

Academic Semesters Policy

Document Information:

This is a translation of the Official Arabic version. In case of any Discrepancies, the Arabic version shall prevail.

Legislative Instrument Type	Policy
Legislative Instrument Number	VPAA-PL-29-V2
Legislative Instrument Title	Academic Semesters Policy
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Competent Authority	Vice President for Academic Affairs
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Related Legislative Instruments	Decree Law No. (34) of 2004 on the Regulation of Qatar University
Board of Regents Approval Date	November 10, 2025

1. Purpose

The purpose of the Academic Semesters Policy is to establish the provisions for offering academic semesters to ensure the highest standards of academic quality.

2. Scope

This policy applies to all academic semesters offered at Qatar University.

3. Definitions

In the application of the provisions of this policy, the following words and phrases shall have the meanings assigned to them below, unless the context requires otherwise.

Term	Definition
University	Qatar University
President	President of Qatar University
Short Semesters	Intensive terms that run for a short duration, including the Summer and Winter semesters.

4. Policy Provisions

General Provisions

Article (1)

The University shall offer two regular semesters (Fall and Spring) during the academic year.

Each semester shall consist of no less than (14) fourteen instructional weeks, in accordance with the approved Academic Calendar.

Article (2)

All courses offered across all semesters shall be subject to the highest quality standards in terms of content, comprehensiveness, and assessment.

Provisions for Short Semesters

Article (3)

The President shall issue a decision determining the short semesters to be offered by the University, based on the recommendation of the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Article (4)

An academic department may submit a request to the College Dean to offer courses during short semesters, provided that the request includes the justifications for offering the course.

Article (5)

The offering of all courses during short semesters is subject to the approval of the Vice President for Academic Affairs, upon the Dean's request.

The offering of courses during short semesters in colleges under the Health and Medical Sciences sector is subject to the approval of the Vice President for Academic Affairs, based on the Dean's request and the recommendation of the Vice President for Health and Medical Sciences.

Article (6)

Students may register for short semesters in accordance with the approved Credit Load Policy.

Article (7)

Deadlines for add/drop, withdrawal and final grade entry for short semesters shall be determined by the Vice President for Student Affairs.

Article (8)

All competent authorities, each within their respective jurisdiction, shall implement the provisions of this policy. This policy shall be effective from the date of issuance, and any provisions conflicting with its content shall be repealed.