



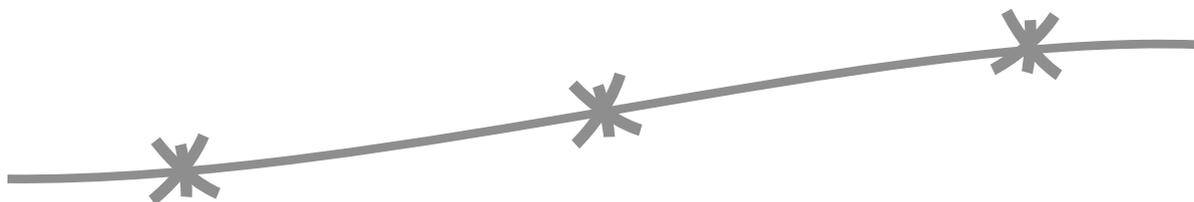
# Visit guide

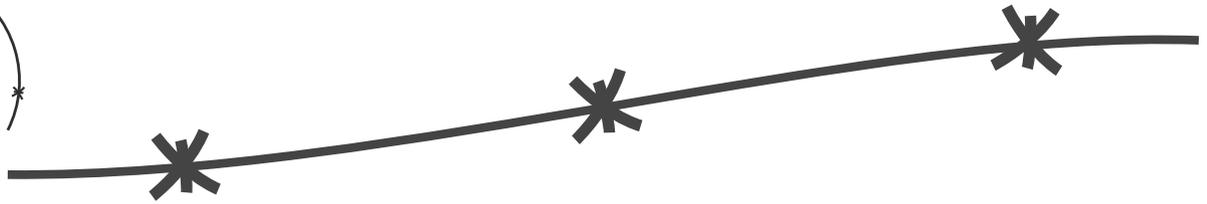
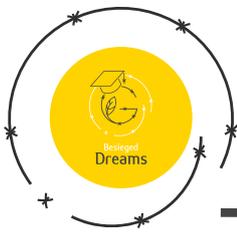
**Does your university provide full scholarships for Syrian students living outside the country? Or scholarships for international students that Syrians are eligible to apply to also?**

If yes, please inform us about such opportunities via email at [info@ghouta.com](mailto:info@ghouta.com).

Due to lack of resources under siege, many students faced difficulties charging a laptop or reaching a reliable internet connection. This has, consequently, created a gap in knowledge about the scholarships they can apply to. We will circulate such useful information among the students via Facebook groups, emails and other means of communication.

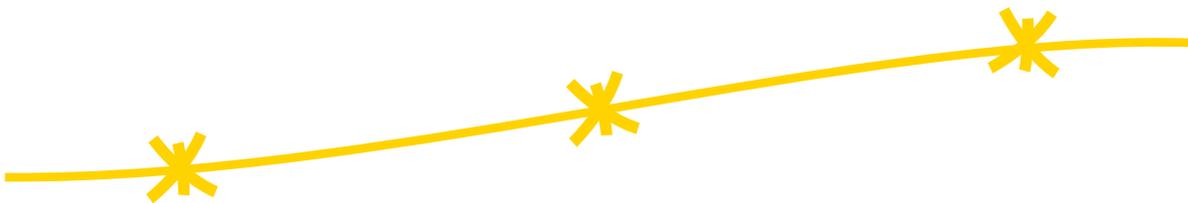
If your university doesn't provide scholarships to Syrian students, please contact them and explain the importance of the academic sector to provide some kind of reparation and equity to the qualified Syrian students who suffered from a varied range of human rights violations.





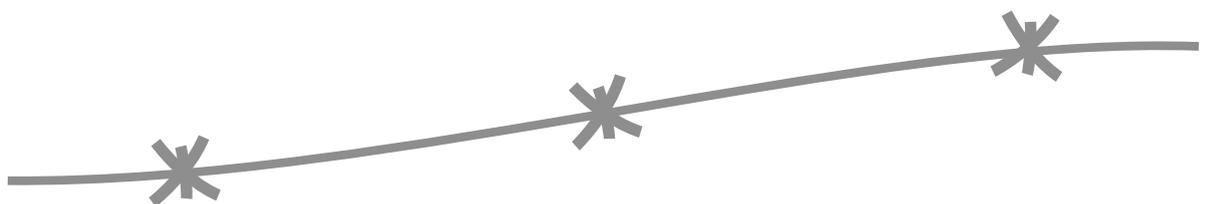
### **Does your university accept baccalaureate certificates issued by the Syrian Interim Government?**

For five years now, the Syrian regime prevented the students living in areas outside its control from reaching their schools and universities. Therefore, alternative schools were initiated and supported by the Syrian interim government. During the five-years siege, in Ghouta alone, close to 6000 students passed the interim government official baccalaureate exam. It is important to make sure that the university recognises such degrees, so the students will be able to apply and continue their higher education.



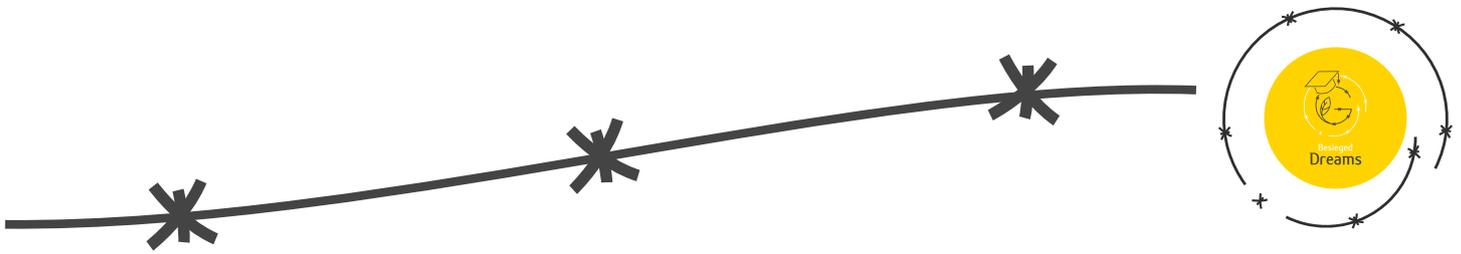
### **Does the scholarship have an age limit? Or demand a recent baccalaureate degree?**

Ask them to reconsider that condition. The students in Ghouta were besieged for five years; during this period, it was impossible to make any academic progress. Therefore, they don't meet the conditions of most scholarships. This condition discriminates against survivors of long years of political detention and students who suffered from severe injuries during the war.



