Graduate Admission Guide 2027–2028

Welcome to the Holy Spirit University of Kaslik (USEK).

At USEK, we are committed to advancing academic excellence, innovation, research, and professional development through high-quality graduate education. Our graduate admission process is designed to identify qualified candidates who demonstrate academic achievement, professional potential, intellectual maturity, and a commitment to lifelong learning.

This Graduate Admission Guide provides prospective students with clear, comprehensive, and accessible information regarding admission requirements, application procedures, selection criteria, and registration processes for all graduate programs offered at USEK.

The guide outlines the following:

Applicant Categories
Graduate Admission Pathways and Program-Specific Requirements
Admission Application Procedures
General Admission Requirements
Language Proficiency Requirements
Special Admission Types

Applicants are encouraged to carefully review these guidelines and ensure that all required documents and procedures are completed within the specified deadlines.

USEK welcomes applications from candidates holding recognized undergraduate or graduate degrees from accredited higher education institutions in Lebanon and abroad, in accordance with the regulations of the Lebanese Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE).

The Office of Admissions remains available to support applicants throughout every stage of the admission process and to facilitate a smooth transition into graduate studies and university life at USEK.

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A1. Admission Pathways and Specific Requirements

A1.1 Regular Admission

All applicants fulfilling the General Admission requirements and Language proficiency requirements are eligible for Regular Admission to Graduate studies within the predefined deadlines. However, this guide does not apply to applicants to the Doctorate of Medicine program at the School of Medicine and Medical Sciences.

A1.2 Upgraded Admission with Scholarship

No scholarship can be granted if the candidate does not apply within the early admission period. All dates and deadlines can be found in the USEK academic calendar.

A1.3 Admission by File Transfer

Applicants who have previously completed coursework at a recognized higher education institution in their home country by the Ministry of Education and fulfilling the General Admission requirements at USEK may apply for Admission by file transfer.
A transfer request should be submitted through an admission application within at least four weeks prior to the beginning of the registration period along with all the required documents for admission to USEK, and the following additional documents:

- Certified Academic transcript including the overall GPA
- Official Grading system from university of origin
- Syllabus for all courses subject to transfer with detailed descriptions, number of credits, number of teaching hours.

A1.3.1 Eligibility Requirements

To be considered for admission by file transfer, applicants must:

- Be enrolled in or have attended a higher education institution and/or program recognized by the Lebanese Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE).
- Meet USEK's general admission requirements.
- Satisfy the University's language proficiency requirements.
- Fulfill the specific admission requirements of the chosen program, including any applicable track, option, concentration, or specialization requirements.
- For Engineering programs, have completed previous studies at an institution recognized by the Lebanese Order of Engineers and Architects, where applicable.
- Incomplete applications, including missing transcripts, course descriptions, detailed syllabi, or other required supporting documents, will not be evaluated until all required documentation has been submitted.
- Transfer will not be accepted if the student applied as Regular Admission then delivers the transcript and request and Admission by File Transfer.

A1.3.2 Transfer Credit Evaluation

Transfer credits are evaluated on a course-by-course basis according to the following principles:

Academic Equivalency

- A course may be considered for transfer if its learning outcomes, content, and academic rigor are substantially equivalent to those of the corresponding USEK course. In some cases, multiple courses from the institution of origin may be combined to satisfy the requirements of a single USEK course, or vice versa.

Credit Hours

- Transferred courses must normally carry at least the same workload and credit value as their USEK equivalent.
- For institutions using the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS), the standard conversion ratio is generally: 2 ECTS = 1 USEK credit // 5 to 6 ECT = 3 USEK credits.
- However, the final equivalency is determined by the relevant School based on course content, workload, and learning outcomes.

Minimum Grade Requirement

- Graduate courses must have been completed with a minimum grade equivalent to 80/100 according to USEK's grading scale.
- Courses graded on a Pass/Fail basis may only be considered if the applicant provides official documentation indicating the corresponding numerical or alphabetical grade.

