



CAMBRIDGE
International Education

Destination Pakistan

Using your Cambridge qualifications
to study in Pakistan



Discover more at: [cambridgeinternational.org/recognition](https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/recognition)

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About us

Cambridge prepares school students for life, helping them develop an informed curiosity and a lasting passion for learning. As part of the University of Cambridge, we offer a globally trusted and flexible framework for education from age 3 to 19, informed by research, experience, and listening to educators around the world.

We are the only international exam board that is wholly owned by a world-leading university, the University of Cambridge. With recognised qualifications, high-quality resources, comprehensive support and valuable insights, we help schools prepare every student for the opportunities and challenges ahead.

Message from the Country Director

It brings me immense pleasure to congratulate our learners on reaching this significant milestone in their educational journey. Your hard work, dedication and perseverance have brought you to this exciting phase, and I am confident that you are well prepared for the opportunities that lie ahead.

At Cambridge, we are proud and inspired by the continuous growth in education, the increasing recognition of our qualifications, and the remarkable achievements of our learners. The skills and conceptual learning you have acquired are invaluable as you navigate the diverse range of opportunities that higher education offers.

In this era defined by unpredictability, the rapid pace of technological advancement, including the rise of generative artificial intelligence (AI), is fundamentally reshaping our world. This transformative landscape is not only altering how we work and live but also challenging traditional approaches to education. The paradigms of learning are evolving as educators and institutions adapt to prepare students for the complexities of tomorrow's challenges.

Universities around the world are now emphasising the importance of critical thinking, adaptability and lifelong learning. Your Cambridge education has already set you on this path, encouraging you to learn not only for your academic pursuits but also to truly understand and apply that knowledge in real-world contexts.

As you move forward, it is essential to expand your skills and embrace a mindset of continuous learning.

“ The ability to learn ‘how to learn’ is perhaps the most valuable skill you can possess. ”

It allows you to stay relevant in an ever-changing landscape and adapt to new and emerging fields. With your Cambridge qualifications, you are well prepared to thrive in this dynamic environment.

The opportunities ahead of you are vast and varied. Whether you choose to pursue further studies in Pakistan or abroad, your Cambridge background will serve as a strong foundation. It opens doors to prestigious universities and programmes, and more importantly, it prepares you to excel once you get there. The emphasis on critical thinking and analytical skills that you have developed will enable you to make informed decisions about your academic and career paths.

“ Embrace the challenges, seize the opportunities and strive for excellence. ”

As you explore the various options available to you, remember that your education is a powerful tool that will shape your future. We are here to support you every step of the way, and we are confident that you will make a significant impact in your chosen field and beyond.

Wishing you success and fulfilment in your academic and professional endeavours.



Uzma Yousuf
Country Director, Pakistan,
International Education,
Cambridge University
Press & Assessment

Unlock your success with Cambridge qualifications

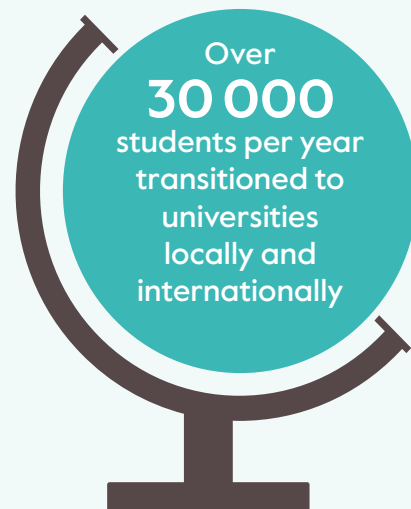
Cambridge qualifications are the gateway to success – offering a comprehensive learning journey that not only prepares students for their academic pursuits but also nurtures their critical thinking and problem-solving abilities.

Cambridge qualifications are widely regarded as a holistic educational experience that goes beyond traditional academic preparation. One of the key strengths of Cambridge's approach is its focus on developing students into well-rounded individuals through a combination of its rigorous academic content and a comprehensive curriculum that enables them to become reflective, innovative, engaged and curious – traits that are all prerequisites for success both academically and professionally.

By enabling them to think critically and creatively, Cambridge qualifications empower students to pursue their potential.



Our impact



*Statistics are correct for 2025. We continually work with schools in Pakistan and the statistics are updated every year.

Recognition of Cambridge qualifications

Every year, our qualifications help thousands of learners secure admission into leading universities across the globe. We work closely with universities to make sure Cambridge qualifications develop the skills and knowledge students need to succeed at university.

Cambridge qualifications are recognised and valued by universities all around the world, including in the US, the UK, Australia, Canada, Germany and beyond. In places such as the United States and Canada, good grades in carefully chosen Cambridge International A Level subjects can result in up to one year of university course credit.

Over 1000 universities in the US formally accept Cambridge International AS & A Levels, including all Ivy League and Ivy Plus universities. These universities include Brown, Harvard, MIT, Stanford and Yale. Many more US universities accept Cambridge qualifications on application. In the UK, all universities accept Cambridge qualifications.

The global recognition and acceptance of Cambridge qualifications are a testament to their quality and effectiveness. Schools and institutions worldwide choose Cambridge qualifications for their proven track record in delivering exceptional educational outcomes.

Our Cambridge Advanced stage (Cambridge International AS & A Level) qualifications are designed to prepare students for their progression to higher education and beyond. The content is multicultural, and a wide range of subjects are available including many country-specific courses. These develop deep subject knowledge as well as conceptual understanding and higher order thinking skills that all universities value.



