the decisions made according to these bylaws.
- C) The University Council shall deal with matters not stipulated in these bylaws.