Course Currency

- Only courses completed within the five years preceding the admission application date are eligible for transfer.

Non-Transferable Courses

- The following courses are generally not eligible for transfer:
  - Projects
  - Internships
  - Thesis courses
  - Capstone courses
  - Research Methodology Courses

A1.3.3 Transfer of Credits and Academic Record

Only earned credits are transferred. Original grades from the institution of origin are not transferred and are recorded as “T” (Transfer) on the student's USEK transcript.
All transferred credits are declared and validated during admission to USEK.

a. In case grades are still in progress during application time, the student has one semester to submit the grades for transfer validation.
b. It is the student's responsibility to register in appropriate courses.

A1.3.4 Residency Requirements

Students admitted by file transfer must complete a minimum number of credits at USEK in accordance with the University's residency requirements:

- Graduate Programs: a maximum of 33% of program credits may be transferred.

A1.3.5 Final Admission Decision

Admission by file transfer is subject to a comprehensive review of the applicant's academic record and supporting documentation.
Meeting the minimum eligibility requirements does not guarantee admission. The final decision, including any conditions attached to admission, is made following the academic evaluation conducted by the relevant School and University authorities.

A2. Admission Application

The admission application is strictly filled online. The applicant can make the choice of three majors in his/her application.

A2.1 Documents required for Graduate Studies

- Photocopy of the national identity card or a photocopy of valid passport (if any) or a copy of an individual civil extract;
- One recent passport-size photos (صورة شمسية);
- The certificate of the Lebanese Baccalaureate or an equivalent degree certified by the Lebanese Ministry of Education and Higher Education, when needed;
- Certified copy of university degree(s) equivalence by the Ministry of Education and Higher Education in Lebanon, when needed;
- Official grades transcript(s) covering all previous academic work
- Applicants with academic work in progress who expect to complete an Undergraduate degree program before the intended date of enrollment at USEK must submit evidence of degree conferral and a final academic record, as soon as they are available. The Undergraduate degree must be completed prior to the start of the Graduate studies;
- Two recommendation letters given by academic referees (optional)
- A motivation letter;
- A curriculum vitae (C.V.) and/or e-portfolio;
- Certificate(s) of employment, if applicable;

Notice:
USEK students who wish to pursue their Graduate studies at USEK should only attach one recent passport photo to the Graduate Admission Application Form.

A2.2 Admission Online Application

This application, along with the submitted official documents, remain the property of USEK and will be confidential. The university reserves the right to use the data received for administrative, academic, and other related purposes (audit, statistical or query purposes). Any data used for these purposes will be anonymized, ensuring that the student cannot be personally identified. The applicant can only request copies of the submitted document(s).
Students with incomplete files will be admitted to USEK as regular students under the condition to deliver the required documents no later than one month post start of the semester. If the file remains incomplete, an Incomplete File hold will be placed on the student's record, prohibiting him from registering for the next semester.
The voluntary transcription of incorrect information and submission of falsified documents will automatically lead to the annulment of the admission request.

A3. General Admission Requirements

An applicant to USEK should fulfill the following general admission requirements:

1. Be a holder of an Undergraduate degree or its equivalent, recognized by the Lebanese Ministry of Education and Higher Education with a Min Undergrad GPA: ≥80. American System: B or equivalent.
2. Get the recommendation of the related unit's Graduate Admission Interview Committee.
3. Meet the additional admission requirements of the chosen program, if any.
4. Submit the online application for the graduate programs along with the required documents.
5. Pay the **non-refundable** admission file fees at one of the recognized financial institutions specified by the University.

A4. Language Proficiency Requirements

All graduate applicants will be evaluated based on the transcripts and the interview conducted as part of the admission process. If needed, they will have to pass the language proficiency tests.

A5. Specific Admission Requirements for the Chosen Program

Applicants to USEK should meet the specific requirements of the chosen program.

- For USEK students willing to pursue their graduate degree at the same department/school:
    - Oral/written tests, interviews, portfolios and recommendation letters can be waived depending on the program.
    - The Business School requires GMAT or GRE scores.
    - Applicants only need to fill in a Graduate Admission form and pay the non-refundable admission fees.
    - Only BS in Architectural Studies students are automatically admitted to the Master program without submitting an admission form or paying admission fees. However, students will be required to:
        - Inform the Admissions Office if they wish to pursue their graduate program by sending an email to: admissions@usek.edu.lb
        - Inform the Registrar's Office in case they would not like to pursue their graduate studies.
- For non-USEK students and USEK students willing to pursue a graduate degree at another school/department:
    - Graduate admission form, admission fees, interviews, portfolios and recommendation letters are mandatory for admission to all Graduate programs and apply for all applicants. Tests (GRE, GMAT, etc.) may apply to particular programs.

A6. Special Admission Types

A6.1 Admission of Free Listener

The ***Free Listener*** status enables interested candidates to register at USEK to take courses, without any previous conditions of having a diploma/degree or undertaking a test. Applicants for the *Free Listener* status must submit:

- an admission application at the Admissions Office
- a photocopy of the identity card
- one passport-sized photo

The file will be examined by the school only in cooperation with the Head of the Academic Unit related to the chosen courses.

The *Free Listener* will receive, at the end of the semester or of the summer session, a certificate of attendance or a transcript with the grade U (Ungraded) if the *Free Listener* does not undertake the examinations of the course he/she is registered in.

"U" grade cannot be converted into a numerical grade unless the *Free Listener* completes all assessment requirements for the course. If the *Free Listener* does not attend the class as a regular student, he/she will get the grade "R" and will not receive any certificate.

He/she does not benefit from the scholarship granted to students (scholarships, student Social Security, etc.). The *Free Listener* must pay all the fees of registration and studies at the beginning of the semester.

Notice:
Candidates for the status of Free Listener can register up to 18 credits at the Undergraduate level per semester within the limit of available places in each course.

The admission at USEK as a Free Listener does not entitle the student to a regular study program at USEK.

A6.2 Admission of non-degree students, visiting students and international exchange students

Refer to the Admissions Office for details and conditions.

A7. Admission Calendar

Applicants are responsible for consulting the USEK Calendar on the University website to check the dates and deadlines related to their admissions, or they can refer to the Admissions Office directly.

A8. Admission Validity

The admission is only valid for the ongoing academic year for Graduate studies. The applicant who does not register for one or two semesters during the academic year in which he/she is accepted, will lose his/her right of admission and he/she will have to submit a new application form to be studied according to the existing admission conditions. No admission is authorized for the Summer session, noting that the first registration at USEK should take place during Fall or Spring semesters.

A9. PROGRAM SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must first meet the University's General Admission Requirements and Language Proficiency Requirements. In addition, applicants must satisfy the specific academic background, language, examination, interview, portfolio, or other requirements established by their chosen graduate program.

A9.1. Business School

Program Name	Major or Emphasis	Background Requirements	Academic Requirements
Master of Business Administration	- AI and data Analytics for Business - Audit - Marketing - Financial Engineering	- Bachelor of Business Administration - BS in Economics - or any other major with 12 remedial credits.	3+ years of relevant professional experience. **Specific Entrance Exam:** - GMAT or GRE - Oral Interview

A9.2. Faculty of Arts and Sciences

Program Name	Major or Emphasis	Background Requirements	Academic Requirements
Master of Arts in Education	- Support of People with Special Needs - Administration of Education - Technology of Education	- Any Undergraduate program applied in teaching secondary school.	For non-USEK students: **English Proficiency:** International English Tests or USEK language test. **Specific Entrance Exam:** Oral Interview.
Diploma in Interpretation		- BA in Modern Languages & Translation	For non-USEK students: **Specific Entrance Exam:** Oral Interview (English, Arabic, & French) for all students (including USEK students).
Master of Arts in Translation		- BA in Modern Languages & Translation or equivalent	For non-USEK students: **Specific Entrance Exam:** Oral Interview. Written exam.
Master of Arts in Arabic Language and Literature		- BA in Arabic Language and Literature or equivalent	For non-USEK students: **Specific Entrance Exam:** Oral Interview.
Master of Arts in English Language and Literature		- BA in English Language and Literature or equivalent	For non-USEK students: **Specific Entrance Exam:** Oral Interview.
Master of Arts in French Language and Literature		- BA in French Language and Literature or equivalent	For non-USEK students: **Specific Entrance Exam:** Oral Interview.
Master of Arts in Philosophy	- Philosophical Anthropology - Political Philosophy and Ethics	- BA in Philosophy	For non-USEK students: **Specific Entrance Exam:** Oral Interview, and written exam in philosophy.
Master of Arts in Psychology	- Industrial Psychology - School Psychology - Clinical Psychology	- BA in Psychology	**For USEK students:** For English Proficiency: International English Tests or USEK EPT Test. **For non-USEK students:** For French & English Language Proficiency: International Tests English or French Or USEK Proficiency Tests. **Specific Entrance Exam:** Oral Interview, and written exam in psychology.

Master of Arts in Intervention and Social Work		- BA in Social Sciences, Psychology, Education Sciences or Theology	For non-USEK students: **English Proficiency:** International English Tests or USEK Language Proficiency Test. **Specific Entrance Exam:** Oral Interview.
Master of Arts in History		- BA in History	For non-USEK students: **Specific Entrance Exam:** Oral Interview.
Master of Arts in Information Studies		- BA/BS in any field	For non-USEK students: **English Proficiency:** International English Tests or USEK Language Proficiency Test. **Specific Entrance Exam:** Oral Interview.
Master of Arts in E-Journalism and E-Communication		- BA in Journalism and Communication or Media and Documentation - Candidates holding: BA in Humanities, Social Sciences, Religious Sciences, Political Sciences, Law, International Relations, Translation, Letters, Audiovisual – **Must complete 12 additional credits before admissions.**	For non-USEK students: **Specific Entrance Exam:** Oral Interview/Written Exam
Master of Arts in Cinema and Television		- BA in Cinema and Television - BA in Arts, Communication, or Visual Arts	For non-USEK students: **English Proficiency:** International English Tests or USEK Language Proficiency Test. **Specific Entrance Exam:** Oral Interview. Digital portfolio and a one-minute showreel featuring best work.
Master of Arts in Performing Arts	- Drama Therapy - Theatre and Drama Studies - Production for Performing Arts	- BA in Performing Arts or Music Or - BA in Psychology with 15 remedial courses from BA in Performing Arts	For non-USEK students: **Specific Entrance Exam:** Oral Interview Portfolio
Master of Arts in Conservation, Restoration of Cultural Property and Sacred Art		- BA in Conservation, Restoration of Cultural Property and Sacred Art	For non-USEK students: **Specific Entrance Exam:** Oral Interview.
Master of Arts in Religious Sciences		- BA in one of the following fields: - Theology - Family Sciences - Syro-Antiochian Sciences - Religious and Oriental Sciences - Liturgy - Humanities and Social Sciences	For non-USEK students: **Specific Entrance Exam:** Oral Interview.
Master of Arts in Syro-Antiochian Sciences		- BA in Syro-Antiochian Sciences or Theology or Liturgy	For non-USEK students: **Specific Entrance Exam:** Oral Interview.
Master of Arts in Liturgy		- BA in Liturgy	For non-USEK students: **Specific Entrance Exam:** Oral Interview.

Master of Science in Computer Science		- BS in Computer Science - USEK Students registered in the BE in Computer or Telecommunications Engineering who completed 107 credits.	For non-USEK students: **English Proficiency:** International English Tests or USEK Language Test. **Specific Entrance Exam:** Oral Interview.
Master of Science in Cybersecurity and Cyberdefence		- BS in Computer Science or Information Technology - BE in Computer or Telecommunications Engineering	For non-USEK students: **English Proficiency:** International English Tests or USEK Language Test. **Specific Entrance Exam:** Oral Interview.
Master of Science in Actuarial and Financial Mathematics		- BS in Mathematics or Statistics or Equivalent	For non-USEK students: **English Proficiency:** International English Tests or USEK Language Test. **Specific Entrance Exam:** Oral Interview.