Recognition in Pakistan

Pakistan is home to a number of top-quality higher education institutions that offer cutting-edge programmes to suit all students' academic interests. Pakistan's Higher Education Commission oversees private and public institutions that welcome both local and international students. All teaching is delivered in English.

From medicine to public health, engineering and technology to sought-after disciplines such as liberal arts and computer and information systems – universities in Pakistan understand the greater need for education and offer bachelor's, master's, postgraduate and doctoral degree programmes.

Cambridge qualifications are highly regarded by the government and higher education institutions in Pakistan. Universities across the country readily accept and welcome students with Cambridge qualifications owing to the academic standards and international perspective they offer.

They often remark that Cambridge students are '**analytical**', '**perform better**' and are '**inquisitive**' – all diverse traits that make them valuable additions to the university, enrich the academic environment and contribute positively to the learning community.

The education system in Pakistan is governed by regulatory bodies such as the Inter Boards Coordination Commission (IBCC), Pakistan Medical and Dental Council (PM&DC) and Pakistan Engineering Council (PEC). IBCC offers equivalence to foreign qualifications while PM&DC and PEC set the criteria for admission into medical and engineering universities respectively.



Inter Boards Coordination Commission (IBCC):

Recognises Cambridge qualifications and provides equivalence in line with the local system of education to ensure students' smooth progression to universities.

Equivalence for Cambridge qualifications

Cambridge
IGCSE™ and
O Level



Secondary School
Certificate (SSC)

Cambridge IGCSE and O Level

Cambridge IGCSEs and O Levels are considered to be equivalent to the Secondary School Certificate (SSC). Students need to pass eight subjects, including English, Urdu, Islamiyat, Pakistan Studies, Mathematics and three electives.

For more information, visit: ibcc.edu.pk

Cambridge
International
A Level



Higher Secondary
School Certificate
(HSSC)

Cambridge International A Level

Cambridge International A Levels are considered equivalent to the Higher Secondary School Certificate (HSSC), subject to the completion of SSC-level qualifications and meeting the specified requirements for a particular study group.

For more information, visit: ibcc.edu.pk



Conversion of grades

The following table provides marks that are awarded by IBCC against grades received for Cambridge qualifications.

Grade	IBCC mark	Grade	IBCC mark
A*	90+**	D	55
A	85	E	45
B	75	F	NA ¹
C	65	G	NA ¹

** From 2021 exam series onwards

¹ Not applicable for IBCC equivalence

! Important information

Equivalence for A* has been revised to 90+ for all those who sat exams in 2021 and onwards. The equivalence marks for A* will change every year for each subject as advised by IBCC but will always remain 90+. For more details on conversion, please visit ibcc.edu.pk/conversion-for-equivalence

Cambridge O Level and Cambridge IGCSE conversion

The worked example below demonstrates the grade conversion.

Subject	Grade	IBCC mark
English Language	A*	94
Urdu	B	75
Islamiyat	A	85
Pakistan Studies	B	75
Physics	A	85
Chemistry	C	65
Biology	D	55
Mathematics	A*	95
Total		629

A* marks are from the IBCC marks awarded for this subject in 2023. These marks are subject to change every year.

If a candidate receives the above grades, they are converted into the marks awarded by IBCC. Since the total marks received are out of 800, these need to be equated with the Pakistani scheme of studies, which awards marks out of 900.

Calculate your Cambridge O Level and Cambridge IGCSE equivalence using the formula below:

$(\text{Total marks obtained} / 800) \times 900$

$(629 / 800) \times 900 = 707.6 / 900$

(SSC equivalent marks)

For more details, refer to:

ibcc.edu.pk/conversion-for-equivalence/#



Cambridge International A Level conversion

In order to convert Cambridge International A Level, marks from both Cambridge O Level / Cambridge IGCSE (eight subjects) and Cambridge International A Level (three subjects) are taken into account.

GCE O Level subject	Grade	IBCC mark
English Language	A*	94
Urdu	B	75
Islamiyat	A	85
Pakistan Studies	B	75
Physics	A*	95
Chemistry	C	65
Biology	D	55
Mathematics	B	75
Total		619

A* marks are from the IBCC marks awarded for this subject in 2023. These marks are subject to change every year.

GCE A Level subject	Grade	IBCC mark
Physics	A*	95
Chemistry	B	75
Biology or Mathematics	C	65
Total		235

A* marks are from the IBCC marks awarded for this subject in 2023. These marks are subject to change every year.

Calculate your Cambridge IGCSE or Cambridge O Level and Cambridge International A Level equivalence using the formula below:

(Total marks obtained/1100) x 1100

(619+235/1100) x 1100 = 854/1100

(HSSC equivalent marks)

For more details, refer to:

ibcc.edu.pk/conversion-for-equivalence/#



Pakistan Medical and Dental Council (PM&DC)

PM&DC governs and sets the criteria for admission into medical universities. The weighting given is as follows:

	Weighting
MDCAT	50%
HSSC or Cambridge International A Level	40%
SSC or Cambridge IGCSE or Cambridge O Level	10%

Provincial bodies and private medical colleges then set the criteria for their own test and exams, using the above guidelines.

For more details, visit: pmdc.pk

Pakistan Engineering Council (PEC)

PEC sets the national standards and quality benchmarks for engineering education in Pakistan in line with international best practices. To qualify for admission into an accredited engineering program, students must pass Cambridge O Level or IGCSE and Cambridge International A Level examinations in the prescribed subjects with 60% marks in aggregate. In addition, candidates must qualify the entrance test conducted by the respective institution or university.

