ثانوية رفيق الحريري
RAFIC HARIRI HIGH SCHOOL

RHHS Admission

Policy and Procedures

26-27

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Vision

Empowering a community of self-directed learners and responsible global citizens.

Mission Statement

RHHS aims to develop compassionate, respectful, and lifelong inquirers.
We are committed to promoting well-being, education for sustainability, and innovation, nurturing learners to become proactive change agents in an interconnected world.

GENERAL ADMISSION CRITERIA

RHHS welcomes applications from all countries regardless of color, gender, race, nationality, religion, or political interests. RHHS does not discriminate among applicants. All applicants who submit a complete application within the time announced will be equally considered.

RHHS ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

There are four offered tracks:

The Lebanese Program (English/French) The

American Program.

International Baccalaureate Program (PYP - DP authorized)

French Baccalaureate Program (GRADE 10-11-12)

Grade level	Programs offered
Kindergarten	IBPYP program
Elementary	IBPYP program
Middle School	Lebanese Program (English/French)
	American Program
High school	Lebanese Program (English/French)
	*American Program**
	*International Baccalaureate - Diploma Program (offered to all students applying to Grades 11 and 12) **
	*French Baccalaureate (offered to students enrolled in the French sections applying to Grades 10, 11 and 12) **

* Refer to the requirements for admission to these programs.

- Students following the Lebanese program will sit for the official Lebanese Baccalaureate exams and enter universities as sophomore students.
- Students following the American Program enter universities as freshman students.

- Students following the IBDP full diploma and the French Baccalaureate will enter universities as sophomore students.
- Students following the American Program, the IBDP and the French Baccalaureate will be exempted from the Lebanese official exams.

ADMISSION PROCESS

The major entry level for new students is KG1. A few vacancies may be available at other levels, depending on attrition.

1. Admission to KG1 Classes

Admission to KG1 classes usually takes place in January, June and August.

Parents or legal guardians have to fill out an application form **online** at the school's website and provide the school with the needed documents. (Refer to the application requirements) A Child must be 3 years of age (on or before Dec.30)

2. Admission to KG2 & KG3, Elementary, Intermediate and Secondary Levels

- RHHS accepts applications throughout the year starting from mid-January.
- Parents or legal guardians must fill and complete each student's application (on the school's website) and submit it with all the required documents.
- Age-eligibility is based on the regulations of the Ministry of Education for each level.
- For applicants currently not residing in Lebanon, the requirements of the application that cannot be completed must be provided upon arrival to Lebanon.
- All documents submitted with the application become the property of the school.
- Incomplete applications fail to be processed.

ENTRANCE EXAMS:

All candidates must sit for written and oral Entrance Exams.

Entrance Exam round 1 is conducted in June.

Entrance Exam round 2 is conducted in August/September.

These exams help to determine if the applicants have attained the minimum expected standard for each subject. A committee formed of the principal and heads of divisions take the final decision for admission.

Teachers may submit recommendations to the head of division/subject coordinators concerning the progress of the students by the end of the first semester.

1- Admission to KG1, KG2 & KG3 and Basic Education 1

Students are interviewed and screened.

2- Admission to Basic Education 2 (BE2) till Basic Education 5 (BE5)

Students sit for entrance exams in the core subjects (Math, Arabic and English/ French).

3- Admission to Middle school and High school

Admission to Lebanese Program (English and French sections)

Class	Entrance exams for the Lebanese Program
BE6 – BE9 and SE1	• Math, Arabic and English/French • placement test for the second foreign language
SE2 – Scientific track	• Math, Arabic and English/French • Biology, Physics and Chemistry • placement test for the second foreign language.
SE2 – Humanities track	• Math, Arabic and English/French • Choice of one science: Physics/ Chemistry/ Biology placement test for the second foreign language.
SE3 - Life Sciences Track and General Sciences track	• Math, Arabic, English/French • Biology, Physics and Chemistry • placement test for the second foreign language

SE3 – Sociology and Economics track	• Math, Arabic, English/French • Choice of one science: Physics/ Chemistry/ Biology Sociology and Economics. • placement test for the second foreign language.
SE3 – Literature and Humanities track	Math, Arabic, English/French and Philosophy Choice of one science: Physics/ Chemistry/ Biology placement test for the second foreign language.

