

SHAHEEN PAKISTAN

Module: Further Study in Turkey



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SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION

GENERAL INFORMATION

Turkey is located at the bridge between Asia and Europe. It has a diverse society, with stunning architecture and many points of interest, thus resulting in a large tourism sector of the economy. The Turkish government has recently decided to attract international students for study, aiming to improve the education and policy environment to encourage this.

Language of Instruction

Programs in Turkey have varying mediums of instruction, including English, German, French and Turkish. If the language of instruction is English, then you can be assured that you can interact with the faculty/professors in English. It is important to note however that most state/public universities are Turkish-taught. If a course requires an understanding of the Turkish language, or if you generally want to study the language, you can take one year language foundation courses.

Note: some graduates from Turkey recommend that students learn Turkish before going to study there (even if their program is English-medium). Learning the language can make your journey and life in Turkey easier. They comment that at some point you will have to interact with someone in Turkish, so its easier to learn the language (even if you are not good or proficient in it, they say that Turkish people accept and usually understand you). You can even speak in mixed English and Turkish if you are not that proficient.

Quotas

Institutions are usually given a quota for international students, as determined by the Council of Higher Education (YOK). It is up to the institution whether they decide to fill the quota (i.e. some institutions may accept a number of students below the quota, if they wish to do so for whatever reason). This quota system is more common for undergraduate applications.

Contacting the University

Many universities recommend that international students contact them at least a year before they intend on entering the program. In this way they can guide you through the process and help you submit the right documents on time.

MOTIVATION TO APPLY TO TURKEY

One factor that attracts international students to Turkey is affordability -- Turkey is considered to be a cheaper alternative to education in European countries, with cheaper living costs as well. In addition to this, there are also scholarship opportunities offered not only by the universities but also by the government. Additionally, Turkey is a multicultural society. It has such a diverse culture, such that as you travel across the country you are likely to experience various different cultures and social environments. Other factors that could attract students from Pakistan particularly include the fact that Turkey is closer

to Pakistan, as compared to the UK, US, and Canada, and is also an Islamic country. In this way there are fewer cultural shocks experienced when studying there.

Job Prospects

It is difficult to work in Turkey due to the strict employment laws and due to language barriers, with most people speaking Turkish (you will need to have good knowledge of the Turkish language to work in Turkey). Salaries also tend to be lower for foreign workers, as compared to the UK, US and Canada. Salaries for graduates tend to only cover basic costs, and so job prospects are limited here.

Note however, that this is based on information found in 2018. New policies announced by the Turkish government in 2018 indicate more welcoming policies for international students hoping to work while studying and after graduating.

The following can be considered popular fields of work for graduates in Turkey:

- Engineering
- Finance
- IT
- Sales
- Supply Chain Management

Working while studying

Students enrolled in Undergraduate degrees can only start work after studying for one year in Turkey, and then too can only be employed in part-time work. Students enrolled in graduate degrees can work, as long as they file for a work permit. The work permits are issued by the Turkish Ministry of Labour and Social Security ([MLSS](#)). The permit application has to be filed by your employer; there is a misconception that you can get a work permit, independent of having a job - that is not the case. Information on how to apply can be viewed [here](#). The application usually takes 90 days to process.

Note that the student visa does not currently give students the right to work - you must apply for a work permit.

It is imperative that you apply for a work permit, before working in Turkey, whether it is full-time work or part-time; otherwise you and your employer will both be fined, and you will be deported. Also note, that there are certain professions for which work permits are not allowed. These include lawyers, pharmacists and [more](#). You can apply for a work permit if you secure a job, even if it is an internship. Additionally, you can also apply for a work permit if you are undertaking vocational training. Make sure to apply for the permit during the period of your residence permit!

Working in Turkey after graduation

While we would hope that Pakistanis return to Pakistan to play a part in building the country, we do want to share that -- for those interested in staying in Turkey after studies -- job prospects in Turkey tend to be

limited with comparatively lower pay. There is usually a lot of competition for good jobs. It is also important to have good knowledge of the Turkish language to do well in the job market. One prospect for you, if you are fluent in the English language, is to Teach English as a Second Language (TESOL) in a language institution or as part of private tuition. However TESOL, TEFL, CELTA or PGCE qualifications are required for such jobs.

