



# INTERNATIONAL CREDENTIAL EVALUATION

Challenges and Opportunities for Refugees

Karin Christoph Brown  
One Earth International Credential Evaluations

# INTERNATIONAL CREDENTIAL EVALUATION

The conversion of one system of education to the U.S.  
equivalent

An assessment and analysis based on comparative education  
methodologies

Allows for fair and consistent consideration for all students



# MAJOR VARIATIONS FROM THE U.S. SYSTEM

- 10 – 14 years of primary + secondary education
  - Streams (Humanities, Math, Science, etc.)
  - External Exams required to obtain credential
- 2 – 5 year first university degrees
  - General education / liberal arts “missing”
- Professional programs (Medicine, Law) immediately after secondary school (e.g., Bachelor of Dental Surgery)
- Wide variations in credit and grading schemes





# CREDENTIAL REVIEW

- Is the credential recognized by the appropriate authority in the country to oversee education and issue qualifications?
- What is the level of education and its role in that country?
  - Secondary / Post-secondary
  - Academic / Vocational

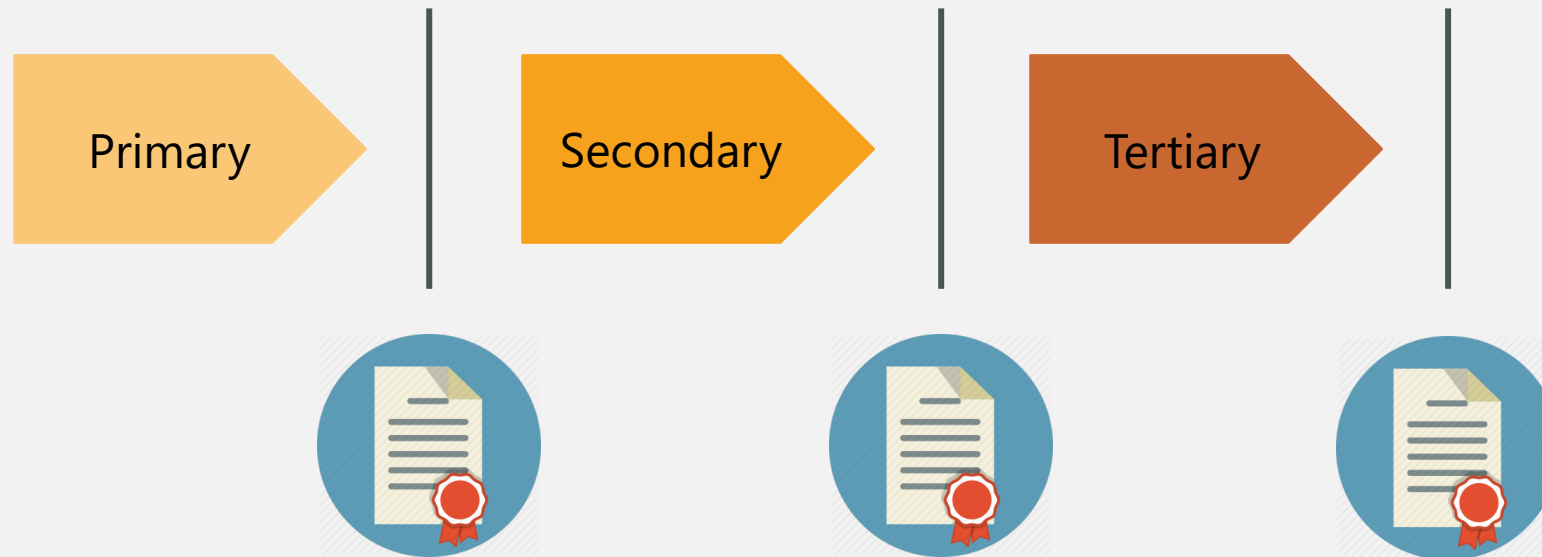


# CREDENTIAL REVIEW

- What are the qualification's admission requirements?
- What is the length of study?
- What can the student do in their home country with this credential?
- What qualification is it comparable ("equivalent") to in the U.S. (e.g., high school diploma, bachelor's degree, etc.)

# BENCHMARK CREDENTIAL

Academic award marking the point of transition from one level of education to the next higher level.