For more details, visit: pec.org.pk

! Important information

It is important to check the entrance requirements for the medical or engineering university you wish to apply to.

“ Cambridge-qualified students bring strong analytical abilities, scientific rigour and a globally informed perspective that prepare them well for higher education in Pakistan. PM&DC recognises Cambridge qualifications as fully compatible with our admission standards, and we view Cambridge students as well-prepared and competitive applicants for medical education. ”

Syed Rehan Asghar Naqvi, Registrar,
Pakistan Medical and Dental Council

“ The Pakistan Engineering Council recognises that Cambridge students meet high academic benchmarks and consistently perform well in engineering universities across the country. The recent policy enabling pre-medical students' entry into engineering programs further demonstrates PEC's commitment to fostering interdisciplinary learning, innovation, and inclusivity in engineering education. ”

Engr. Jehan Zeb Khan, Additional Registrar/
Head-EEU, Pakistan Engineering Council

What else do I need to know?

Higher education is your route to the professional career you seek. Therefore, choosing a course of study will be one of the most important decisions you make. It is important to do as much research as possible. Decide which university you would like to attend, the programmes it offers, and make sure they align with your broader goals and aspirations.

The best way to navigate this is to go through all the relevant information available on each university's website. Before that, it is essential to know your passion and then research in that direction. From entry requirements to grades, programmes to faculty and extra-curricular activities – choose a discipline that interests you most.

What happens when I receive my results?

It is important to check with your chosen university what information they will need to confirm your enrolment. Admission to universities in Pakistan is conditional on completing your high school studies, so universities will need proof of your achievement in your Cambridge International AS & A Levels. Some universities may accept this electronically, while others may need a certified copy. Universities may also need proof of your language ability, in either Urdu or English, so it is important that this certification is also included. We also offer a priority results service, allowing educational institutions to receive your provisional statement of results directly on results release day.

Is equivalence enough to secure my admission in Pakistan?

No – equivalence does not guarantee admission. All institutions have set their own eligibility criteria. It is essential to remember that applications to universities are competitive and some may have limited seats. Therefore, we encourage students to apply to a wide range of universities to maximise their chances of being accepted.

How do I apply to universities?

It is important to start preparing for university admissions as early as possible. All universities require you to fill out an application form, submit your documents and take an admissions test. If you pass the test you will need to attend an interview.



Are financial assistance opportunities available?

Most universities offer financial assistance. This is either merit based or need based. However, it is advisable to either visit your preferred university's website or contact the admissions department to check if you are eligible.

Do I need to take compulsory subjects if I have completed my Cambridge IGCSEs / O Levels and A Levels from any country other than Pakistan?

Pakistani nationals who have completed their Cambridge IGCSEs / O Levels and Cambridge International A Levels abroad will be exempted from compulsory subjects (Urdu, Islamiyat, Pakistan Studies). However, to avail the exemptions, both qualifications must be passed overseas.

For more details, refer to:
ibcc.edu.pk/equivalence-intro/rules-for-equivalence

Tip

We encourage you to speak to your school's student counsellor about the course of study that best reflects your goals.

Student success stories

Gateway to success in higher education

“I chose Cambridge because it was the best quality education board available in Pakistan, offering an approach that truly helps students learn. The examinations are based on conceptual knowledge rather than rote learning, which ensures students fully understand the curriculum material.

After completing my O and A Levels in Commerce and Mathematics, I was sure that I wanted to have a startup of my own due to the knowledge I had acquired.

Over time economics particularly piqued my interest and therefore I decided to complete my Bachelor of Science in Economics so that I could go into the field of data analytics and data driven strategies to help bring efficient decision making in Pakistan's business landscape.”

Sualeha Muneer

Cambridge International A Levels,
Nixor College, BSc Economics,
Institute of Business Administration (IBA)

“Science and technology have always been my passion; hence it comes as no surprise that I chose to pursue a degree in Electrical Engineering. My aim was to find a path that aligned with both my career goals and my personality, and I'm truly grateful to have found it at the right time. The opportunity to dive deep into such a complex field at a highly reputed institution brings me immense joy and contentment.

Cambridge's commitment to providing high-quality education played a crucial role in building my parents' confidence to support me in following this path. My Cambridge qualifications not only helped me gain admission into a top university but also provided me with a comprehensive understanding of my chosen subjects.”

Armna Adnan

Cambridge International A Levels,
Beaconhouse College Program,
BE Electrical Engineering,
NED University of Engineering and Technology

“I chose Cambridge qualifications because I believed they had more to offer than the other education systems in my country. This decision provided me with several advantages over my peers, such as a better grasp of concepts and a more effective way of honing my skills. I gained insight into my strengths and weaknesses, which allowed me to approach learning with confidence and curiosity. I felt empowered to ask questions without hesitation.

As I look back, I am quite content with the qualifications I took up. They guided my interest to pursue electrical engineering, which continues to strengthen my problem-solving skills, allows me to gain deep technical knowledge, and use that expertise to innovate in the field. I aspire to lead projects that have a real-world impact, as this is a vast field that encompasses everything from electronics to renewable engineering. I would recommend these qualifications, as they are globally recognised by institutions and have greatly enriched my educational journey.”

Faqir Syed Muhammad Mueenuddin

Cambridge O and International
A Levels, Super Nova Schools,
BS Electrical Engineering,
Ghulam Ishaq Khan Institute of
Engineering Sciences and
Technology (GIKI)





“ Cambridge qualifications enjoy a great reputation both internationally and in my country, which was one of the reasons why I chose to pursue them. Not only was I able to study subjects that aligned with the field I am passionate about, but they also provided me with

the opportunity to engage in extracurricular activities and practicals that laid the foundation for scientific research and allowed me to experience a holistic education, all the while preparing me for the future.

Currently, as I pursue astrophysics from University College London, a lifelong dream, I am reminded of the strong foundation that my Cambridge qualifications provided. Receiving a full tuition scholarship only further drove my passion. It ignited my desire to discover new things, help uncover the unsolved mysteries of the cosmos and an innate curiosity to question how this universe and the physical laws governing it work.”

Ali Gul

Cambridge International A Levels, Cedar College, BSc Astrophysics, University College London (UCL)

“ My aspiration has always been to challenge myself on an academic, intellectual, and personal level. The subjects I chose at A Level, and later my decision to study Law at Oxford, enabled me to do exactly that.

Through my Cambridge qualifications, I developed a range of valuable skills, including problem-solving, analytical thinking, and the ability to construct sound logical arguments. These skills not only provided a strong foundation for my studies at Oxford but also empowered me to grow beyond my academic and professional journey.

I would strongly recommend Cambridge qualifications to students in Pakistan. As globally recognised qualifications, they serve as a reliable indicator of academic ability for universities and employers. They not only shaped the beginnings of my academic and professional journey but also instilled confidence in my abilities and supported my progress at every stage.”

Shamin Amir Ahmed

Cambridge International AS & A Levels, Karachi Grammar School, BA Law (Jurisprudence), University of Oxford



“ My goal has always been to push the boundaries of computer science, particularly in areas like performance engineering, systems architecture, and security. My Cambridge qualifications provided a strong foundation in math and science, which has been invaluable in my studies at MIT.

I would particularly encourage students to take up challenging subjects like further mathematics to demonstrate their intellectual curiosity and aptitude for advanced studies. By challenging themselves and pursuing rigorous coursework, Cambridge students can position themselves as strong candidates for top universities and excel in their future academic endeavors.”

Muhammad Abdullah

Cambridge O and International A Levels, The Science School, BS Computer Science, BS Mathematics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)



Student success stories continued

“Cambridge has certainly played a crucial and significant role in my academic journey. As a freshman pursuing a degree in Accounting and Finance, I have been able to easily grasp any concept taught at my university, thanks to my Cambridge IGCSE and International A Level background. Moreover, the emphasis on critical thinking, creativity and personal growth has led me to develop a broader perspective on the world around me.

This strong foundation, especially in Cambridge International A Level Accounting, has enabled me to continue with my interest in finance because of the exceptional curriculum and comprehensive assessment style.

Reflecting on my journey, I am extremely grateful to Cambridge for providing an outstanding and empowering learning experience, one that has proven to be invaluable not only academically but also in enriching a vital aspect of my social life.”

Natalya Jamal

Cambridge IGCSEs and International A Levels, Roots Millennium and Future World School and College, BS Accounting and Finance, National University of Science and Technology (NUST)



“I was accepted into more than 10 universities, including institutions in the USA and Malaysia, because of my Cambridge qualifications. I chose Cambridge for my O Levels and A Levels due to their global recognition and the high standard of education they offer. The diverse range of subjects allowed me to explore various fields, ultimately leading me to discover my passion for computer science.

The rigorous curriculum not only equipped me with critical thinking and problem-solving skills but also made it easier for me to grasp new concepts and excel in quizzes through ‘out of the box’ thinking.

Now, as I pursue a degree in Computer Science, I am driven by my passion for technology and my ambition to build software that can make a real difference in people’s lives. Cambridge unlocked numerous opportunities for me, and I am committed to contributing to the tech industry by developing innovative solutions and staying at the forefront of the latest advancements. My goal is to blend creativity with technical skills to solve problems that truly matter.”

Faizan Tanveer

Cambridge O Levels and International A Levels, The City School, BS Computer Science, National University of Computer and Emerging Sciences (FAST)



“In Pakistan, universities like LUMS appreciate the strong academic foundation that Cambridge qualifications provide. This recognition is also evident globally, as Cambridge is known for its rigorous curriculum and emphasis on critical thinking that equipped me with the analytical skills necessary for success in interdisciplinary fields like computer science.

After completing my bachelor’s in Computer Science, I aspire to pursue a master’s degree at one of the world’s top universities.

My goal is to return to Pakistan and establish schools that provide skill-based learning and technological education specifically for

underprivileged children who cannot otherwise afford quality education. By gaining experience in the tech industry, I hope to develop and implement innovative educational strategies that will empower these children and help bridge the educational divide in our society.”

Muhammad Ammar Faisal

Cambridge O and International A Levels, Lahore Grammar School, BS Computer Science, Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS)



“My aspiration to pursue a career in medicine was driven by a desire to help others, a love for science, and a commitment to lifelong learning. I believed in seeking a career that combined purpose with the opportunity to improve lives. Cambridge qualifications played a significant role in helping develop the approach to understanding complex concepts, which has been especially useful in medicine. I am able to break down challenging topics into their simplest components, treating each concept like a cogwheel in a larger machine.

I found that the flexible curriculum offered by Cambridge allowed me to focus on my interests, with its strong emphasis on critical thinking, analysis, and an international perspective that helped me develop valuable skills which continue to prove beneficial to me, enabling me to excel in a globalised world.”

Saad Farooqui

Cambridge International A Levels,
The City School PAF Chapter,
Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of
Surgery MBBS, Aga Khan University



“Cambridge qualifications allowed me to demonstrate my competency for university education in the UK and strengthened my application through a credited examination result.

Studying a combination of subjects (sociology, literature in English, art, economics) provided me with a host of interdisciplinary insights. I was fortunate to have gained research skills while studying art and design, where we were asked to research a topic, analyse relevant artists, and write a thesis to present alongside visual artwork.

I would highly recommend Cambridge qualifications, as the depth at which Cambridge International A Levels teach one to think critically, research, and form opinions has proven to be invaluable in university tests and interviews.”

Faizan Soofi

Cambridge IGCSEs and
International A Levels,
Aitchison College, BA English,
University of Cambridge

“Cambridge qualifications have been instrumental in opening doors to prestigious universities worldwide, as well as in my home country. Their international credibility played a key role in securing my admission to top institutions, including New York University (NYU), City University of Hong Kong (with a full scholarship), DePaul University, the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST), and Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS) in Pakistan.

Cambridge’s focus on conceptual understanding, critical thinking, and independent learning equipped me with skills that set me apart in the university environment, while the self-directed learning style prepared me to manage research-heavy projects effectively. For instance, when working on a term paper that required in-depth analysis, I noticed that my ability to synthesise information and think critically gave me an edge in producing high-quality work compared to some of my classmates.

Overall, the academic rigour and intellectual versatility of Cambridge qualifications gave me a head start not only in navigating university life but also in mastering challenging concepts and contributing confidently to class discussions.”

Muhammad Mahad

Cambridge International A Levels,
Alpha College,
BSc Computer Science,
City University of Hong Kong



Cambridge qualification recognitions within the higher education landscape

All universities across Pakistan welcome applications from students with Cambridge qualifications. Admissions criteria for leading universities are provided below for reference. However, requirements may vary for each university, so it is advisable to check with the admissions department of the university you wish to apply to.

Recognition database

Our recognition database shows all the institutions worldwide that formally accept Cambridge qualifications. It is regularly updated with new recognition statements, allowing students to see where their Cambridge qualifications are accepted. You can search for a particular university to check their entry criteria for Cambridge students.

For the latest information, or to search for your chosen institution, go to our 'Recognition and credit policy search' web page: cambridgeinternational.org/recognition-search

Entry requirements in Pakistan are unique and we are keen to support our students who wish to apply to higher education institutions in Pakistan.

 **How to search**
To search by organisation only, enter the organisation name and select search.
To search by other criteria, select the categories (organisation name, location, organisation type, qualifications) separately or in any combination. All categories are optional but selecting a combination will increase the number of your search results.

Organisation name
Enter name(s) (up to 20)

Location

Organisation type
☐ Select all
☐ Universities and colleges
☐ Governments and ministries
☐ Professional organisations
☐ Companies

Qualifications

Cambridge iGCSE and O Level	+
Cambridge International AS & A Level and Cambridge AICE	+
Cambridge Professional Development Qualifications (Cambridge PDQs)	+
Cambridge Global Perspectives	+
Cambridge Pre-U	+
Withdrawn qualifications	+



Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS)

Entry requirements

The eligibility criteria for admission to LUMS are as follows:

- O Levels in at least eight subjects with an average grade of B
- A Levels in at least three full credit A Level subjects with an average of two Bs and one C grade across the best three subjects.

The three best subjects cannot include any Advanced Subsidiary subjects, the A Level General Paper, or an A Level grade less than an E.

For more details, visit lums.edu.pk

“The professional landscape our graduates will enter is evolving at an unprecedented pace. To navigate this, future generations will need resilience, the ability to think critically, and the agility to adapt to constant change. Equally important will be the ability to ask insightful questions and formulate innovative solutions. As disruption accelerates, fostering curiosity, lifelong learning, and creative problem-solving will be essential. These competencies – more than any specific technical skill – will define success in the careers of tomorrow and play a crucial role in building inclusive and sustainable futures.”

Dr Ali Cheema, Vice Chancellor, LUMS

National College of Arts (NCA)

Entry requirements

- Candidates must have completed A Levels with minimum 45% marks.
- The student will be required to pass the aptitude test and interview conducted by NCA.

For more details, visit nca.edu.pk

“At NCA, Lahore, hands-on, skill-oriented learning is the pivot of the educational framework. Students from the Cambridge system, with wider exposure and better conceptual understanding, thrive in this 150-year-old art school's learning ecosystem. A key advantage of these graduates is their readiness for self-employment: grounded in studio-based practice, they adapt well to the vagaries of the creative process and demonstrate self-discipline and a consistent pursuit of excellence.”

Prof Dr Murtaza Jafri, Vice Chancellor, National College of Arts, Lahore

King Edward Medical University

Entry requirements

- Candidates seeking admission in universities in Punjab are required to have secured minimum 60% marks after equivalence.

For more details, visit kemu.edu.pk

“As a university, we take pride in welcoming over 650 new students each year across our Medical and Allied Medical programmes. Those joining us after completing their Cambridge International A Levels consistently excel; they stand out for their curiosity, confidence and ability to embrace new ways of thinking. We are committed to nurturing these bright minds, equipping them with the skills and resilience needed to lead and innovate in the ever-evolving field of medicine.”

Prof Mahmood Ayyaz (SI), Vice Chancellor, King Edward Medical University

Beaconhouse National University (BNU)

Entry requirements

- Entry requirements for various programmes vary. However, candidates must have passed eight O Level subjects and three A Level subjects.

For more details and programme-specific requirements, visit: bnu.edu.pk

“Our liberal arts framework thrives on an interdisciplinary ethos that fosters curiosity, adaptability, and critical inquiry. We benefit tremendously if students with a Cambridge O and A Level background come nurtured in analytical reasoning, independent thought, and intellectual versatility. The Cambridge system’s emphasis on interdisciplinary exploration aligns perfectly with BNU’s academic philosophy, empowering students to engage deeply with complex ideas and diverse perspectives. A strong Cambridge foundation of students will continue to enable them to enter BNU ready to think critically, express themselves effectively, and lead with creativity and confidence in a rapidly changing world.”

Dr Moeed W Yusuf, Vice Chancellor,
Beaconhouse National University

University of Health Sciences

Entry requirements

- Candidates seeking admission in universities in Punjab are required to have secured minimum 60% marks after equivalence.

For more details, visit:
uhs.edu.pk/index4.php

“Although the perception is that the students from the O Level and A Level systems are at a disadvantage taking admission in a state-owned medical college, I don’t agree with that. They are generally more innovative, creative, interactive and provocative. I know of hundreds of children from this stream of education who got into the top medical schools in Pakistan and abroad, and now they are super-excellent doctors.”

Message from the Vice Chancellor,
University of Health Sciences



Institute of Business Administration (IBA)

Entry requirements

- Candidates seeking admission should have completed three principal A Level subjects with no grade less than a C.

More programme-specific requirements and details can be accessed at:

iba.edu.pk

“We appreciate the strong foundation Cambridge provides its graduates, evident in their outstanding performance at IBA Karachi.

Their critical thinking, resilience, and academic excellence consistently shine, reflecting Cambridge’s commitment to quality education. Thank you for nurturing capable students who thrive in higher education.”

Dr Shakeel Khoja, Dean,
Faculty of Math and Computer Science,
Institute of Business Administration

Indus Valley School of Art and Architecture (IVS)

“Students who come to us through the Cambridge stream tend to possess stronger comprehension and writing skills crucial for academic research. The curriculum encourages independent study that instills confidence in students; it pushes them to think critically and respond rather than regurgitate information in textbooks.

Indus Valley School of Art and Architecture is proud to hold events such as the Annual Film Festival, conferences and the Interaction Design Symposium that are open to the general public, providing the schools the opportunity to showcase the kind of projects that are currently taking place in Pakistan in the fields of art, design and architecture while enabling students to explore possible career opportunities.”

Dr Faiza Mushtaq, Dean and Executive Director,
Indus Valley School of Art and Architecture



Entry requirements

The basic eligibility criteria for admission to IVS are as follows:

- eight O Level subjects and three elective subjects
- any three A Level subjects.

Candidates who are awaiting results can also apply. However, these applicants will be offered conditional admission and their admission will be revoked if the requirements are not fulfilled.

For more details and information, visit: indusvalley.edu.pk

Cambridge qualification recognitions within the higher education landscape continued

Dow University of Health Sciences

“As the Vice Chancellor of Dow University of Health Sciences, I have observed that Cambridge students exhibit strong academic rigor, critical thinking, and problem-solving abilities. They are exceptionally well-equipped to navigate the evolving demands of the healthcare sector, where adaptability and interdisciplinary expertise are crucial.

Although the MDCAT is aligned with the national curriculum, our admissions process is inclusive, acknowledging the analytical strength and global mindset Cambridge students offer.”

Prof Dr Muhammad Saeed Quraishy,

Vice Chancellor, Dow University of Health Sciences



Entry requirements

- Candidates must have passed intermediate/HSSC Pre-Medical or equivalent examination with minimum 65% marks.

For more details, visit: duhs.edu.pk

Habib University



“Habib University encourages and welcomes all talented students who are keen on improving themselves and the world around them. The most important asset in today’s volatile and uncertain world is a flexible mindset coupled with a broad base of knowledge and skills that facilitate critical thinking, collaboration, and creativity. This is exactly the kind of training that a Liberal Arts degree prioritizes.”

Wasif A Rizvi,

President, Habib University

Entry requirements

Candidates from Cambridge streams should have completed the following to be eligible to apply and take the Habib University entrance test:

- O Levels / IGCSEs in eight subjects including three electives, with average grade of B
- A Levels with any three principal subjects, with average grade of C.

For more details, visit: habib.edu.pk

NED University of Engineering and Technology (NEDUET)



“Over the past two decades, the number of Cambridge qualified applicants to NEDUET has steadily increased, mirroring the rise in Cambridge’s participation within Pakistan. This trend underscores NED’s commitment to continuous curriculum development, ensuring that the latest pedagogical practices, advanced infrastructure, and resources support experiential and hands-on learning.

Students from the Cambridge system bring with them a well-rounded educational foundation and competencies that position them to thrive at NEDUET. Their prior exposure to analytical thinking, independent learning, and global perspectives aligns seamlessly with NED’s academic system, enabling them to further build upon their skills and knowledge, ensuring academic and professional success during and beyond their studies.”

Prof Dr Muhammad Tufail,
Vice Chancellor, NED University

Entry requirements

For specific requirements, visit:
neduet.edu.pk

Merit score (MS):

MS = 40% (HSC Part I / O Level marks / equivalent examinations)* + 60% (NED Entry Test marks)

** Candidates who have already completed HSC / A Level / equivalent examinations will be dealt with according to NEDUET policy.*

Aga Khan University (AKU)

Entry requirements

The minimum academic requirements for candidates are:

- Candidates must have completed Cambridge O Level in at least six subjects including English, and Cambridge International A Level in three principal subjects.

For more details, visit: aku.edu

“I’ve taught more than two thousand undergraduate students in my career, and I’ve seen brilliance come from many different school systems.

The Cambridge exam board is one that consistently enables the kinds of critical and creative thinking that are so appropriate for the Arts & Sciences interdisciplinary programme that we offer at Aga Khan University.

The world needs university graduates who are equipped to adapt to dynamic career landscapes where many, if not most, of the jobs have yet to be imagined. This is exactly what AKU is trying to nurture, and I believe the Cambridge board is one of our strongest partners in this ambition.”

Dr Stephen Lyon, Dean,
Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Aga Khan University

Cambridge qualification recognitions within the higher education landscape continued

Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto Institute of Science and Technology (SZABIST)

“Cambridge’s broad curriculum and in depth coursework equips students to critically evaluate information, approach challenges with a creative mindset and adopt a problem solving attitude, encouraging them to become more analytical, inquisitive and well-versed in subject knowledge.

At SZABIST, we support this foundation by empowering students to discover their strengths and follow their aspirations. As the world continues to evolve with globalisation, technological advancements and shifts in socio-economic dynamics, my message to all students is that it is more important than ever to remain mindful, adaptable and committed to continuous learning and innovation.”

Shahnaz Wazir Ali, President, SZABIST



Entry requirements

Candidates to have completed O Levels (minimum eight subjects including five compulsory subjects: English, Urdu, Maths, Islamiyat and Pakistan Studies) and A Levels (minimum three subjects). For more details, visit: szabist.edu.pk

Institute of Business Management (IoBM)



“In 2023 and 2024, up to 35% of our undergraduate students came from the Cambridge education system. These students have consistently demonstrated academic excellence, critical thinking, and a global perspective that aligns with our institution’s values.

As the career landscape becomes increasingly dynamic and competitive, students must acclimatize with broader competencies such as digital literacy, adaptability, and emotional intelligences.”

Talib S Karim, President,
Institute of Business Management

Entry requirements

Candidates require the following:

- A Level in three subjects with at least two C grades
- at least five C grades in O Level exams (you need a total of eight subjects including: English, Urdu, Islamiyat, Pakistan Studies and Maths as compulsory subjects and three electives)
- success in the admission test and panel interview conducted by IoBM.

For more details, visit: iobm.edu.pk

National University of Sciences and Technology (NUST)

Entry requirements

- Candidates to have secured a minimum of 60% in Cambridge IGCSE or O Levels and Cambridge International A Levels, having obtained equivalence from IBCC.

For more details, visit: nust.edu.pk

“A significant proportion of NUST students hail from the Cambridge O and A Level stream and excel in competitive environments. Equipped with excellent analytical skills and a strong educational background, they thrive in interdisciplinary programs. I would encourage Cambridge-qualified students to apply, as NUST values their talent and supports their growth.”

Dr Nasir Rashid,
Registrar, National University of Sciences and Technology (NUST)

Ghulam Ishaq Khan Institute of Engineering Sciences and Technology

Entry requirements

Applicants for engineering programmes must have completed the following:

- A Levels in Mathematics, Physics and Chemistry with D or above grade in Mathematics and Physics
- O Levels in eight subjects (English, Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Biology / Computer Science, Urdu, Islamic Studies and Pakistan Studies) for local applicants and in five subjects (English, Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Biology / Computer Science / IT) for those applying from abroad.

For more details, visit: giki.edu.pk

“We are pleased to see a growing number of Cambridge-qualified students joining GIK Institute, one of the premier institutions in engineering, computing, and management education with a global reputation. Our fully residential campus provides an enriching environment where students benefit from our commitment to excellence and innovation. Known for its advanced facilities and high academic standards, the Institute offers a setting where these students can thrive, supported by faculty and resources that prepare them for future success in the competitive world.”

Prof Dr Fazal Ahmad Khalid, SI,
Rector, Ghulam Ishaq Khan Institute of Engineering Sciences and Technology



University of London International Programmes

The University of London International Programmes enable students to study for a University of London qualification in Pakistan. Students can choose to study for the qualifications at a local independent teaching institution, or by distance learning.

Entry requirements

- Cambridge O Levels / IGCSEs in three subjects with Grade C or above in non-overlapping subjects.
- Two A Level passes at Grade E or above in non-overlapping subjects.

Important information

UK NARIC* completed an independent benchmarking study to compare Cambridge IGCSE and Cambridge International AS & A Levels to the UK education system. The study found them to be globally relevant and robust qualifications, closely comparable to UK national secondary qualifications, with Cambridge IGCSE comparable to GCSE A*-G; Cambridge International AS Level comparable to GCE AS Level (A-E) and Cambridge International A Level comparable to GCE A Level (A*-E).

*Due to the United Kingdom leaving the European Union, the UK NARIC national recognition agency function was re-titled as UK ENIC on 1 March 2021, operated and managed by Ecctis Limited. From 1 March 2021, international benchmarking findings are published under the Ecctis name.