The process and rules for applying for a permit are the same as the one mentioned above. [This link](#) provides additional information on employment in Turkey and also provides a list of useful links at the end of the page. Note however that this resource is Turkey-based and so may include information marketing the country to international students -- in this way it is very important to go through it carefully.

OVERVIEW OF THE HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM

Degree Structure

The Ministry of Education manages the Turkish education system. The higher education system consists of:

1. 2 years Associate (pre-Bachelor's) degree -- this isn't compulsory, but is useful for people seeking training in a particular vocation, before applying for a Bachelor's.
2. 4-year undergraduate (Bachelor's) degree
 - a. Note that some undergraduate degrees take longer, for example Medicine (6 years), Dentistry (5 years) and Veterinary Sciences (5 years).

Postgraduate study defined by:

3. Master's degrees usually last 2 years
4. PhD degrees usually last for 3-5 years

Types of Higher Education Institutions

The higher education system in Turkey is managed by the Higher Educational Council (YOK). As of 2019, there are over 200 universities in Turkey, most of which are state universities.

The following are types of higher education institutions in Turkey:

- A. Universities
 - a. State Universities (Devlet Universiteleri): These are run by the state and offer undergraduate, master's and doctoral degrees. As of 2019, there are 104 such universities.
 - b. Private or Foundation Universities (Ozel / Vakif Universiteleri): These universities are founded by private entities but are still controlled by the state. These institutions offer undergraduate, master's and doctoral degrees. These tend to be English-medium institutions. As of 2019, there are 62 such universities.
 - c. Technical Universities: These usually offer degrees in Engineering and Technology
- B. Vocational schools of higher education: these are similar to community colleges in the US. They offer students 2 years of undergraduate study after they complete High School (or equivalent).

These schools train students for specific vocations. Students who graduate from these institutions earn an Associate(pre-bachelors) Degree. As of 2019, there are 8 such schools in Turkey.

- C. Conservatories: these are mostly for degrees related to Music.
- D. Application-research centers

Application Process for different types of institutions and fields

1. Top Public Universities (English-taught)

The tuition fees in such universities are very low for international students. You will be required to take an international student exam as a part of your application for these programs – this exam measures your math, analytical thinking and problem solving skills. High GPA and English language proficiency scores are required for admission.

2. Medicine, Dentistry and Pharmacy programs in Public Universities

The quota of international students allowed for such programs tends to be low (as of 2019), and so admission prospects are competitive and limited. The international student exam is required for these too (since they are public universities).

3. Top Private Universities (English-taught)

These universities do not require an international student exam, but competition in admissions for such programs is tough and so high grades are expected and required. You need to have good scores in the English language proficiency tests, otherwise you will need to take a year to study at the university's English prep program. Standardized tests are sometimes required, such as the SAT for undergraduate programs, and GRE/GMAT for postgraduate programs.

a. Medicine, Dentistry and Pharmacy Foundation programs in Private Universities

In the private education sector, there are more opportunities for international students, because their quota is higher than public universities. The Language of instruction is usually English or Turkish. Higher grades and language proficiency scores are a requirement for admission.

b. Other Foundation (Private) Universities

There are a number of other (not top but good quality) programs offered by private foundation universities. For these the competition may be less. Tuition fees for these will be lower than for the top universities.

MISCONCEPTIONS

- **Language Barrier:** Students may think that they won't face a language barrier when studying an English-medium degree in a Turkish university, but this may not always be the case. It has been said by some students that there is a language barrier in some public universities. They argue that while the staff/administration and international study officer usually knows English, they will not always be there to help you with everything. They advise students to learn Turkish and also make friends with Turkish students who know English, so that they can help you communicate or navigate for your tasks.

- **Competition:** Turkish programs tend to be competitive, even for scholarships. At top universities, students tend to be academically strong.

SECTION 2: UNDERGRADUATE STUDY

TYPES OF DEGREES

Bachelor's Degree

Bachelor's Degrees are typically conferred after four years of study. Some fields, such as dentistry, architecture and veterinary medicine, will require five years of study. Medicine typically requires six years of study and gives students the MD qualification.

