

Ministerial Resolution No. (883) in 2019
Regarding the System of Equivalency of Private Schools

Ministry of Education:

- Pursuant to the perusal of the Federal Law No. (1) of 1972 regarding the competencies and authorities of the Ministers and its amendments.
- And the perusal of the decree of the Federal Law No. (3) of 2007 regarding private education.
- And the perusal of the decree of the Federal Law No. (11) of 2008 regarding human resources in the Federal Government and its amendments.
- And the perusal of the decree of the Law No. (15) of 2016 regarding Emirates Foundation for School Education.
- And the cabinet resolution No. (29) of 2008 regarding the private education regulation.
- And the cabinet resolution No. (28) of 2016 regarding the organizational structure of the Ministry of Education.
- And the cabinet resolution No. (1) of 2018 regarding the executive regulation of the decree of the Federal Law No. (11) In 2008 regarding human resources in the Federal Government and its amendments.
- And the Ministerial decree No. (699) of 2016 regarding the organizational structure of the administrations, offices and departments, and its competencies and tasks in the Ministry of Education.
- And the Ministerial decree No. (848) of 2018 regarding the system of equivalency of private schools certificates.
- And the Ministerial decree No. (199) of 2019 regarding the system of equivalency of Private Schools Certificates in the transitional period until the end of the academic year 2020-2021
- And according to which may be necessitated by public interest.

Derided:

Article One

For the purposes of this decree, the following words and expressions shall have the meanings indicated herein below, unless otherwise stated or implied by the context:

The country: United Arab Emirates.

The Ministry: The Ministry of Education.

The Minister: The Minister of Education.

The Private School: Any nongovernmental educational facility providing educational services from the Kindergarten stage until the secondary education stage.

Article Two

The private schools in the country are included under the following categories:

- Schools applying the Ministry curriculum.
- Schools applying the American system.
- Schools applying the British system.
- Schools applying the International Baccalaureate system.
- Schools applying the Canadian system.
- Schools applying the Australian system.
- Schools applying the French Baccalaureate system.
- Schools applying other curricula.

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Article Three

The students of private schools applying the Ministry curriculum are subject to the systems and regulations applicable in the public education. Its students shall apply to pass the secondary education exam, and those who pass the exam shall be granted the certificate of secondary education issued by the Ministry In the current tracks (general, advanced or elite) in general education.

Article Four

The equivalency of the secondary school completion certificates of private schools that are not applying the Ministry curriculum shall be made pursuant to the following general terms:

1. The applied education system and the curriculum shall be authorized and licensed in the country.
2. The educational facility that grants the certificate shall be authorized and licensed to work in the country.
3. The school shall be authorized and licensed to work in the country.
4. The school shall be certified by the educational facility that grants the certificate.
5. The educational stages in the certificate granting country shall be equivalent to the educational stages in the country.
6. The student must have completed twelve (12) academic years after kindergarten (two years).
7. The certificate shall qualify its holder to be admitted in the universities of the certificate granting country.
8. National being implemented pursuant to the related laws and regulatory decrees.

Article Five

1. The equivalency of the secondary school completion certificates of private schools that are applying **The American System** shall be made pursuant to the following terms:
 - a. The general terms stated in Article Four of this decree shall prevail.
 - b. The student must pass successfully in Grades 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th. The total number of hours should not be less than eighteen (18) credit hours or its equivalent, and the minimum grades for passing shall not be lower than D or 60% in each subject. Islamic Education and the Arabic Language are not included in these subjects.
 - c. The student shall be granted the secondary education certificate with minimum grades of D or 60%.
 - d. The student shall pass EmSAT Achieve in grade 12 pursuant to the related laws and regulatory decrees.
2. The equivalency of the secondary school completion certificates of private schools that are applying The American System in **General Track** pursuant to the following terms:
 - a. The general terms stated in item (1) of this article.
 - b. The student shall pass successfully the subjects through the Grades 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th:
 - English Language (not less than 4 credit hrs).
 - Mathematics (not less than 4 credit hrs).
 - Science subjects (not less than 4 credit) should including Physics.
 - Social Studies or Humanities (not less than 3 credit hrs)
3. The equivalency of the secondary school completion certificates of private schools that are applying The American System in **Advanced Track** pursuant to the following terms:
 - a. The general terms stated in item (1) of this article.
 - b. The student shall pass successfully the subjects through the Grades 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th:

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- English Language (not less than 4 credit hrs).
 - Mathematics (not less than 4 credit hrs) should including AP-Calculus AB.
 - Science subjects(not less than 4 credit hrs) should including Physics (Calculus-based), Chemistry (AP level) or Biology (AP level).
 - Social Studies or Humanities (not less than 3 credit hrs).
4. The equivalency of the secondary school completion certificates of private schools that are applying The American System in **Elite Track** pursuant to the following terms:
- a. The general terms stated in item (1) of this article.
 - b. The student shall pass successfully the subjects through the Grades 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th:
 - English Language (not less than 4 credit hrs).
 - Mathematics (not less than 4 credit hrs) should including AP-Calculus AB.
 - Physics, including:
 - AP Physics C: Electricity and Magnetism.
 - AP Physics C: Mechanics.
 - Chemistry or Biology (AP level).
 - Any other subject at (AP level) Islamic Studies and Arabic not counted.

Article Six

1. The equivalency of the secondary school completion certificates of private schools that are applying **The British System** with **Thanaweya Amma certificate** without specifying the tracks pursuant to the following terms:
- a. The general terms stated in Article Four of this decree shall prevail.
 - b. The student shall complete the 12th Grade or its equivalent.
 - c. The student shall pass five (5) subjects in the average level (IGCSE or GCSE) with one of the passing marks (A*, A, B, C, D) or (9,8,7,6,5,4,3) including the following subjects:
 - Mathematics
 - One of the Science subjects (Physics, Chemistry, Biology) or combined Science subject.
 - English Language or Literature.
 - d. The student shall pass two (2) subjects in the GCE Advanced Level with one of the passing marks (A*, A, B, C, D).
 - e. Islamic Education and Arabic Language shall not be included in the subjects of both levels.
 - f. The student shall choose the subjects stated for studying from among the subjects specified by the Ministry in the relevant regulatory decisions.

Article Seven

1. The equivalency of the secondary school completion certificates of private schools that are applying **The International Baccalaureate System** shall be made pursuant to the following terms:
- a. The general terms stated in Article Four of this decree shall prevail.
 - b. The school shall be recognized by an International Baccalaureate organization.
 - c. The student shall complete successfully the 12th Grade or its equivalent.
 - d. The student shall choose the subjects stated for studying from the subjects included in the authenticated lists of the International Baccalaureate organization.