Institution name	Location
Bay View College	• Karachi
Beaconhouse International College	• Islamabad • Faisalabad
Blackstone School of Law and Business	• Lahore
College of Accounting and Management Sciences (CAMS)	• Karachi
Denning Business School	• Karachi
Islamabad School of Law	• Islamabad
University College of Islamabad	• Islamabad
LGS International Degree Programme	• Islamabad
Management Development Institute (MDi)	• Islamabad
Metropolitan International United College	• Islamabad
Pakistan College of Law	• Lahore
Roots College International IVY Campus	• Islamabad
The Institute of Legal Studies (TILS)	• Islamabad • Rawalpindi • Peshawar • Lahore & Multan
The Millennium Universal College (TMUC)	• Islamabad • Lahore & Karachi
UCL Business School	• Multan
University College of Islamabad	• Islamabad
Universal College Lahore	• Lahore

Other higher education institutions in Pakistan

Institution name	Campus locations	Admissions requirement
Bahria University	• Karachi • Islamabad • Lahore	• A Levels with minimum 50% marks. For programme-specific requirements, visit: bahria.edu.pk
Karachi School of Business and Leadership	• Karachi	• A Levels with minimum one B and two C grades. For more details, visit: ksbl.edu.pk
National University of Computer and Emerging Sciences	• Lahore • Islamabad • Faisalabad • Karachi • Peshawar	• A Levels with minimum 60% marks • Subjects studied at Pre-Eng (Chemistry, Mathematics, Physics) OR ICS (Computer Science, Mathematics, Physics) • IBCC equivalence is mandatory • Merit cut-off marks to be determined by the university. For more details and programme-specific requirements, visit: nu.edu.pk
Riphah International University	• Islamabad • Lahore • Malakand • Faisalabad • Rawalpindi • Sahiwal	• 60% marks or more after equivalence • Must have passed MDCAT. For more details, visit: riphah.edu.pk
Ziauddin University	• Karachi • Sukkur	• Must have passed the MDCAT • A Levels with 70% marks • Equivalence obtained by IBCC • Successfully pass the aptitude test conducted by Ziauddin University. For more details, visit: zu.edu.pk

Supporting our community

Cambridge in Pakistan takes pride in its community engagement, valuing it as a catalyst for meaningful dialogue and exchange of diverse perspectives. This drives our educational impact and strengthens a shared commitment to lifelong learning and growth.

Conferences and school leadership engagement

We recognise the significance that effective leadership and active community engagement have on the success of educational programmes. Through events such as the Pakistan Schools Conference, Cambridge Teachers Conference Pakistan, Principals Forum and Learn More, we not only reinforce our commitment to empowering leaders and educators but also refine our programmes to meet the evolving needs of education. This makes sure students are prepared for a rapidly changing world.

Student counsellors network and engagement

Counsellors Connect and Cambridge Pakistan webinar series

Counsellors Connect and our Recognition webinar series bring student counsellors onto one platform to understand the trends in higher education, both nationally and internationally. Such platforms also help us share best practices and connect with higher education to ensure students' seamless progression to universities and beyond.

Student engagement and recognition

Outstanding Cambridge Learner Awards

At Cambridge, our learners are at the heart of everything we do. The Outstanding Cambridge Learner Awards celebrate the hard work and dedication of our students who excel in Cambridge exams around the world.

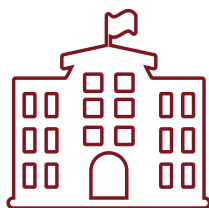
Professional development support

We provide high-quality teaching, learning and professional development support for teachers and school leaders at current and aspiring Cambridge schools across Pakistan's three regions. Our diverse range of offerings, including syllabus-specific, Enrichment, stage zero, resources, and closed group training, aim to empower Pakistan's education community and foster continual growth and excellence in teaching and leadership.



12 582
teachers trained

60 accredited
trainers
439 training
sessions
conducted

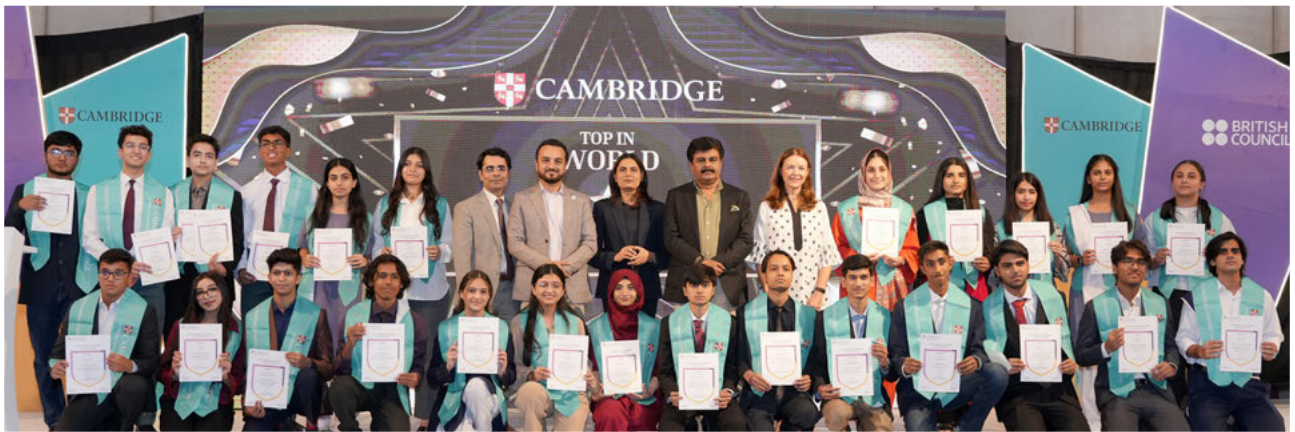


24
Cambridge
Professional
Development
Qualification
Centres (active)

130
Programme
Leaders (PLs)
(active)



These statistics are correct for the years 2022 to 2025.



Need support?

Online help

You can find answers to frequently asked questions about Cambridge exams and services at cambridgeinternational.org/help

Simply type your question into the search box, or use the menu to guide you.

Customer Support

You can email us at info@cambridgeinternational.org or call us on +44 1223 553554. We are available 24 hours a day, 6 days a week.

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