Note that some students say that undergraduate degrees in Turkey can sometimes take up to 6 years to complete, even for degrees such as Engineering.

Associate Degree

Associate Degrees are offered by Higher Vocational Schools. These pre-Bachelor's programs are of a strictly vocational nature, and are typically two years long. One of the primary objectives of these programs is to translate existing theoretical knowledge into practical experience. Popular fields of study for the Associate's Degree include:

- Accounting and Taxation
- Commerce and Administration
- Computer Technology and Programming
- Culinary Arts
- Fashion Design
- Graphic Design
- Logistics and Transportation
- Tourism

There are currently at least seven vocational higher education schools in Turkey that offer Associate's Degrees for international students.

Diploma

Engineering Diplomas are typically awarded by technical universities and higher technical institutions after four years of study.

HOW TO PREPARE FOR AN UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE

In order to be eligible for admission into an undergraduate program in Turkey, students must have completed their secondary school education, either at a high school or any secondary school institution equivalent to the Turkish high school.

EDUCATION SELECTION IN PAKISTAN

British Curriculum (O Levels/IGCSEs/A Levels) OR International Baccalaureate

If you are completing your A Levels or International Baccalaureate, you are typically eligible to apply directly for an undergraduate degree in Turkey. You will be subject to university-specific and

program-specific requirements, such as how many subjects you have to take at what level, and what grades you need to get. Make sure to view these requirements very carefully on the relevant university websites.

Note that there may be rare exceptions, where a university might expect you to take an entrance examination, such as the **YÖS** (more information below) to make you eligible for applying).

Pakistani Curriculum (Matriculation/HSSC)

A few number of Turkish universities accept the HSSC as equivalent of the Turkish Secondary School system, granted that you have achieved a minimum 60% grade. Depending on the university or program, this grade may need to be as high as 85%. Most universities however, will expect you to take part in the Foreign Student Exam (YÖS) before you are eligible to apply for an undergraduate degree.

Foreign Student Exam (YÖS)

This is an undergraduate entrance examination. Each university administers their own YÖS, and so each examination could be different from the other. There is however typically a Basic Learning Skills test that is supposed to test your knowledge in mathematics, geometry and symbolic expression. There is also usually a Turkish section to gauge your skill at the language. You can find more information about the exam [here](#).

APPLYING

OVERVIEW

Turkey does not have a common application system, so in order to apply to any program, you must directly apply to the university. The application components and requirements vary according to university.

[Study in Turkey](#) provides a useful search engine for finding universities and programs. It is important to research extensively on the programs offered by universities you are interested in and thus to evaluate whether they fulfil your requirements. This [Comparison Tool](#) can be used for such evaluations. Check out [Guidelines and Top Tips for Managing the Course Application Effectively](#) for more advice on how to organize the application process.

Application Components

The following are common application components:

- International Student Application Form
- High School Diploma, or equivalent certificate/diploma
- Transcripts
- Language Proficiency Score:
 - If you are applying for an English-taught course, then you will need to prove proficiency in the English Language
 - The minimum score varies according to university so it is important to check the university site for this.
 - International Language Tests include TOEFL, IELTS etc.
 - Some institutions also offer their own english proficiency exam -- some students say that this is an easier and cheaper alternative to IELTS and TOEFL.
 - If you are unable to take these tests, you may have to take the university's proficiency test when you reach the university. If you fail this test then you will have to take a preparatory course in the form of a Language Program. This program does not add to your university credits.
 - Procedures vary so it is important to check out the admissions page of your chosen universities.
 - If you are applying for a course taught in another language (e.g. French, German or Turkish), then you will likely need to prove proficiency in that language -- the individual programs will define the required procedures for this.
- Standardized tests, such as the ACT, SAT etc.
- Personal Statement
- Application Fee (can range between US\$35-100, as of 2018) - nonrefundable

- Entrance Exam

Note that these are general requirements; some universities may exempt the submission of certain components and others may have additional components. Also, it is important to check whether the university has the facilities for online application submission or whether they expect you to mail the package (or even submit it in person).

Application Cycle

To find out about the deadlines, it is best to check the university admission pages. The general deadline tends to be 1 August, as of 2018.