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2. The equivalency of the secondary school completion certificates of private schools that are applying **The International Baccalaureate System** according to one of the tracks in items 3, 4, 5 and 6 from this article.
3. **First Approach:** The equivalency of **IB Diploma Program** with **Thanaweya Amma** (MoE high school diploma) certificates without specifying the tracks pursuant to the following terms:
 - a. The general terms stated in item (1) of this article.
 - b. The student shall hold the certificate of International Baccalaureate whereas the Islamic Education subject shall not be included within the subjects required for the diploma.
4. **Second Approach:** The equivalency of **IB Subject Certificates** with **Thanaweya Amma** (MoE high school diploma) certificates without specifying the tracks pursuant to the following terms:
 - a. The general terms stated in item (1) of this article.
 - b. The student shall pass successfully six (6) of the IB Subjects Certificates according to the following terms:
 - Any of the subjects' points shall not be less than 3 points.
 - The student total points shall be at least 21 points.
 - The student shall pass the following compulsory subjects within the six (6) subjects required for equivalency: English Language, Mathematics and one of the Science subjects and those subjects can be taught in the Standard Level or the High Level.
 - Islamic Education shall not be included within the six (6) subjects required for the equivalency.
5. **Third Approach:** The equivalency of **IB Career-Related Program** certificate with **Thanaweya Amma** (MoE high school diploma) without specifying the tracks pursuant to the following terms:
 - a. The general terms stated in item (1) of this article.
 - b. The student shall pass five (5) subjects in the average level (IGCSE or GCSE) with one of the passing marks (A*, A, B, C, D) or (9,8,7,6,5,4,3)
 - including the following subjects:
 - Mathematics
 - One of the Science subjects (Physics, Chemistry, Biology) or combined Science subject.
 - English Language or Literature.
 - Islamic Education and Arabic Language shall not be included in the subjects.
 - The student shall choose the subjects stated for studying from among the subjects specified by the Ministry in the relevant regulatory decisions.
 - c. The student shall pass three (3) subjects from the International Baccalaureate subjects and score not less than (3) points on each, and those subjects can be at the Standard Level or the High Level. Islamic Education shall not be included within the three (3) subjects required for the equivalency.
 - d. The student shall hold the certificate of BTEC level 3 Diploma with 120 credit hours (120 Credits) with a PP degree of at least one of the subjects specified by the Ministry in the relevant regulatory decisions.
6. **Fourth Approach:** The equivalency of **IB Career-Related Program** Certificate to the General Secondary Professional Certificate in a specific specialty, pursuant to the following terms:
 - a. The general terms stated in item (1) of this article.
 - b. The student shall pass two (2) subjects from the International Baccalaureate subjects not be less than (3) points, and those subjects can be at the Standard Level or the High Level. Islamic Education shall not be included within the two (2) subjects required for the equivalency.
 - c. The student shall hold the certificate of BTEC level 3 Diploma with 90 credit hours (90 Credits) with a PP degree of at least one of the subjects specified by the Ministry in the relevant regulatory decisions.
 - d. This equalization is granted in the same specialty as the BTEC level 3 Diploma and allows its holder to complete university studies only in the same specialty or related discipline, according to the relevant regulatory decisions.

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Article Eight

1. The equivalency of the secondary school completion certificates of private schools that are applying **The Canadian System** shall be made pursuant to the following terms:
 - a. The general terms stated in Article Four of this decree shall prevail.
 - b. The school must be recognized by the department of education in one of the regions in Canada.
 - c. The student shall pass successfully the subjects stated for each Grade through the Grades 10th, 11th and 12th, according to the curricula and the study plan of the Canadian state, which the school follows.
 - d. Holding the diploma graduation certificate of secondary education.
 - e. The final certificate shall be issued from the region that recognized the school and shall be duly authenticated pursuant to the requirements of the region.

2. Certificates issued by schools that **apply** general secondary exams issued by the region that granted the school recognition, are equivalent to **Thanaweya Amma** (MoE high school diploma) without specifying the tracks pursuant to the following terms:
 - a. The general terms stated in item (1) of this article.
 - b. The student shall pass successfully the subjects through the Grades 10th, 11th and 12th :
 - English.
 - Mathematics.
 - One of the Science subjects (Physics, Chemistry, Biology) or a general science subject.

3. Certificates issued by schools that do **not apply** the general secondary examinations issued by the region that granted the teacher recognition, are equivalent to **Thanaweya Amma** (MoE high school diploma) without specifying the tracks pursuant to the following terms:
 - a. The general terms stated in item (1) of this article.
 - b. The student shall pass successfully the subjects through the Grades 10th, 11th and 12th :
 - English.
 - Mathematics.
 - One of the Science subjects (Physics, Chemistry, Biology) or a general science subject.
 - c. The student shall pass successfully EmSAT Achieve in grade 12, according to the relevant laws and regulations in the following subjects:
 - English.
 - Mathematics.
 - One of the Science subjects (Physics, Chemistry, Biology).

Article Nine

1. The equivalency of the secondary school completion certificates of private schools that are applying **The Australian System** shall be made pursuant to the following terms:
 - a. The general terms stated in Article Four of this decree shall prevail.
 - b. The school must be recognized by the department of education in one of the regions in Australia.
 - c. The student shall pass successfully the subjects stated for each Grade through the Grades 10th, 11th and 12th, according to the curricula and the study plan of the Australian state or the region which the school follows.
 - d. Holding the graduation certificate of secondary education.
 - e. The final certificate shall be issued from the Australian state or the region that recognized the school and shall be duly authenticated pursuant to the requirements of the region.

