

Ministerial Decree no. 73 of 2023 concerning Limited Equivalency of Private School Certificates (Private Schools applying the American Education System)

Article 1

In application of the provisions stipulated hereunder, the terms and expressions below shall have the definitions assigned for each of them, unless required otherwise by the context:

State	United Arab Emirates
Ministry	Ministry of Education
Minister	Minister of Education
Private School	A non-governmental educational institution that provides educational services from KG to the end of the secondary stage
Higher Education Institution	A governmental or non-governmental educational institution that provides post-secondary educational services

Article 2

In cases where the student does not pass the English language test required to issue an equivalency certificate of completion of high school in private schools applying the American education system but completes all other conditions required, the student shall be granted a limited equivalency as follows:

The certificate is equivalent to a Grade 12 certificate and it can be used for work purposes or to pursue university studies **only** in majors taught in a language other than English.

Article 3

In cases where the student does not pass the Math test required to issue an equivalency certificate of completion of high school in private schools applying the American education system but completes all other conditions required, the student shall be granted a limited equivalency as follows:

The certificate is equivalent to a Grade 12 certificate and can be used for work purposes or to pursue university studies only in majors not including:

- Engineering and Information Technology majors
- Medicine and Health Sciences majors

- Natural Sciences majors
- Business Administration majors
- Finance and Accounting majors
- Economy majors

Article 4

In cases where the student doesn't pass the English and Math tests required to issue an equivalency certificate of completion of high school in private schools applying the American education system but completes all other conditions required, the student shall be granted a limited equivalency as follows:

The certificate is equivalent to a Grade 12 certificate and can be used for work purposes or to pursue university studies only in majors taught in a language other than English and not including:

- Engineering and Information Technology majors
- Medicine and Health Sciences majors
- Natural Sciences majors
- Business Administration majors
- Finance and Accounting majors
- Economy majors

Article 5

1. Private schools in the UAE shall be fully responsible for the implementation of the provisions of this decree.
2. Higher education institutions shall not admit students from Private Schools applying American Education System without an equivalency certificate of their high school certificate issued from the UAE Ministry of Education.
3. All private schools and higher education institutions shall regulate their status in accordance with the provisions set under this Ministerial Decree.
4. The concerned departments in the Ministry shall follow up on the commitment of private schools and higher education institutions in the UAE to implement the provisions of this decree. They shall also submit reports in this regard to us to take what we deem appropriate regarding any violation of these terms.

Article 6

The Undersecretary for Academic Affairs is entitled to issue decrees, circulars, and executive regulations to ensure the implementation of the provisions of this Ministerial Decree.

Article 7

This Ministerial Decree shall be communicated to whoever is required to implement it and to act under it, and to repeal any provision contrary to its provisions.

Dr. Ahmad Belhoul Al Falasi

The Minister of Education

Note: this is a translation of the decree issued by the Ministry of Education, which is originally published in Arabic.