Application Process and Timeline

When applying to universities you should apply directly through the university websites.

FEES, FUNDING AND SCHOLARSHIP

The figures in this section were last updated in December 2018.

FEES

The tuition fees at Turkish universities depend highly on what type of program you are going for, and whether you are going to a public or private university. Public universities will usually charge a lower tuition fees; the range for these is typically **US\$450 - US\$1500** per year if you choose to do your degree in English. You will have to pay less if you choose to do your degree in Turkish.

Private institutions set their own tuition fees and you must check these on their specific websites before applying. These fees could be as low as public universities and as high as **US\$20,000** per year.

Note that top-tier universities (especially private ones) are higher than other universities.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS

Funding options come in a variety of forms, including scholarships, grants, loans and more. Scholarships in Turkey can be found by directly contacting the institution you are planning on studying at, and asking if you meet the eligibility requirements for any scholarships they have. Additionally, the following are scholarship options provided by organizations.

<u>Higher Education Commission, Pakistan</u>	The HEC has signed an MoU with some Turkish universities (these can be viewed in the link). These scholarships are university specific.
Turkiye Burslari scholarship	These scholarships specifically target international students. Age and academic background requirements apply for potential candidates, details of each can be viewed here . Note that this scholarship does not apply for Associate degrees or vocational degrees.

SECTION 3: POSTGRADUATE STUDY

DIFFERENT KINDS OF DEGREES

Master's Degree

The Master's Degree in Turkey requires two years of study beyond the undergraduate level. Students are also expected to prepare a thesis (when thesis is required, many students take 3 years to graduate).

The Higher Engineering Diploma works in the same way: it requires two additional years of study after undergraduate study, and requires the preparation and defense of a thesis. It is considered to be the equivalent of a Master's Degree.

Doctorate Degree

A Doctorate or PhD degree requires 2-6 years of study beyond the Master's level, and the preparation of a doctoral thesis.

The Proficiency in Art degree is considered to be equivalent to a Doctorate in Fine Arts, and a Specialist Degree is considered equivalent to a Doctorate in Medical Science.

HOW TO PREPARE FOR A POSTGRADUATE DEGREE

In order to be eligible for a graduate degree in Turkey, you must have an undergraduate or graduate degree. Your undergraduate degree needs to be at least **four years** long. Two to three year Pakistani degrees are NOT accepted into graduate programs in Turkey. This also means that if you have done a two year Bachelor's degree and then done a two year Master's degree in Pakistan, you will still not be eligible to apply for a Graduate degree in Turkey.

ALES (Academic Personnel and Postgraduate Education Entrance Exam)

ALES is a national entrance exam that is carried out by different universities. A lot of times, universities will expect you to pass this exam before considering you for admission for a Master's or Doctoral degree. The ALES is administered by OSYM (The Turkish Measurement, Selection and Placement Centre), and generally the exam is divided into two sections — the Mathematics section and the Linguistics section. Many times, you will be exempt from doing this test if you have done the GRE or GMAT, so make sure to check your specific university's requirements. More information can be found [here](#).

NON-DEGREE PROGRAMS (CERTIFICATIONS AND DIPLOMAS)

Certificates: These are training programs available to everyone, except those currently studying in an undergraduate or postgraduate degree program. These can be in the form of:

- Professional Programs
- Vocational Training Programs
- Skills Development Programs
- Short-term Courses

For more information on these, please [click here](#).

APPLYING

OVERVIEW

Note that Turkey does not have a common application system, so in order to apply to any program, you must directly apply to the university.

The application components and requirements vary according to university. [Study in Turkey](#) provides a useful search engine for finding universities and programs. It is important to research extensively on the programs offered by universities you are interested in and thus to evaluate whether they fulfil your requirements.