وثيقة مدرسية / المرحلة الإعدادية (البكالوريا)

Secondary School Certificate

Finishing Secondary Stage with all its branches (Baccalaureate)



Scientific Section

الفرع العلمي

Exam No. : [REDACTED] : الرقم الإمتحاني  
Name : [REDACTED] : الاسم  
Sex : MALE : الجنس  
Nationality : IRAQ : الجنسية  
Date Of Birth : 1988 : تاريخ الولادة  
Governorate : AL- RUSAF - 1 : الرصافة - الأولى  
School Name : ABYALA ALMAARY : اسم المدرسة  
Academic Year : 2006-2005 : العام الدراسي

Transcript

درجات المواد

ت	المواد الدراسية	الدرجة كتابية	الدرجة Score	النهاية الكبرى Max.Grades	النهاية الصغرى Min.Grades	SUBJECTS	ت
1	التربية الإسلامية	فقط سبعة وثمانون درجة لاغير	87	100	50	Islamic Education	1
2	اللغة العربية	فقط واحد وخمسون درجة لاغير	51	100	50	Arabic Language	2
3	اللغة الإنكليزية	فقط خمسون درجة لاغير	50	100	50	English Language	3
4	الرياضيات	فقط خمسون درجة لاغير	50	100	50	General Mathematics	4
5	الأحياء	فقط خمسون درجة لاغير	50	100	50	Biology	5
6	الكيمياء	فقط ثمانية وستون درجة لاغير	68	100	50	Chemistry	6
7	الفيزياء	فقط واحد وخمسون درجة لاغير	51	100	50	Physics	7
	المجموع	فقط أربعمان و سبعة درجة لاغير	407	700	350	Total	

- Passing Secondary Stage Equal 12 School Years

- اجتياز المرحلة الإعدادية يعادل ١٢ سنة دراسية

Final Result : PASSED

Attempt : Second Course

النتيجة النهائية : ناجح

الدور : الدور الثاني



ONE EARTH  
International Credential Evaluations

GENERAL EVALUATION REPORT

Name: [REDACTED]

Reference: 6299/kb

Date of Birth: 01 July 1988

Name of Institution: Abyala Almaary Secondary School

Country of Education: Iraq

Institutional Recognition: Recognized

Level of study: Secondary

Program of study: General

Duration of program: 3 years

Duration of study: 3 years

Credential Received: Secondary School Certificate

Year awarded: 2006

Equivalent U.S. study: Completion of senior secondary school (U.S. high school diploma)

U.S. Grade Equivalent: 2.30

Summary of Credentials:

It is the assessment of One Earth International Credential Evaluations that [REDACTED] has the United States equivalent to completion of senior secondary school (U.S. high school diploma) from a regionally accredited institution.

Evaluation Notes:  
Evaluation based on verified academic credentials.

Evaluation report printed on watermark paper; not valid without ink signature and raised seal

kb/

24 March 2021



الرقم الاشاري: مخ. 209. 207  
التاريخ: 5-2-2020

«كشف الدرجات»

تتبع كلية التربية الطبية بجامعة طرابلس بأن الطبية فيروز محمد رضا ابوشوار السجلة تحت رقم قيد 3225 الجنسية ليبيا قد تحصلت على درجة الاجازة المتخصصة بالكليويروس في المجال التقني الطبي قسم المختبرات الطبية الدور الثاني بتقدير عام مقبول وبمعدل 60.29 % للعام الدراسي 2007/2006م.

[illegible][illegible]

م. محمد عبدالناصر الرايس  
مسجل الكلية

أ. د. محمد أبوبكر فضل  
قسم المختبرات الطبية

أ. د. محمد محمد أنور السيد  
عميد كلية التقنية الطبية

ملاحظة: أي كسط أو تغيير يلغى هذه الوثيقة

## COURSE-BY-COURSE EVALUATION REPORT

Name: [REDACTED]  
Date of Birth: 19 April 1983

Reference: 6375/kb

Name of Institution: University of Tripoli  
Country of Education: Libya  
Institutional Recognition: Recognized  
Level of study: Undergraduate  
Program of study: Medical Laboratories  
Duration of program: 4 years  
Duration of study: 4 years  
Credential Received: Bachelor's degree  
Year awarded: 2007  
Equivalent U.S. study: Bachelor's degree  
U.S. Grade Equivalent: 2.56

Credits earned and grades received in above named program can be converted to the U.S. equivalent as follows:

Course Title	U.S. grade	U.S. credit (semester)
Chemistry	C	4.5
Zoology	B	4.5
Physics	B	4.5
Statistics	C	4.5
Arabic Language	C	4.5
English Language*	C	4.5
Political Culture I	C	4.5
Biochemistry	C	4.5
Pathology	C	4.5
Histology	C	4.5
Physiology	A	4.5
Analytical Chemistry	A	4.5
Devices & Equipment	C	4.5
Political Culture II	C	4.5
Hematology	C	4.5
Microbiology	C	4.5
Clinical Chemistry I	C	4.5
Immunology	C	4.5
Parasitology	B	4.5

\* Denotes English as a foreign language

<sup>R</sup> Denotes course retaken

افقار و تخراب

بعد الإطلاع على النتائج النهائية لكافة التقنيات الطبية بجامعة طرابلس قسم المختبرات الطبية لإعتماد الدور الثاني للعام الجامعي 2007/2006م تقرّر منح الطالبة فيروز محمد رضا أبوياقور المسجلة تحت رقم قيد 32255 مكان الميلاد أمريكا تاريخ الميلاد 1983م الجنسية ليبية درجة الإجازة المتحصصة بالكلوريوس في المختبرات الطبية بتقدير عام مقبول وبمعدل 60.29%.

