



SDG 5.3.3

Women's access schemes

The University of Sharjah ensures full equality and inclusion across all academic and administrative structures through comprehensive women's access schemes. These schemes guarantee that women have equal opportunities in admission, education, leadership, and student life, supported by dedicated facilities, mentoring programs, and institutional mechanisms for empowerment.

Gender equity is reflected in the University's enrollment and graduation patterns. As recorded in the 2023/2024 academic year, 62% of newly admitted students were female. The College of Fine Arts and Design recorded the highest proportion of female admissions at 93%, followed by Pharmacy at 82%, and Sciences at 80%. Graduation data similarly reflect strong female participation, with 65% of all graduates being women, including 93% in Fine Arts and Design and 58% in Engineering. These figures demonstrate that women not only access higher education equally but also achieve successful completion rates across diverse academic disciplines.

The University also provides equal access to facilities and services that promote women's wellbeing, development, and leadership. Dedicated provisions include the Women's Deanship, Women's Library, Women's Medical Clinic, Women's Cafeteria, and secure female dormitories. The Deanship of Student Affairs (Women's Section) serves as a central body supporting women through educational, social, cultural, and psychological programs. It delivers mentoring, counseling, and wellness activities aimed at promoting balance between academic performance and personal growth.

The Guidance and Psychological Support Department offers specialized counseling and behavioral therapy for female students, ensuring privacy, confidentiality, and professional follow-up. Services include individual and group counseling, crisis intervention, and educational guidance to address psychological, social, and academic challenges.

Housing services also contribute to women's access and wellbeing. The Female Student Dormitory Section provides on-campus accommodation across 13 units, including eight general dormitories and five designated for medical students. The dormitories are managed to ensure safety, comfort, and academic support, while offering recreational and community engagement programs that encourage a sense of belonging.

Through these integrated structures and services, the University of Sharjah ensures that women are fully supported in their educational journey and university life. Equal access to opportunities, specialized facilities, and institutional support mechanisms demonstrates the University's firm commitment to gender equality and women's empowerment, in alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals.