

Certificate (Diploma) Equalization Requirements

1. At first, the students/applicants should carefully read the instructions pertaining to certificate/diploma equalization and closely follow them.
2. For diplomas obtained from outside Iraq and Kurdistan Region, they have to bear the Iraqi Embassy stamps in the country in question or Kurdistan Regional Government's Foreign Relations Office stamp as well as the stamp from the Foreign Ministry of the country where the diploma was obtained.
3. Students who have received their high school certificates from abroad are required to visit KRG Ministry of Higher Education & Scientific Research (MOHESR) so we can address a formal letter to KRG Ministry of Education's Directorate of Examinations. After the high school certificate equalization is complete, the student can apply for equalization online through the Directorate of Diploma Equalization/MOHESR Website.
4. For any diploma to be equalized, the applicant is required to submit his/her previous diploma with it.
5. All diplomas earned from outside Iraq and Kurdistan Region must be equalized by our directorate in order of submission date and precedence.
6. Except for diplomas in English and Arabic, all diplomas in other languages must be translated into English by the relevant university and country where they were obtained and then authenticated. They are also required to bear the Iraqi Embassy stamps in the country in question or Kurdistan Regional Government's Foreign Relations Office stamp as well as the stamp from the Foreign Ministry of the country where the diploma was obtained.
7. Applicants must be residents of Kurdistan Region otherwise they are required to bring their Residence Permits valid for at least six months from the date of issue.
8. The universities must have been registered by UNESCO otherwise the application is rejected.
9. For any equalization process to take place, the diploma must have been earned from one of the universities approved by the Ministry of Higher Education & Scientific Research (MOHESR) and the MSc/MA or PhD holder is supposed to have been registered in the MOHESR before he/she

started the study. If this requirement is not met, the application is rejected.

10. Universities which adopt online education are not recognized, nor are branches of universities.
11. For residents of Kurdistan Region, each applicant is charged 75000 ID for diploma equalization. However, residents coming from outside the Kurdistan Region are charged 150000 ID and foreigners 300000 ID.
12. For each seminar conducted, the student is charged 50000 ID for the first time, 100000 ID for the second time, and 150000 ID for the third time
13. Students who fail their seminars for the second time in a row, they are required to obtain the Minister of HESR to be given the last chance.
14. The minimum average requirements for students who study abroad are as follows: General Medicine 85%, Pharmacy and Dentistry 80% and Engineering specializations 75%.
15. After the result of any diploma equalization is announced, the applicant must attend the Ministry in person bringing all the original copies of the documents previously submitted online to confirm their genuineness.
16. After the application is reviewed and complete, the applicant must visit the Ministry and bring his/her passport for confirmation.
17. The duration of stay in the host country required for the MSc/MA student is 9 months, for the PhD student is 18 months, and for the BSc/BA is 9 months for each academic year.
18. Academic diplomas are those which the student has earned two of them from the same department or specialization. Diplomas that do not meet this requirement are regarded as vocational.
19. Applicants can visit the MOHESR Directorate of Diploma Equalization on Sundays, Mondays, and Tuesdays only. Visitors are not received on Wednesdays and Thursdays due to the weekly meeting of the Equalization Committee on Wednesdays and workload clearance by our employees on Thursdays.
20. Any request for meeting the Committee members or interviewing must exclusively be made to the committee itself or via email to the committee members after their approval is granted.
21. The date for interview with the committee members is Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m. and after.

22. Applicants/ Students reserve the right to appeal against the committee decisions within one month from the date of issue otherwise, they will not have the right to do so.
23. Students and applicants who are civil servants at KRG offices and institutions are required to bring approval letters from their institutions which must be addressed to MOHESR- Directorate of Diploma Equalization and place it in the space allotted on our website. After the application is complete, he/she will go to the MOHESR to have an incoming stamp put on it.