

برنامع البسر الأكاديمي Academic Bridge Program

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Academic Bridge Program Hosts High School Students for "Answers Quest"

Doha, March 29, 2015 -Qatar Foundation's Academic Bridge Program (ABP) recently held two "Answers Quest" events, primarily for grade 12 high school students in Qatar. The male and female high school students visited the co-educational, English language university foundation program on separate days to participate in the event. "Answers Quest" is similar to a treasure hunt. Competing teams of high school students were led around the ABP's campus in Education City by ABP faculty, staff members, and current ABP students to find answers to questions about the ABP. The winning team was the first group to make it back to the starting point with all the correct answers.

Answers Quest is organized a number of times a year and aims to introduce high school students to the ABP, but from a different perspective. The event personalizes the program, allowing for prospective students to interact with faculty, staff and students. Students are seen rushing around the ABP, trying to find the answers they seek and competing to win. They get the same information they would normally receive from an ABP presentation, but in a fun and memorable manner.

"This was a great event...", said Ms. Moza Al-Boainain, Assistant Director for Student Services at the Academic Bridge Program. She continues,

"Answer Quest was an engaging and interesting activity. It was an excellent chance for us to give high school students relevant information about the Academic Bridge Program and how it can help each of them to be admitted to their dream university."

The ABP delivers an important link in the complete educational cycle provided by Qatar Foundation by facilitating the transition from high school to university. While students coming up through the many Qatar Foundation high schools have a strong academic base that allows them to successfully enroll in one of the high-quality Hamad bin Khalifa University (HBKU)



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partner institutions, some students benefit from an additional year of development. Those candidates, and others from independent and private high schools in Qatar, find the setting at the ABP to augment their abilities and increase their success at the next level.

Six girls' schools and eight boys' schools participated in the Answers Quest event this spring. The girls' schools that participated were: Al-Bayan Educational Complex, Rabaa al Aladawyea Independent Secondary School, Aisha bint Abibaker Independent Secondary School, Al-Arqam Academy, Um Ayman Independent Secondary School, and Al-Rayyan Al-Jadeed Secondary Independent School. As for the four boys' schools that took part in Answers Quest, they were: Al-Forgan School, Jassim bin Hamad Independent Secondary School, Nasser bin Abdulla Al-Attiya Independent Secondary School, and Doha independent Secondary School.

These two Answers Quest events are just one of the many recruitment and outreach visits, fairs, activities and events that the ABP organizes and participates in throughout the year. Even though a large number of high schools are contacted each year, the program is always keen to reach even more secondary students, especially those in grade 12. Toward that end, the ABP encourages counselors to get in touch and learn more about how the ABP helps high school graduates qualify for admissions to English speaking universities, in Qatar and abroad.

Keywords: ACADEMIC BRIDGE PROGRAM, ABP, QATAR FOUNDATION, EDUCATION CITY, ANSWERS QUEST, HAMAD BIN KHALIFA UNIVERSITY PARTNERS

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About the Academic Bridge Program

The Academic Bridge Program (ABP) is a center of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development. The mission of the ABP is to provide high school graduates of Qatari high schools (and other similar schools) who meet the admission requirements with the academic and personal skills for success in reputable English language universities around the world, with special emphasis on preparing students for the Hamad bin Khalifa University (HBKU) partner universities in Education City. Since the launch of the ABP in 2001, the program has developed a model curriculum including English, math, science, and computer skills, combined with a wide range of other activities such as debate, Model United Nations, robotics, sports teams, and student government experience. The ABP is fully accredited by



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the Commission on English Language Accreditation (CEA) in the United States. This makes it easier for ABP graduates to fast track into universities in the United States without a university foundation year.