أعطيت لها هذه الإفادة بناء على طلبها الإستعماها فيما لا يتعارض مع القانون .

م. محمد عبدالناصر الزاوي  
ر.د. محمد محمد أنور السيد

ملاحظة: أي كشط أو تغيير يلغى هذه الوثيقة



# ACCESSIBILITY CHALLENGES

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Lack of proficiency in language of host country

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Lack of information on how to access opportunities

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Costs which may be involved (fees for translation, evaluation, applications)

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Logistical barriers (transportation, technology)

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Assumption that their education won't count

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Insufficient or lack of documentation

# DOCUMENTATION CHALLENGES

Interrupted  
periods of  
education



Incomplete  
credentials; no  
“benchmark”

Attended refugee  
schools



Lack of proper  
legal status and  
documentation

Only unofficial  
documentation



Documents poor  
quality; not able  
to verify

No proof of  
educational  
achievements



Not in possession  
of documents;  
unattainable



# SYRIAN INTERIM GOVERNMENT (SIG) BACCALAUREATE

- SIG revised curriculum / baccalaureate diploma administered in Turkey, Jordan, Lebanon and parts of Syria since 2013
- SIG diplomas not recognized by the SAR's Ministry of Education and admission to university in Syria not granted based on SIG diploma
- Until 2019, only Turkey and France recognized the SIG bacc; now recognized by several European universities in the UK, Germany and Sweden





- Opened in April 1999 following the merger of five Peshawar-based Afghan colleges
- Funded by UNHCR for Afghan refugees in Pakistan
- Not authorized by the HEC Pakistan as degree-granting institution, nor is it authorized by the Ministry of Higher Education in Afghanistan

\*Credential credit: TAICEP Annual Conference 2018 presentation "Vulnerable and At-Risk Populations"



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**THE STATE OF ERITREA  
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION**

**ZOBA MAEKEL ( DENDEN SECONDARY SCHOOL- ASMARA)**  
Tel No 118840 P.O.BOX - 412

**STUDENT TRANSCRIPT**

Full Name of the Student: [REDACTED] Ref. No. [REDACTED]  
Sex: F Date of Birth: [REDACTED]  
Date of Admission: SEPT 2003 School Leaving Date: JUNE 2006

Subjects	Ac.Yr. 2003/04 Grade- 9-4			Ac.Yr. 2004/05 Grade- 10-3			Ac.Yr. 2005/06 Grade- 11-3			Ac.Yr. 2006/07 Grade- 12-30			Remarks
	I	II	AV	I	II	AV	I	II	AV	I	II	AV	
English	94	90	92	93	90	91.5	85	85	85	92	91	91.5	
Mathematics	85	80	82.5	81	91	86	89	84	86.5	90	94	92	
Algebra I	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Geometry	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Algebra II	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Biology	78	88	83	94	88	88.5	87	89	88	90	84	87	
Chemistry	81	88	84.5	83	88	85.5	80	84	82	87	85	86	
Physics	89	91	90	83	85	84	86	85	85.5	80	88	84	
Geography of Eritrea	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
World Geography	92	88	90	86	77	81.5	91	85	88	90	84	87	
Eritrean History	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
World History	94	88	91	87	81	84	89	85	87	89	87	88	
Agriculture	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Phy.Education	95	95	95	83	83	83	78	80	79	94	93	93.5	
Civics	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Life Skills	96	94	95	91	79	85	88	88	88	85	89	87	
Health Scie. Tech.	90	90	90	90	82	86	90	94	92	91	91	91	
Information & Com.Tech	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Business & Economics	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Family & Consumer Scie.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Conduct	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	
Absence	-	1	1	1	1	2	-	-	-	2	-	2	
Total	894	892	893	871	839	855	863	859	861	888	896	887	
Average	89.4	89.2	89.3	87.1	83.9	85.5	86.3	85.9	86.1	88.8	89.6	88.7	
Rank	6	8	8	9	9	9	5	7	6	4	6	5	
No. Students	60	58	58	58	54	54	58	56	56	59	58	58	
Promoted or Failed	PROMOTED	PROMOTED	PROMOTED	PROMOTED	PROMOTED	PROMOTED	PROMOTED	PROMOTED	PROMOTED	PROMOTED	PROMOTED	PROMOTED	
Remark	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	

Name of the School Record Officer: Zacarias Tesfay Date of Issue: 15-01-2009  
Name of the school Director: Drar Abrah Signature: [Signature]

Note: Any erasure, alteration, or deletions made, and/or absence of school seal on the bottom part of the form or on the photo of the student or on both make the transcript invalid.