Master of Science in Neuroscience and Biotechnology		- BS in one of the following fields:
		  - Biochemistry
		  - Life and Earth Sciences
		  - Pharmacy
		  - Chemistry
		  - Basic Health Sciences
		  - Medical Doctorate
			For non-USEK students: **English Proficiency:** International English Tests or USEK Language Test. **Specific Entrance Exam:** Oral Interview.

Master of Science in Environmental Technologies *(Dual Degree with Université Aix-Marseille)*	- Air Quality and Analysis	- BS in one of the following fields: - Chemistry - Biochemistry	For non-USEK students: **English Proficiency:** International English Tests or USEK Language Test. **Specific Entrance Exam:** Oral Interview.
Master of Science in Biology	- Molecular and Cellular Genetics	- BS in-Biology or Biochemistry or Equivalent	For non-USEK students: **English Proficiency:** International English Tests or USEK Language Test. **Specific Entrance Exam:** Oral Interview.

Master of Science in Biochemistry	- Pharmacology and Cosmetology
	- Applied Biochemistry and Biochemical Investigations
		- BS in one of the following fields:
		  - Biochemistry
		  - Biology
		  - Chemistry
		  - Pharmacy (for Pharmacology and Cosmetology)
			For non-USEK students: **English Proficiency:** International English Tests or USEK Language Test. **Specific Entrance Exam:** Oral Interview.

Master of Science in Chemistry	- Industrial Processes and Methods Validation	- BS in one of the following fields:
		  - Chemistry
		  - Biochemistry
			For non-USEK students: **English Proficiency:** International English Tests or USEK Language Test. **Specific Entrance Exam:** Oral Interview.

Master of Science in Nutrition	- Clinical Nutrition
	- Food Service Management
	- Nutrition and Public Health
		- BS in one of the following fields:
		  - Nutrition
		  - Biology (Students must validate 12 additional credits from the BS in Nutrition)
			For non-USEK students: **English Proficiency:** International English Tests or USEK Language Test. **Specific Entrance Exam:** Oral Interview.

A9.3. School of Law and political sciences

Program Name	Major or Emphasis	Background Requirements	Academic Requirements
Master in private law	N/A	- Bachelor's in law	For non-USEK students, specific entrance exam: oral interview

Master in public law	N/A	- Bachelor's in law	For non-USEK students, specific entrance exam: oral interview
Master in Law (Poitiers)	Business Law	- Bachelor's in law	For non USEK students, Zahle students and English section students: specific entrance exam: oral interview
Master in criminology	N/A	Law Degree or any other related program with 18 credits remedial courses.	For non-USEK students, specific entrance exam: oral interview
Master of arts in diplomacy and international security	N/A	- Bachelor of arts in international relations - Bachelor of arts in political sciences - Bachelor's in law - Any other degree: 30 credits remedial	For non-USEK students, specific entrance exam: oral interview
Master in Middle eastern studies	N/A	Bachelor in one of the following fields: - Political Sciences - History - Philosophy - Social Sciences - Education - Journalism - International Relations - Law Degree	For non-USEK students, specific entrance exam: oral interview

A9.4. School of Engineering

Program Name	Major or Emphasis	Background Requirements	Academic Requirements
Master of Science in Food Engineering	- Agri-Food Sciences	- BS in Food Engineering - BS in Food Sciences or Diploma in Agriculture Engineering, with 12 remedial courses (taken from the BS in Food Engineering). - One of the following with 46 remedial courses taken from BS in Food Engineering: - BS – Nutrition, Chemistry, Biology, Biochemistry - Or 30 remedial courses taken from BS in Food Engineering: - MS – Nutrition, Chemistry, Biology, Biochemistry	- Min Undergrad GPA: ≥ 80 - For non-USEK students: 2 letters of recommendation and CV (+syllabi of certain courses may be requested) - Specific Entrance Exam: Oral Interview