Application Components

The following are common application components:

- International Student Application Form
- Bachelor's or Master's Diploma
- Statement of Purpose
- Resume
- Reference Letters
- Transcripts
 - A good academic standing is required for admission into graduate programs
- Standardized Tests (GRE, GMAT, ALES)
- Language Proficiency Score:
 - If you are applying for an English-taught course, then you will need to prove proficiency in the English Language
 - The minimum score varies according to university so it is important to check the university site for this.
 - International Language Tests include TOEFL, IELTS etc.
 - If you are unable to take these tests, you may have to take the university's proficiency test when you reach the university. If you fail this test then you will have to take a preparatory course in the form of a Language Program. This program does not add to your university credits.
 - Procedures vary so it is important to check out the admissions page of your chosen universities.
 - If you are applying for a course taught in another language (e.g. French, German or Turkish), then you will likely need to prove proficiency in that language -- the individual programs will define the required procedures for this.
- Written Exam
- Interview
- For PhD programs, you will likely need to submit a research- or thesis- proposal.

Note that these are general requirements; some universities may exempt the submission of certain components and others may have additional components. Also, it is important to check whether the university has the facilities for online application submission or whether they expect you to mail the package (or even submit it in person).

Application Cycle

For Fall Semesters	The usual admission application deadlines are towards the end of May.
For Spring Semesters	The usual admission application deadlines are towards the end of December

Application Process and Timeline

When applying to universities you should apply directly through the university websites.

Note for PhD applications: Before you can submit your application for the program, you need to find a suitable and willing supervisor. This can be done by checking out the faculty in the programs you are interested in -- check out their areas of interests, their publications, their research projects etc. and see which one works in areas that you are interested in. Then when you shortlist the ones you are interested in, you can contact them, requesting that they be your supervisor. Usually, this involves providing them with your academic background details, letter of motivation (like the statement of purpose), research proposal and other relevant documents that can give them an idea about you as a potential candidate for the program.

FEES, FUNDING AND SCHOLARSHIP

These figures were last updated in December 2018.

FEES

The tuition fees at Turkish universities depend highly on what type of program you are going for, and whether you are going to a public or private university. Public universities will usually charge a lower tuition fees; the range for these is typically **US\$600 - \$US1500** per year if you choose to do your degree in English. You will have to pay less if you choose to do your degree in Turkish.

Private institutions set their own tuition fees and you must check these on their specific websites before applying. These fees could be as low as public universities and as high as **US\$20,000** per year.

Note that top-tier universities (especially private universities) usually charge higher fees than others.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS

Funding options come in a variety of forms, including scholarships, grants, loans and more. Scholarships in Turkey can be found by directly contacting the institution you are planning on studying at, and asking if you meet the eligibility requirements for any scholarships they have. Additionally, Turkiye Burslari scholarship offers scholarships specifically to international students. For this, scholarship opportunities are available for both Master's and PhD programs. Age and academic background requirements apply -- these can be viewed [here](#).

SECTION 4: GENERAL INFORMATION
(Applicable to all Applicants)

BUDGETING

As an international student, you will have to account for a lot of costs besides just the tuition fees. These include:

1. Travel expenses
2. Health and travel insurance
3. Accommodation and living expenses
4. Travel and sightseeing
5. Textbooks and other course materials
6. Food and drink
7. Miscellaneous

In total, the recommended amount of money you should have per month is between **US\$600 - US\$1200**. You will stay in the lower range if you share accommodation with other students, and if you choose to shop in local markets for your daily needs.

TRANSLATABILITY KEY

How applications to Turkey are different to those to the US and the UK?

The purpose of this key is to show how the application processes for Turkey compare to applications in the UK or the US (in terms of timelines, component requirements, degree types etc.) This information should allow you to: i) look at the field-specific tips given for USA or UK; then ii) adapt these tips for an application to another country (using the 'translatability key' in that country's profile). Please refer to the table below:

TRANSLATABILITY KEY	Are they required? Compare importance to UK/USA	Anything that needs to be added/removed (as compared to US/UK) in these components
STATEMENT OF PURPOSE	Required	
LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION	Required	
STANDARDIZED TESTS	Undergraduate: ACT, SAT etc. may sometimes be required. Graduate: GRE, GMAT, ALES sometimes required	For undergraduate applications: In the US and UK, the SAT is more significant than any other test. Otherwise, there may be field specific tests, such as the UKCAT for medical fields in the UK or the DAT for dental fields in the US. The significance of such tests will vary