Document submitted:  
Internal high school transcripts

"Benchmark" document required: Eritrean Secondary Education Certificate

096970

**MINISTRY OF EDUCATION**  
**STATE OF ERITREA**  
**ERITREAN SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE**

**THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT**

[REDACTED] S

has taken SIX subject(s) in the 2008 examination session, and has earned the following grade(s) in SIX subject(s).

English Language	B	History	-
Mathematics	A	Geography	-
Physics	A	Book Keeping	-
Biology	B	Economics	-
Chemistry	C	Agriculture	-
General Science	B	General Knowledge	-

By virtue of which, this certificate is awarded with the following mention:

August 2008

[Signature]  
Director, Educational Testing Center  
University of Asmara

[Signature]  
Minister of Education

This certificate is invalid unless it bears the photograph of the candidate with the seal of the Educational Testing Center.

No 9226

Addis Printing Press

# PROJECTS, RESEARCH, RESOURCES

- ACEI's 5-Step Practical Guide in Helping Refugees and Displaced People without or limited Documentation
  - <https://acei-global.blog/2016/11/05/argav-aceis-5-step-practical-guide-in-helping-refugees-and-displaced-people-without-or-limited-documentation/>
- WES: Providing Pathways for Refugees
  - <https://wenr.wes.org/2016/04/providing-pathways-for-refugees-practical-tips-for-credential-assessment>
- UARRM: Universities as Global Advocates
  - <https://www.uarm.org/>
- AACRAO: The Plight of Refugees During a Pandemic
  - <https://www.aacrao.org/resources/newsletters-blogs/aacrao-connect/article/the-plight-of-refugees-during-a-pandemic>
- UC Davis Global Affairs: Article 26 Backpack (A26BP)
  - <https://globalaffairs.ucdavis.edu/a26backpack>



**enic-naric.net**  
gateway to recognition of academic and professional qualifications



## RECOMMENDATION ON THE RECOGNITION OF REFUGEES' QUALIFICATIONS

- European Qualifications Passport for Refugees
- Toolkit for Recognition of Refugees' Qualifications

<https://www.enic-naric.net/recognise-qualifications-held-by-refugees.aspx>



## STEP 1: ASSESS

Assess the overall situation:

- What documents are needed?
- What is missing?
- What are the circumstances preventing the individual from securing their academic documents?



## STEP 2: RECONSTRUCT

Reconstruct the individual's academic history & gather information and available evidence:

- Conduct an interview
- Obtain a written timeline, including places, names of institutions, dates of study, etc.
- Request all available documents, even if incomplete/unofficial



## STEP 3: RESEARCH

Determine whether information can be gained from other sources

- EducationUSA / Dept of State / Embassies
- Ministry of Education
- Colleagues / Credential evaluation professionals
- Graduation lists
- News articles
- LinkedIn
- Scholarly publications





## STEP 4: EVALUATE

Assess competencies, as needed:

- Examinations or placement tests
- Skills assessment
- Interview by member of faculty
- Special project



## STEP 5: DECIDE

Make a determination regarding recognition and placement to the best of your ability:

- Are they eligible?
- Are they likely to succeed?
- What additional support might be needed?

USE THE EXAMPLE APPROACHES AS  
INSPIRATION FOR YOUR OWN PROCEDURES

## Consult

Consult resources  
to support  
recognition  
policies &  
procedures

## Establish

Set up fair,  
consistent and  
transparent  
policies &  
procedures

## Clarify

Make  
information  
about policies &  
procedures clear  
and accessible

## Partner

Partner with key  
stakeholders to  
ensure  
accessibility



“Refugees, displaced persons or persons in a refugee-like situation who have formal education from a recognised and/or accredited educational institution and others who for valid reason and in spite of their best persistent efforts cannot document the qualifications they claim, should have a right to have their qualifications assessed by a competent authority responsible for its recognition.”

- ENIC-NARIC



Karin Christoph Brown

Executive Director & Senior Evaluator

[www.oneearthevaluations.org](http://www.oneearthevaluations.org)

Phone: 1.608.205.8189

Email: [karin@oneearthevaluations.org](mailto:karin@oneearthevaluations.org)  
[eval@oneearthevaluations.org](mailto:eval@oneearthevaluations.org)

