UNIVERSITY OF WARITH AL-ANBIYAA

KARBALA, IRAQ

SDG 1

No Poverty

Progress Report 2025



SDG 1 · NO POVERTY

2025 at a glance

UOWA helps students from poor families to study, through scholarships, low-cost housing and cheap meals. Its students and staff also help needy families in Karbala.

10.1 bn IQD
Student financial aid in 2024, up 44% on 2023

3,491
Scholarships and discounts awarded in 2024

300+
Food baskets given to needy families in Karbala, March 2025

50%
Biggest discount on campus meals, against market prices

2025 in brief

JANUARY — **Eid clothes for the poor**
Bought by College of Administration and Economics students

JANUARY — **Career and employment workshops**
Under the government-backed Riyada initiative

FEBRUARY — **Charity bazaar**
22 to 24 February, for humanitarian cases

MARCH — **Ramadan food baskets**
Students and staff, for needy families

MARCH — **2024 aid figures announced**
Scholarships and discounts worth 10.1 billion IQD

JULY — **Heart checks for orphans**
College of Medicine, with a specialist medical team

OCTOBER — **37th entrepreneurship programme**
Riyada training for students and graduates

NOVEMBER — **Tuition waived for first-year Islamic Sciences students**
All departments, 2025–26

Partners

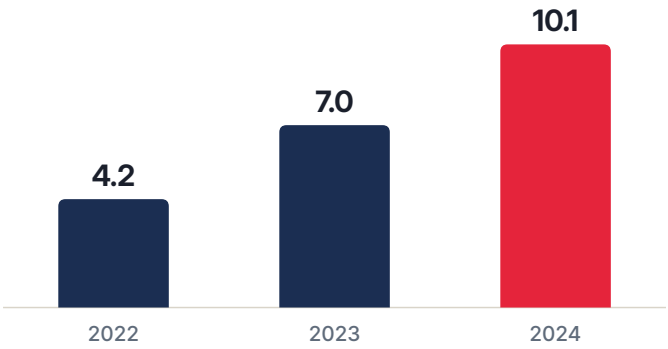
The Holy Shrine of Imam Hussain, which supports the campus meals; the Imam Reza Charitable Foundation; and the Goodwill Team and other student volunteer teams.

1 · FINANCIAL AID

Making sure cost does not stop anyone

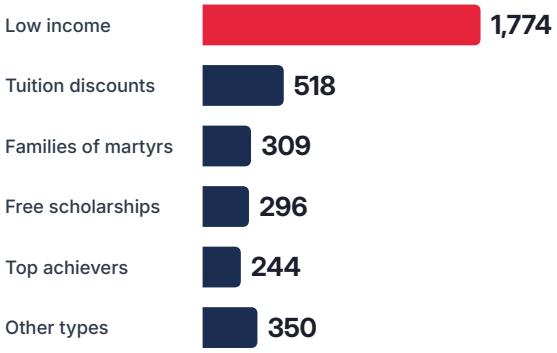
UOWA gives scholarships and fee discounts to Iraqi and non-Iraqi students who need them. Aid has more than doubled in two years.

Student financial aid, all types · billion IQD



Totals include merit and other awards as well as need-based aid. 2024 is the latest year published.

Who received aid in 2024



3,491 awards in all. Low-income students received the most.

19 NOVEMBER 2025

Tuition fees were waived for all first-year students in the College of Islamic Sciences, in every department, for 2025–26. The decision followed the guidance of the representative of the Supreme Religious Authority.

Written policies for low-income students

ACCESS

Inclusion and Support Policy

Full or partial tuition waivers, housing help, and a private application process

GRADUATION

Completion Support Policy

Tutoring, mentors and an emergency fund, to help students finish their degree

POOREST FAMILIES

Targeted Support Programmes

For students from the lowest 20% of incomes or from poor areas

OTHER COUNTRIES

Support Schemes for Students from Low and Lower-Middle-Income Countries

Scholarships, fee waivers and help before arrival

Support from the first day to graduation

Aid is only the start. UOWA's policies for low-income students also promise:

- Tutoring
- Study-skills workshops
- Mentors
- Free counselling
- Emergency fund
- Personal study plans



HOUSING

Low-cost student housing

Orphans and students facing money problems get priority. Rooms are single, double or triple, with free transport to the university, free laundry and a cafeteria on site.



MEALS

Cheap meals on campus

Meals cost about 45 to 50% less than market prices. A rice and curry meal with free bread costs 1,500 IQD. The menu includes vegetarian and vegan dishes.

Students from low and lower-middle income countries

Full or partial scholarships covering tuition, housing and living costs. Application and registration fees are waived, and staff help with certificate checks before students arrive.

Standing with families in need

UOWA's students, staff and colleges give food, clothes and health care to people in need in Karbala.



MARCH 2025 · RAMADAN

300+ food baskets for needy families

Business Administration students collected food, packed baskets and organised the delivery.

The campaign was run by the student teams Irth Al-Hussain and Khairat Al-Warith with the Student Activities Department, under the university's supervision.



22 TO 24 FEBRUARY 2025

Charity bazaar

The College of Administration and Economics and the Goodwill Team held a bazaar on campus for humanitarian cases.

JANUARY 2025

Eid clothes

College students bought Eid clothes for the poor at Al-Waeli House.

JULY 2025

Heart checks for orphans

The College of Medicine checked orphans from the Imam Reza Charitable Foundation for heart disease. Medical students gained clinical training.

Skills to start a business

UOWA trains students and graduates to start their own projects, through Riyada, the Iraqi government's youth entrepreneurship initiative.



31 OCTOBER 2025

37th entrepreneurship programme

Run by the Entrepreneurship Division, to help students and graduates plan and start their own projects.

UOWA was the first university in Karbala to join the Riyada initiative. Riyada offers training, mentoring and government-backed loans.



Riyada training resumes, September 2025

RIYADA AT UOWA

Through 2025

Career workshops	**January**
Courses continue	**March**
Training resumes	**September**
37th programme starts	**October**
New courses launched	**November**

From UOWA news, 2025

More courses from November

On 18 November 2025 UOWA launched a new round of Riyada courses to support student and graduate projects and build entrepreneurship skills.

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