Master of Science of Enology		- BS in one of the following fields:
		  - Food Engineering
		  - Nutrition Dietetics
		  - Agricultural Engineering
		  - Chemistry
		  - Biology
		  - Biochemistry
		  - Any health and medical program
			- Min Undergrad GPA: ≥ 80
			- Specific Entrance Exam: Oral Interview

Master of Science in Biomedical Engineering		- Bachelor of Engineering – same specialization	- Min Undergrad GPA: ≥ 80 - For non-USEK students: 2 letters of recommendation and CV (+syllabi of certain courses may be requested). - Specific Entrance Exam: Oral Interview
Master of Science in Petroleum Engineering		- Bachelor of Engineering – same specialization	- Min Undergrad GPA: ≥ 80 - For non-USEK students: 2 letters of recommendation and CV (+syllabi of certain courses may be requested). - Specific Entrance Exam: Oral Interview
Master of Science in Civil Engineering		- Bachelor of Engineering – same specialization	- Min Undergrad GPA: ≥ 80 - For non-USEK students: 2 letters of recommendation and CV (+syllabi of certain courses may be requested). - Specific Entrance Exam: Oral Interview
Master of Science in Electrical and Electronics Engineering		- Bachelor of Engineering – same specialization	- Min Undergrad GPA: ≥ 80 - For non-USEK students: 2 letters of recommendation and CV (+syllabi of certain courses may be requested). - Specific Entrance Exam: Oral Interview
Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering		- Bachelor of Engineering – same specialization	- Min Undergrad GPA: ≥ 80 - For non-USEK students: 2 letters of recommendation and CV (+syllabi of certain courses may be requested). - Specific Entrance Exam: Oral Interview

A9.5. School of Music

Program Name	Major or Emphasis	Background Requirements	Academic Requirements
Master in Higher and Specialized Music Education	- Music Instrument	BA in Higher and Specialized Music Education or Equivalent	For non-USEK students: - Specific Entrance Exam: Oral Interview + Audition
Master of Arts in Music	- Ethnomusicology - Sacred Music - Music Education - Musicology	BA in Music or Higher and Specialized Music Education or Equivalent	For non-USEK students: - Specific Entrance Exam: Oral Interview

9.6. Pontifical School of Theology

Program Name	Major or Emphasis	Background Requirements	Academic Requirements
Master if Arts in Theology	- Biblical Theology - Dogmatic and Sacramental Theology - Patristic Theology - Moral Theology - Religious Sciences	BA in Theology	Specific Entrance Exam: Oral Interview

A9.7. School of Architecture and Design

Program Name	Major or Emphasis	Background Requirements	Academic Requirements
Master of Arts in Architecture **Master of Arts in Interior Architecture**		BA in one of the following fields: - Interior Design - Design and Applied Arts	Students graduated from Naab accredited universities For non-USEK students: - Specific Entrance Exam: Oral Interview - Portfolio
Master of Arts in Digital Media		BA in one of the following fields: - Communication and Visual Arts - Cinema and Television - Digital Media - BA in Journalism and Communication (with 15 remedial courses).	For non-USEK students: - Specific Entrance Exam: Oral Interview
Master of Arts in Communication and Visual Arts		BA in one of the following fields: - Communication and Visual Arts - Cinema and Television - Digital Media - BA in Journalism and Communication (with 15 remedial courses).	For non-USEK students: - Specific Entrance Exam: Oral Interview

Master of Arts in Contemporary Art		BA in one of the following fields: - Communication and Visual Arts - Cinema and Television - Digital Media - Theater and Performing Arts - Graphic Design - Interior Design - Architecture - Sacred Art - Fine Arts - or equivalent	For non-USEK students: - Specific Entrance Exam: Oral Interview - A written letter of intent