

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



10.6.3 Does your university as a body deliver programs to recruit students/staff/faculty from under-represented groups?

UBT is dedicated to fostering diversity and inclusion by implementing various initiatives designed to expand access to higher education for students from underrepresented backgrounds. These efforts include financial aid schemes, scholarship opportunities, collaborations with loan providers, and partnerships with charitable organizations. The following highlights some of the key measures UBT has undertaken to support these students.

1. Maslak Education Fund

In collaboration with the Sulaiman Alrajhi Foundation for Development Finance, UBT provides educational loans through the Maslak Education Fund. This program offers financial assistance to students pursuing university degrees in fields that are highly demanded in the job market. In addition to the loan support, beneficiaries of the fund receive a 15% discount on their tuition fees.

Figure 10.6.3 A – Tuition Installment Partnership with Al Rajhi Charity Foundation

Promotional poster announcing UBT's collaboration with *Sulaiman Al Rajhi Charitable Foundation* to provide interest-free tuition payment plans for students. The initiative supports financial accessibility and encourages equitable education opportunities.



2. Scholarships for Students with Disabilities

UBT is firmly committed to fostering an inclusive learning environment that supports students with disabilities in achieving their academic goals. To this end, the university offers dedicated scholarships that provide up to a 25% reduction in tuition fees. This initiative reflects UBT's belief that financial challenges should never stand in the way of educational opportunities.

Figure 10.6.3 A – Tuition Installment Partnership with Al Rajhi Charity Foundation

Promotional poster announcing UBT's collaboration with *Sulaiman Al Rajhi Charitable Foundation* to provide interest-free tuition payment plans for students. The initiative supports financial accessibility and encourages equitable education opportunities.



The poster features the UBT ESC logo at the top left, with the text 'Educational Support Center' and 'مركز دعم التعليم' to its right. The main text in Arabic reads: 'يعلن مركز دعم التعليم عن استقبال طلبات قبول الطلاب والطالبات من ذوي الاحتياجات الخاصة وصعوبات التعلم'. Below this, it states: 'توفير منحة مقدارها 25% من الرسوم الدراسية*' and 'توفير كافة الاحتياجات اللازمة تحت اشراف متخصصين في صعوبات التعلم والاعاقات المختلفة'. A small note at the bottom says '*تطبيق الشروط والأحكام'. At the bottom, it provides contact information: 'للتواصل والاستفسار Esc@ubt.edu.sa | 920000490/6644'.

3. Financial Aid and Scholarships

UBT offers a variety of financial support options; including loans, discounts, flexible installment plans, and scholarships—to make higher education more accessible to all students. The university has partnered with organizations such as the Sulaiman Bin Abdulaziz Al Rajhi Charitable Foundation and the Saudi National Bank to provide interest-free educational loans, helping students cover their tuition expenses. Additionally, UBT offers a dedicated scholarship for students with disabilities, granting a tuition fee reduction of up to 25%.

Figure 10.6.3 C – Tuition Installment Program via Partner Banks

UBT promotional poster listing multiple partner banks (Riyad Bank, SNB, Al Rajhi Bank, Bank Aljazira, Emirates NBD, and others) that facilitate interest-free tuition installment options for students, enhancing financial inclusion and access to higher education.

The poster features the UBT logo at the top center. Below it, the title 'تسهيلات مالية' (Financial Support) is displayed in a white box. The main text reads 'تقسيم الرسوم الدراسية ببطاقة القيزا عبر البنوك التالية' (Dividing tuition fees using the Qizra card through the following banks). The poster lists seven partner banks with their logos: Riyad Bank, The Saudi Investment Bank, Emirates NBD, SNB (Saudi National Bank), SAB (Al Rajhi Bank), and BANK ALJAZIRA. At the bottom, there is a blue button with the text 'سجل الآن' (Register Now).

4. Collaboration with Albir Charitable Society

UBT has established a partnership with the Albir Charitable Society, which serves the Jeddah governorate and its surrounding regions. Through this collaboration, members of the society—including orphans, widows, and individuals in financial need—are eligible for a 50% tuition discount on all university programs, encompassing both undergraduate and graduate levels. This initiative underscores UBT's dedication to supporting vulnerable groups and expanding access to higher education for all segments of society.

5. Collaboration with King Faisal Specialist Hospital and Research Centre

UBT has signed an agreement with the King Faisal Specialist Hospital and Research Centre to support the continuous learning and professional growth of healthcare workers and their families. Under this partnership, employees and their dependents receive a 10% tuition discount for master's degree programs and a 15% discount for bachelor's programs. This initiative reinforces UBT's role in advancing workforce development and strengthening the link between academia and the healthcare sector.

6. Partnership with Saudi Airlines Company

Through its collaboration with the Saudi Airlines Company, UBT offers a 10% tuition discount for master's degree programs and a 15% discount for bachelor's programs to airline employees and their family members. This agreement, valid through the end of 2023, reflects UBT's ongoing effort to make quality higher education more accessible to professionals in the aviation sector, supporting their academic advancement and career progression.

7. UBT Discounts and Incentives

UBT provides its graduates with a 15% tuition discount per semester when enrolling in master's programs, as part of its commitment to lifelong learning and alumni development. The university also offers targeted financial incentives to attract students to emerging and high-demand fields such as Insurance, Supply Chain Management, and Retail Management, with discounts

ranging from 20% to 25%. These initiatives are designed to align academic pathways with labor market needs and national development priorities.

8. Scholarships for International Students

UBT has developed partnerships with several embassies and international consulates to attract students from underrepresented communities worldwide. Through these collaborations, international students from countries such as Sudan, Lebanon, India, Pakistan, Palestine, Nigeria, and others are eligible for partial scholarships and flexible payment plans based on their financial circumstances. This initiative fosters cultural diversity and global engagement within UBT's academic community.

Commitment to Diversity and Inclusion

Collectively, these initiatives reflect UBT's strong commitment to advancing diversity, promoting inclusivity, and ensuring equal educational opportunities for all students—regardless of background or financial status. By reducing financial barriers and establishing meaningful partnerships, UBT continues to build a learning environment that values equity, empowers underrepresented groups, and cultivates a truly inclusive academic culture.