

Education Excellence Day

Information Guide

Category

The Outstanding Student

In the Name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

In a world characterized by rapid change, we must provide our children with the knowledge and skills that enable them to create change, not just contend with it. This is what our nation is striving to achieve under the guidance of His Highness the Amir.

Therefore, as we develop our policies and plans, we have to realize the significance of the new developments in our education system that aim to achieve further progress and prosperity in all fields for the betterment of our precious state.

We believe educational excellence is an indicator of efficiency and sense of duty, both qualities that are necessary for nations to achieve progress.

This is the true concept of educational excellence and the reason we celebrate today. Just like with human creativity, there is no limit to what we can achieve with education. We are keen to honor the educational excellence of our children because they are the builders of a promising future, God willing.

His Highness Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani
Heir Apparent
President of the Supreme Council for Education

Praise be to Allah ...

In the fast-paced, competitive times we live in, there is little room for the uncreative and the untalented. Especially when we consider Allah's doctrine which called for perfection in

everything ... The Messenger of Allah (peace be upon him) said: Allah loves if you pursue a work, you perfect it...).

Our country is moving steadily toward a more sophisticated society under the Qatar National Vision 2030, but we still depend on our childrens' achievements and educational excellence to get there. Creative minds and innovative capacity are the true wealth of this country.

The patron of the educational excellence award, His Highness Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, will honor distinguished individuals in the State of Qatar at all educational levels in a variety of categories. With the presentation of this award, he will continue to promote quality standards in the educational system and inspire the spirit of fair competition.

The excellence award is not just the culmination of a student's efforts but the beginning of a road full of hard work and achievements distinguished by innovation and creativity.

If earning this award requires hard work and perseverance, then maintaining this position requires double the efforts. We hope that our students continue to strive for excellence and creativity even after winning this award because that is the only way to achieve success in life beyond school. This education excellence award, with this enlightened vision, is a significant addition to the educational development of the State of Qatar, because it celebrates determination, creativity, and innovation.

This award serves as an incentive for the sons of the homeland to work hard and strive for excellence while we continue our efforts to build better education at all levels. It is important that our students be motivated to learn because without educated citizens, we cannot achieve progress in our nation. According to the ambitious vision set by our wise leadership, knowledge is the true base for building an advanced and progressive society.

For this reason I urge my sons and daughters to work hard and persevere to reach excellence in all fields. With all my best wishes,

God Speed.

Saad Bin Ibrahim Al-Mahmoud
Minister of Education
Secretary-General
Supreme Education Council
Head of the Award Board of Trustees

Excellence and competition are part of human nature, but it is most compelling and necessary for us as Muslims because it is our way towards happiness in this world and in the world after.

ولنتأمل قوله سبحانه وتعالى (وفي ذلك فليتنافس المتنافسون)

We find an explicit invitation to strive for excellence through honest competition, and competition also reveals man's capacity and capabilities, stimulates creativity, and motivates innovation.

In the spirit of innovation, the Education Excellence prize, sponsored by His Highness Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, the Heir Apparent and President of the Supreme Education Council, was established to honor distinguished sons of Qatar and promote excellence in education.

There is no doubt that this prize plays an important role in spreading the culture of innovation and excellence in Qatari society, and will help motivate the school's students, teachers and administrators, university students, and doctoral students to strive for excellence. This is what we hope to achieve with the Education Excellence Prize in a variety of categories.

Excellence is not the achievement of a single individual, but the result of cooperation between many parties. It also sets a good example of determination, persistent effort, wisdom, and the ability to communicate and coordinate with others.

We hope that through this award we involve many target groups, inspire excellence through honest competition, and open yet another chapter in the “*Education for a New Era*” initiative.

The Prize Commission

The Outstanding Student

Terms of participation

We will select the best student for each category from among applicants who meet the following criteria:

A – Platinum Medal Category

The student must :

1. Be of Qatari nationality (a copy of their ID card must be provided).
2. Be a secondary school student in the State of Qatar.
3. Obtain a secondary certificate in the same year.
4. Have a 95% or higher as an average in all school subjects over the last three years (copies of official certificates or an equivalent from private schools must be provided).
5. Obtain a minimum of 95% of the total evaluation criteria score.

A – Gold Medal Category

The student must:

1. Be of Qatari nationality (a copy of their ID card must be provided).
2. Be a secondary school student in the State of Qatar.
3. Obtain a secondary certificate in the same year.
4. Have a 95% or higher as an average in all school subjects over the last three years (copies of official certificates or an equivalent from private schools must be provided).
5. Obtain a minimum of 85% of the total evaluation criteria score.

Value of the prize

First Place: Student Winners

- **Outstanding Student Platinum Medal category:**
The Outstanding Student is to be awarded a platinum medal, a certificate of excellence and cash reward of 35,000 Qatari riyals.
- **Outstanding Student Gold Medal category:**
The outstanding Student is to be awarded a gold medal, a certificate of excellence and a cash reward 25,000 Qatari Riyals.

Second Place: Participant Students

- **The Participant Student Platinum Medal category:**
- The student participant who obtains 90% or above of the evaluation criteria score, but did not win the prize, will be awarded a certificate of excellence.

- **The Participant Student Gold Medal category:**
- The student participant who obtains 85% or above of the evaluation criteria score, but did not win the prize, will be awarded a certificate of excellence.

Evaluation Criteria

1) Personal Characteristics

This includes the following criteria:

1 / 1: Behavioral Commitment

Letters of recommendations from the School Director - The Social Worker.

The letters of recommendation should include the following points:

- 1 – Commitment to religion, morals and values
- 2 – Compliance with regulations and systems of the school.
- 3 – Cooperation with colleagues and school administration.

Letters must be placed inside envelopes and officially certified by the school.

1 / 2: Leadership:

-- Leadership positions held by the student during the three years of secondary school.

-- Leadership roles and accomplishments of the student.

1 / 3: Fluency and discussion / debate ability:

-- This is assessed during the interview held by the judging panel and the following standards will be measured during the interview:

-- Articulation

-- Clarity of ideas and coherence.

-- Persuasive ability.

-- Expression of opinions.

-- Self-confidence.

2) Self-Development

This criteria includes:

2 / 1: Training courses:

-- Training sessions in which the student participated as a trainee or instructor to his fellow students.

2 / 2: Seminars and Lectures

-- Seminars, lectures, and forums attended or participated by the student.

2 / 3: Visits to the library:

-- Activities exercised by the student in the library, including:

- reading and research (in books, on the Internet ...).
- Borrowing books from the library.
- Watching television programs.
- Other different activities in the Library.

2 / 4: Scientific Visits:

-- Number of various local scientific visits paid for by the student, whether in school or with his family.

-- Number of various local scientific visits paid for by the student, both with the school and various community organizations.

2 / 5: Talents and Hobbies:

-- Talents and hobbies exercised by the student.

-- Development of those talents and hobbies.

-- Product of each talent or hobby.

3) Various Activities and Competitions:

3 / 1: School activities.

-- Number of school activities.

-- Type of activity.

3 / 2: Competitions and Prizes.

-- Number of competitions in which a student participated.

-- Prizes and medals won by the student.

-- Type of participation and outcome.

4) Community contributions:

- Name and date of participation.
- Level of participation and the event.
- It is suggested that there should be one participation in each type of community contribution, and if the student had more than one participation it is proposed that the best participation is recalled.

5) Scientific Research:

- Title of the research.
- Key research objectives.
- Most important results of the research.
- Brief presentation of the research (ten minutes).

Note:

- Interviews will only be made with students who obtained 80% or more of total evaluation criteria for measuring capacity for dialogue and discussion.

The decisions of the judging committees are final and not open for revision or modification