### **Does the admission require recommendation letters by academic staff?**

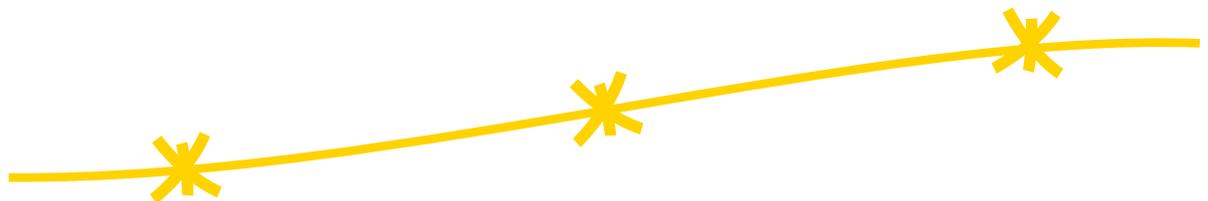
Please take the time to explain to your university that many human rights defenders in Syria are on the regime's wanted-list for political or civil activism reasons, as there is absolutely no freedom of expression in the country. Moreover, because the security forces interfere in every aspect of life, including the academic life, many professors and teachers fear writing recommendation letters for activists or students who do not live in regime-controlled areas.



### **Does your university have any online programs? Are the students inside Syria eligible for scholarships in these programs?**

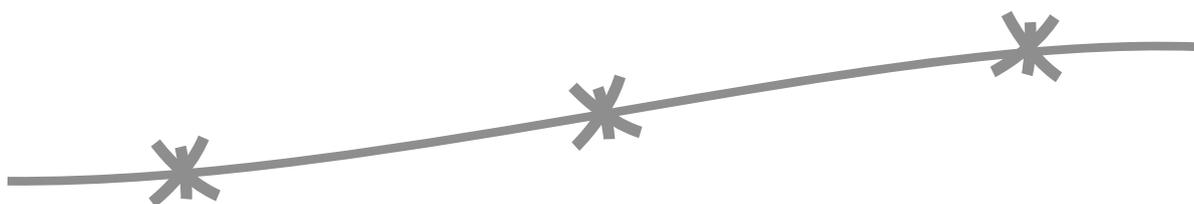
Thousands of Syrian students in northern Syria couldn't complete their education because of the fundamental lack of academic opportunities and accredited universities, thus causing an absence of motivation, lack of knowledge and expertise inside Syria, increased the dropout rate, early marriage and exploitation in employment.

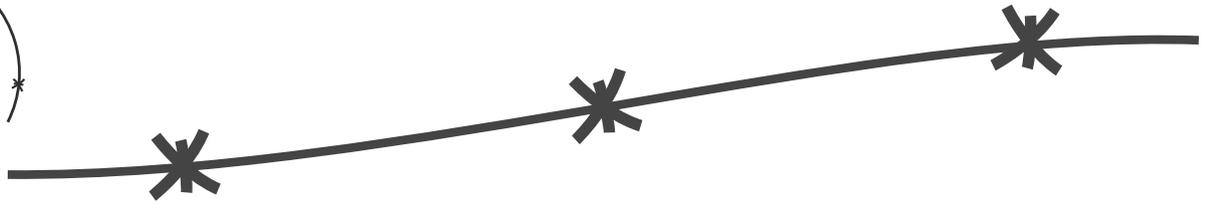
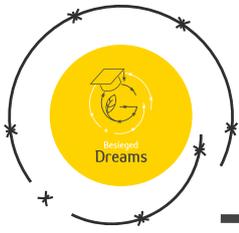
Providing online learning opportunities, makes them cling to the future beyond war. The displaced students of Ghouta who had to leave everything behind and barely got out alive, now face a devastating economic situation in northern Syria due to the massive loss of property, especially considering the highly-consuming five-years-long siege. Free online education could be the only solution preventing this group of students from abandoning their dreams. Free online education might well be the last chance to bring them back to education, so they can be more active, influential, and reliable towards their community and war-torn country.



### **Will your university accept an online test for proof of English? Online test to prove their qualifications (like SAT,ACT..)?**

There are No official and accredited exam centers in northern Syria and it's impossible to find a legal way to enter Turkey to sit the exams there. Due to this issue, students get rejected not because they aren't qualified but because they can't demonstrate their qualification due to the war's circumstances.





## **Does your university give the chance for Syrian students to transfer their credit and continue their higher education without having to start over?**

A number of issues caused by war, forced students to leave their universities in order to stay safe. Many of the students who are wanted by the Syrian government or those who were living under siege for years, couldn't graduate from their university, including many who were in their last academic year. It's therefore hard and unfair towards them to start from zero again. If your university doesn't allow transfer of credits, please explain to them why this issue is especially significant for many Syrian students. Please send us an email with details if such opportunity exists.

[www.ghouta.com](http://www.ghouta.com)

