

# Turkey

## Scholarship & Top University Guide

Turkey has rapidly emerged as one of the most popular study destinations for Pakistani students. With the world-renowned *Turkiye Burslari* (Turkey Scholarships) fully covering tuition, accommodation, stipend, flights, and health insurance — Turkey offers one of the most generous government scholarship programs globally. Pakistan consistently ranks among the top 5 nationalities receiving Turkish government scholarships each year.

### GLOBAL RANKING & REACH

<h2>Top 30</h2> <p>QS Higher Ed System Ranking</p>	<h2>Top 35</h2> <p>Times Higher Ed Country Ranking</p>	<h2>200,000+</h2> <p>International Students/yr</p>	<h2>~25,000</h2> <p>Pakistani Students Currently Studying</p>
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### WHY STUDY IN TURKEY?

- ✓ *Turkiye Burslari*: Full government scholarship — tuition + housing + monthly stipend + flights + health
- ✓ Very low cost of living compared to UK/USA — extremely student-friendly budget
- ✓ Many programs fully available in English — no Turkish required upfront
- ✓ Free 1-year Turkish language course provided before degree begins
- ✓ Muslim-majority country — culturally and socially very comfortable for Pakistani students
- ✓ Growing global reputation — multiple QS Top 500 universities in Istanbul and Ankara

### TOP UNIVERSITIES — RANKINGS, FEES & BENEFITS

University	City	QS Rank	Tuition / yr	Scholarship / Benefit
Bogazici University	Istanbul	#371 World	<b>FREE TUITION</b> Very Low / Free (scholarship)	FREE with <i>Turkiye Burslari</i> — Turkey's most prestigious English-medium university
Middle East Tech. Univ. (METU)	Ankara	#269 World	<b>FREE TUITION</b> Very Low / Free (scholarship)	FREE with <i>Turkiye Burslari</i> — top STEM university in Turkey; strong international profile
Istanbul Technical Univ. (ITU)	Istanbul	#298 World	<b>FREE TUITION</b> Very Low / Free (scholarship)	FREE with <i>Turkiye Burslari</i> — engineering-focused; globally recognized degrees
Bilkent University	Ankara	#415 World	\$5,000–\$8,000/yr	50–100% merit scholarships available — fully English-medium programs
Koc University	Istanbul	#323 World	\$10,000–\$15,000/yr	Merit-based partial to full scholarships for top international applicants
Sabanci University	Istanbul	#404 World	\$8,000–\$12,000/yr	Partial scholarships; strong industry connections in tech and business

University	City	QS Rank	Tuition / yr	Scholarship / Benefit
Hacettepe University	Ankara	#571 World	<b>FREE TUITION</b> Very Low (state university)	FREE with Turkiye Burslari — top medical and health sciences university
Istanbul University	Istanbul	#628 World	<b>FREE TUITION</b> Very Low (state university)	FREE with Turkiye Burslari — oldest university in Turkey; diverse programs
Ankara University	Ankara	#697 World	<b>FREE TUITION</b> Very Low (state university)	FREE with Turkiye Burslari — strong in law, medicine, and social sciences
Gazi University	Ankara	#915 World	<b>FREE TUITION</b> Very Low (state university)	FREE with Turkiye Burslari — known for education and engineering faculties

## SCHOLARSHIPS & FUNDING — COMPLETE BREAKDOWN

### Turkiye Burslari (Turkish Gov't Scholarship)

#### FULL FUNDING

Coverage: Full tuition + accommodation + 4,500 TL/month (UG) / 6,500 TL (Masters) / 9,000 TL (PhD) stipend + return flights + health insurance + Turkish language course

Who: Undergrad, Masters & PhD — any field | Awarded by: Presidency of the Republic of Turkey

### Diyanet Foundation Scholarship

#### FULL FUNDING

Coverage: Full accommodation + monthly stipend + meals — Islamic Studies focus

Who: Muslim students — Islamic / religious studies | Awarded by: Diyanet Foundation Turkey

### Bilkent University Merit Scholarship

#### PARTIAL TO FULL

Coverage: 50%–100% tuition waiver based on academic merit

Who: Undergrad & Masters — strong academic record required | Awarded by: Bilkent University

### TIKA Scholarship

#### PARTIAL

Coverage: Partial support for students from developing nations

Who: Undergrad & Masters | Awarded by: Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency

### HEC Turkey Scholarship Coordination

#### FACILITATION

Coverage: HEC Pakistan facilitates Turkiye Burslari slots for Pakistani applicants

Who: All levels — apply via [hec.gov.pk](http://hec.gov.pk) | Awarded by: HEC Pakistan

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Requirement	Details
O / A Level Results	Minimum B grades for most universities; A grades for top unis
IELTS (English programs)	5.5–6.5 overall for English-medium programs
Turkish Language	Free 1-year prep course provided — no prior Turkish needed
YOS Exam	Foreign Student Exam — required by most state universities directly
Turkiye Burslari Application	Apply online — no separate YOS exam required for scholarship route

Requirement	Details
Personal Statement	Required — emphasize motivation, future plans, and Turkey connection
Recommendation Letters	1–2 academic references required for scholarship applications
Application Portal	Scholarship: turkiyeburslari.gov.tr   Direct: each university website

### KEY DEADLINES & TIMELINE

Milestone	When	Notes
Turkiye Burslari Opens	January each year	turkiyeburslari.gov.tr
Turkiye Burslari Closes	Mid-February	Strict — no extensions given
YOS Exam Registration	March–April	Check each university's own schedule
Fall Semester Start	September–October	Standard for all Turkish universities
Spring Semester Start	February	Limited programs — check per university
Turkish Student Visa	After acceptance letter	Apply at Turkish Embassy Islamabad

### PAKISTANI QUALIFICATION EQUIVALENCY

Pakistani Qualification	Equivalent	Notes
A Level (Cambridge)	Directly accepted — no conversion needed	Highly valued; attach certified copies
IGCSE / O Level	Accepted as secondary school qualification	Attach notarized + attested copies
Pakistani Matric + FSc	Accepted by most Turkish universities	HEC + Ministry of Foreign Affairs attestation
Pakistani CGPA (Masters)	Accepted — official transcripts required	HEC attestation + notarization

### PRO TIPS FOR PAKISTANI STUDENTS

1. Apply for Turkiye Burslari even if your grades aren't perfect — personal statement and interview carry heavy weight.
2. The application opens in January and closes in February — do not miss this small window.
3. Choose English-medium programs at Bogazici, METU, or ITU for the best global recognition.
4. METU and Bogazici are the most internationally recognized Turkish universities — prioritize these for STEM.
5. Join Pakistani student WhatsApp/Facebook groups for Turkey — they share real experiences and scholarship tips.