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2. Certificates issued by schools that **apply** general secondary exams issued by the region that granted the school recognition, are equivalent to **Thanaweya Amma** (MoE high school diploma) without specifying the tracks pursuant to the following terms:
 - a. The general terms stated in item (1) of this article.
 - b. The student shall pass successfully the subjects through the Grades 10th, 11th and 12th :
 - English.
 - Mathematics.
 - One of the Science subjects (Physics, Chemistry, Biology) or a general science subject.
3. Certificates issued by schools that do **not apply** the general secondary examinations issued by the region that granted the school recognition, are equivalent to **Thanaweya Amma** (MoE high school diploma) without specifying the tracks pursuant to the following terms:
 - a. The general terms stated in item (1) of this article.
 - b. The student shall pass successfully the subjects through the Grades 10th, 11th and 12th :
 - English.
 - Mathematics.
 - One of the Science subjects (Physics, Chemistry, Biology) or a general science subject.
 - c. The student shall pass successfully EmSAT Achieve in grade 12, according to the relevant laws and regulations in the following subjects:
 - English.
 - Mathematics.
 - One of the Science subjects (Physics, Chemistry, Biology).

Article Ten

1. The equivalency of the secondary school completion certificates of private schools that are applying **The French Baccalaureate System** shall be made pursuant to the following terms:
 - a. The general terms stated in Article Four of this decree shall prevail.
 - b. The student shall hold the certificate of French Baccalaureate in Literature Department (L), or Economy and Social Department (ES) or Scientific Department (S) or the French International Baccalaureate (OBI), meeting all the requirements for obtaining the certificate.

Article Eleven

1. The private schools in the country shall bear the full responsibility of due commitment to apply the provisions of this decree.
2. The higher education institutions shall be committed to ask for an equivalency certificate issued by the Ministry pursuant to the provisions of this decree as a mandatory condition to accept the students holding the secondary school completion certificates of private schools.

Article Twelve

The competent Directorates in the Ministry shall follow up the commitment of private schools and higher education institutions in the country regarding their application of the provisions of this decree, and shall file reports to us in that regard to take the necessary action towards any violation to these conditions.

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Article Thirteen

Forming a committee for equivalency of higher education certificates shall be headed by the Undersecretary of Higher Education Academic Affairs and consist of a number of members appointed by the selection decree and shall be concerned with:

1. Reviewing the system of equivalency of private schools certificates.
2. Reconsidering the cases that are not included in the equivalency system.
3. Reconsidering the complaint or non-fulfillment to equivalency conditions.

Article Fourteen

1. The Ministry decree No. (848) in 2018, regarding the system of equivalency of private schools certificates shall be canceled.
2. The provisions of this decree shall be effective from this date and shall prevail until the end of the Academic Year 2022-2023.
3. The Ministry decree No. (199) in 2019, regarding The System of Equivalency of Private Schools Certificates in the Transitional Period until the End of the Academic Year 2020/2021 shall be amended, and by extending the period until the end of the academic year 2021/2022, provided that it will continue to work until the provisions of this decision are effective.
4. The Private schools and higher education institutions in the country shall act accordingly in accordance with the effective date of the provisions of this decree.

Article Fifteen

Undersecretary for Higher Education Academic Affairs may issue decrees, circulations and executive regulations that would guarantee the execution of this decree provisions.

Article Sixteen

The Committee for the Equivalence of General Education Certificates shall submit its proposals to us to issue ministerial decisions organizing the requirements of the standard Emirates tests for the twelfth grade, according to the various approaches related to this decision within a period not exceeding one (1) month from the issuance of this decision.

Article Seventeen

This decree shall be delivered to whom it may concern to execute it and act accordingly and any text that contravenes the provisions of this decree shall be repealed.