		<p>for Turkish institutions, depending on your field of study and institution. Some institutions will focus on your SAT results, while others may not even require it. Make sure to research and confirm whether the institution that you are interested in requires SAT (try to connect with alumni to find out how significant of an application component it is).</p> <p>For Masters/PhD applications: ALES required -- the US/UK do not require this. GMAT and GRE are accepted as possible alternatives (note that this depends on the university) in Turkey.</p>
TRANSCRIPTS (which qualifications are accepted; if they are not, then what happens?)	Required	3 year bachelor's degrees from Pakistan are not accepted. In the UK/US, usually the completion of a Bachelor's degree is enough for Master's or PhD level studies.
INTERVIEWS	Sometimes required	
LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY TESTS	<p>Required: these depend on the program you are applying to. German, French, Turkish or English proficiency tests may be required, depending on the medium of instruction. In the UK, the IELTS are more significant (and other language proficiency tests are rarely required, unless a particular field requires it.), but TOEFL are also accepted. For the US, the TOEFL is more popular but IELTS are also accepted.</p> <p>For the US/UK, these English Language proficiency tests are highly irreplaceable, but for Turkey, other forms of proof are also accepted. For example, if you are unable to take the TOEFL/IELTS, you will be required</p>	

	to take university examinations to prove your language proficiency.	
<p>TIMELINE - Universities encourage candidates to contact them a year in advance, so that they can help you with the application process. For the UK and US, it is also encouraged to contact the university beforehand to find out if you are eligible to apply (in terms of previous qualifications) and to get guidance on the required documentation.</p>		
<p>FINAL COMMENTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additionally, Turkish institutions require the YOS, if you have a HSSC qualification (and in some rare cases, IB or A levels). • The requirement of writing samples for postgraduate degrees seems more common in the UK/US than in Turkey. However, this depends on the field of study and the program -- some Turkish programs may require these too. • As compared to the US, in Turkey you need to find a supervisor before you can apply for the PhD. 		

APPLYING FOR A VISA

We recommend that you consult [this](#) and [this](#) source when applying for the visa.

DO YOU NEED A VISA

If you are an international student wishing to continue your higher education in Turkey, you will need a Turkish Educational/Student Visa, which you will obtain from the Turkish Consulate in Pakistan -- student visas can **not** be obtained in Turkey.

If you are under the age of 18 years, you may need to submit official written approval letters from both of your parents.

WHEN SHOULD YOU APPLY

Generally it takes around 8 weeks from the time you submit your visa application to the time you potentially receive the visa.

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST

(Multiple Entry: approximately PKR 24,000)

Visa fees are non-refundable (even if your visa application is rejected).

Valid Health Insurance

All applicants are required to have valid medical insurance for the entirety of their stay in Turkey.

HOW LONG CAN YOU STAY IN TURKEY

A time limit will be specified on your visa stamp, but the student visa will typically remain valid for the time you are enrolled in school.

APPLYING

This section was last updated in November 2018. It is recommended you visit this link in case the process has changed.

1. You will need to visit the Turkish Embassy Consulate website for Pakistan, and apply for an online visa.
2. You will need to print your application form and submit it (along with a valid passport, passport-size photographs and other supporting documents, as mentioned on the website as per your visa category) at the Gerry's Visa Drop Box Office. After you have submitted your application at the submission counter, you will receive a receipt (which you will later use to collect your documents).
3. Once you receive a notification that your passport is ready for collection, you can collect your documents from the Gerry's Visa Drop Box Office.

OTHER INFORMATION

- Gerry's Visa Drop Box Offices are located all over Pakistan. [Click here](#) for more information.

ACCOMMODATION

This section was last updated in December 2018 and so the figures may be limited to that time.

GENERAL OPTIONS

International students can choose to live in one of three options: on-campus accommodation, private housing, and state-owned youth hostels. You should ideally make accommodation arrangements prior to your arrival in Turkey.

You can find more information about each of the options below.

