

Ministerial Decision No. (34) of 2025 Regarding the System for Recognition of Higher Education Qualifications from Outside the State

The Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research,

- Having reviewed Federal Decree-Law No. (28) of 2024 amending certain provisions of Federal Law No. (1) of 1972 concerning the competencies of ministries and the powers of ministers,

And Federal Decree-Law No. (48) of 2021 concerning Higher Education,

- And Cabinet Decision No. (106) of 2024 concerning the adoption of the National Qualifications Framework,

And Cabinet Decision No. (101/M9) of 2024 - Session No. (9) concerning the organizational structure of the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research,

And Cabinet Decision No. () of 2024 concerning the organizational structure of the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research,

And the Minister of Education Decision No. (155) of 2023 concerning the system for recognition of higher education certificates from outside the State,

And Ministerial Decision No. (1) of 2024 concerning the organizational structure of departments, offices, and sections and their competencies and tasks at the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research,

- And in accordance with the public interest,

Has decided:

Article One

Definitions

In the application of the provisions of this Decision, the following words and phrases shall have the meanings assigned to each of them, unless the context requires otherwise:

The State: The United Arab Emirates.

Qualification: An official document proving that the holder has successfully completed a stage of education, or that they have obtained a scientific or professional qualification.

Country of Qualification: The country in which the qualification is awarded.

Accredited Educational Institution: An educational institution that is legally established, licensed, and accredited by the relevant accreditation body in the country of qualification to conduct activities that allow it to offer academic programs and award qualifications.

Recognition of Qualification: The process through which the validity of the qualification, the accreditation of the awarding educational institution, and the qualification's compliance with the requirements and standards of the National Qualifications Framework and the educational system in the State are verified, in accordance with the provisions of this Decision and its executive resolutions, to allow the use of the qualification within the State for the purpose of employment, career progression, further study, or any other purposes.

Article Two

Scope of the Decision

The provisions of this Decision shall apply to the recognition of higher education qualifications issued by accredited educational institutions outside the State as outlined in the service path in Appendix No. (1).

Article Three

General Conditions for the Recognition of Higher Education Qualifications Issued from Outside the State

The following conditions are required for the recognition of higher education qualifications issued from outside the State:

1. The qualification and all the data contained therein must be authentic.
2. The educational institution awarding the qualification must, at the time of its issuance, be legally established, licensed, and accredited by the relevant accreditation body in the country of qualification to conduct the activity that allows it to offer the academic program and award the qualification.

Article Four

Withdrawal of Recognition

The Ministry may withdraw the recognition of a previously recognized qualification if it later becomes apparent to the Ministry that there is any defect in the application of the conditions mentioned in Article Three.

Article Five

Executive Resolutions

The Undersecretary of the Ministry shall issue the necessary executive resolutions, circulars, and regulations to implement the provisions of this Decision.

Article Six

Repeals

The Minister of Education Decision No. (155) of 2023 concerning the system for recognition of higher education certificates from outside the State is hereby repealed, as is any provision that contradicts or conflicts with the provisions of this Decision.

Article Seven

Implementation of the Decision

This Decision shall be published in the Official Gazette and shall come into force from the date of its publication.

Dr. Abdulrahman Abdulmannan Al Awar

Minister of Human Resources and Emiratisation

and

Acting Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research

Issued on: 15/1/2025