Accommodation Type	Details
On-Campus Residency	<p>Applying</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This accommodation type is overlooked by each university's dormitory management office (the office overlooks all housing matters, including placement decisions). - Before contacting your university's dormitory management, you should have gained admission into the university. After gaining admission, you should look into the application procedures and rules. - Student placement in dormitories is reviewed and revised at the start of each academic year (according to the capacity--and demand at that time). - This kind of accommodation is available to undergraduate and graduate students. <p>Facilities (note: some of these may vary from university to university)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There are separate dormitories for males and females. - There are single rooms, double-occupancy rooms and quadruple-occupancy rooms. - All dorms are furnished and include the following: bed, closet, desk and chair, mini refrigerator, bedding etc. - Most dorms in Turkey also have kitchens, TV rooms, and small cafeterias (that serve food till midnight). - You will most likely have access to free wifi and phone services. <p>Cost and Payment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - You will be required to pay an initial deposit and a monthly dorm fee. Deposits are paid at the start of the year to reserve a room, and can be refunded at the end of the year. <p>Advantages</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Living in the university dorms would give you greater opportunities to be involved in campus activities. - It will also be easy for you to meet other students, and connect with them.
<p>Private Housing/Other Rented Accommodation</p>	<p>Some of the larger cities offer this type of accommodation to international and Turkish students.</p> <p>Applying</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - You can search for apartments on the internet. - You can also request your university's International Student Affairs Department to link you with reliable agents, or housing services (more information on this below). <p>Cost</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In the major cities, off-campus accommodation is expensive -- but the prices vary according to size, quality and area. - If you are interested in this option, you should try to share it with another student/friend--as a way of reducing the cost per person. <p>Facilities will vary in different places.</p>
<p>Youth Hostels</p>	<p>Youth hostels (or just hostels) are an affordable shared accommodation option that you can opt for. This type of accommodation is also used by tourists. Most of these hostels are independently owned, and offer different facilities.</p> <p>Facilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Many hostels offer private rooms and dorms. These can be single occupancy rooms, double occupancy rooms or triple occupancy rooms. - The size of the dorm varies from hostel to hostel. They generally range from 4-bed dorms to 20-bed dorms. - Most hostels do offer dorms that have private bathrooms attached to the rooms (en-suite room) . - Some hostels will have dorms that would have communal bathrooms, located in the same corridor as your room (non en-suite rooms). - Most of these hostels will have a kitchen where you can cook your own meals. Some would also have their own restaurants, cafes or bars.

Note: this is a general guide; it is recommended that you contact your university to find out more about their specific accommodation options.

International Students Assistance

The International Students Assistance Office, at each university, will offer guidance to new international students to help them find suitable accommodation. These offices will typically have a list of various properties that are being offered (containing details about price, security, quality and proximity to campus).

Almost all universities will have facilities like on-campus colleges, on-campus/off-campus apartments and private rentals. Before searching for other alternatives, you should look at the Dormitories Administration or Student Affairs Office or International Student Assistance as your university.

If you require accommodation after the start of the semester, then you may need to contact a real estate agent. They will be able to connect with suitable accommodation options, based on your requirements.

Cities ranked according to living cost

Istanbul tends to have higher prices etc. and so is considered more expensive than other cities.

SECTION 5: CONTRIBUTORS

These tips were compiled with the valuable help of SHAHEEN volunteers. The contributors to this tip-sheet include the following people:

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We thank our volunteers for their contribution, and hope their tips and advice will help you in your application.

The following sources were consulted in developing this country profile. We encourage you to consult these sources for additional information and guidance.

[Turkish Higher Education](#), [Education system](#), [Institutions](#), [Work permit in Turkey](#), [Student work permit](#), [Work permits for Turkey](#), [Employment opportunities](#), [Factors influencing international student's choice to study in Turkey and challenges they experience in Turkey](#), [Undergraduate](#), [Application](#), [Search](#), [How to apply](#), [Undergraduate admissions](#), [Institutions](#), [Graduate admissions](#), [University residences](#), [Renting and Private housing](#), [Hostels](#), [Housing assistance for students](#), [Support for international students](#), [Studying in Turkey](#), [Visa dropbox](#), [Information about the Turkish visa](#), [Student visa](#), [Cost of living in Turkey](#), [Turkey](#), [Cost of living in Turkey](#), [Studying and living](#), [Turkey scholarship](#), [Turkiye Burslari Scholarship](#), [Turkey](#), [Study in Turkey](#), [Study in Turkey](#), [Work in Turkey](#), and [International student graduates will soon be able to work](#).