ADMISSION TO THE AMERICAN PROGRAM

Students are allowed to pursue the American program legally and officially in Lebanon if they have previously obtained an exemption from the Lebanese curriculum and meet one of the following criteria:

- They are Lebanese students and have successfully completed three consecutive grades in primary school or three consecutive grades in basic education, or two consecutive grades in middle school and/or high school.
- They are non-Lebanese students, or Lebanese students with foreign nationality. They can receive a High School Diploma upon completion of the second year of the American program and then enroll in a Freshman program at a university.

(This information is cited from the website of the Lebanese Republic - Ministry of Education and Higher Education).

Class	Entrance exams for the American Program
AP6 – AP 9	• Math and English • Placement test for the Arabic and French Languages

AP10 – AP 12	• Math and English • Choice of two sciences: Physics/ Chemistry/ Biology • Placement test for the Arabic and French Languages

ADMISSION TO IBDP

All students (Lebanese or non-Lebanese) can apply for the IBDP track if they fulfill the entry requirements. Lebanese students who are interested in the DP track must go for the full diploma program as requested by the Lebanese Ministry of Education and Higher Education so they can get the Equivalency Certification to enroll as sophomore students in the university. Lebanese students holding an exemption from the National curriculum and non-Lebanese students interested in the DP track can choose either the full diploma program or the certificate program. The full diploma holders will enroll as sophomore students whereas the certificate holders will enroll as freshman students to the university.

The Diploma Program includes six academic subject groups, with students typically choosing three subjects at the higher level and three at the standard level, in addition to the Core subjects: Theory of Knowledge (TOK), Extended Essay (EE) and Creativity, Activity, Service (CAS). All these subjects are taught over two years, starting from Grade 11 and concluding in Grade 12. Lebanese students must fulfill additional requirements as per the Ministry of Education and Higher Education. They should study two additional subjects from the Lebanese National curriculum: Civic Education, and Lebanese History.

Students in the IBDP program take IB-administered exams in the six subjects, while the school administers exams for the two Lebanese subjects. Failing these subjects suspends the equivalence of the High School Diploma to the Lebanese General Secondary Education Certificate (Baccalaureate) until the student successfully passes them.

Requirements for Lebanese candidates as per the Ministry of Education and Higher Education:

1. To earn the Brevet Official Lebanese certificate.
2. To complete successfully Secondary Education 1.
3. To study Arabic as Language A (group 1 – SL) or Language B (group 2 - HL)

4. To study Civics and History according to the Lebanese National curriculum during DP1 and DP2. Tests of these subjects will be administered by the school.

Class	Requirements for new students	Requirements for RHHS students
DP1	Entrance exams: • Mathematics • Arabic • Oral and Written English Language test. • Choice of 2 sciences: Physics/ Chemistry/ Biology	Academic achievement: • an average score (70) in the subjects to be taken as high level (HL) • an average score (65) in the subjects to be taken as standard Level (SL)
	• A recommendation from the student's previous school addresses student behavior, attendance, motivation, and selfdiscipline. • Previous School transcript	
DP2	Entrance exams: • Mathematics • Oral and written Arabic language test • Oral and Written English Language test. Choice of 2 sciences: Physics/ Chemistry/ Biology	Academic achievement: □ an average score (70) in the subjects to be taken as high level (HL) an average score (65) in the subjects to be taken as standard Level (SL)

SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS FOR NEW AND RHHS STUDENTS:

1. Interview: All applicants will be interviewed to determine their level of commitment and ability to take personal responsibility for their learning, as well as their level of oral English fluency. The primary purpose of the interview is to consider the applicants' potential to succeed not only in their individual subjects but also in the core components of CAS, Theory of Knowledge, and the Extended Essay.
2. Participation in extracurricular activities: at least two during the last two recent years.
3. Learning contracts: All candidates must sign a learning contract indicating their awareness of the rigorous nature of the program and constituting their commitment to meeting its academic deadlines. The contract will also include the academic honesty policy and their commitment to it.

ADMISSION TO THE FRENCH BACCALAUREATE

Every student in the secondary level on Lebanese territory has the right to pursue the French curriculum and apply for the French Baccalaureate certificate, which covers the first, second and third secondary years. This is contingent upon holding a Lebanese Brevet certificate or its equivalent. As for the students applying to the second year of this program, they have successfully completed the first year of secondary school following the French curriculum.

As for the Terminal year the student should have the results of the premier official exam.

The student will be interviewed before having the written exam.

Class	Entrance exams for the French Baccalaureate Program
Seconde	• Math, Arabic and French • placement test for the English language
Premiere	• Specialty 1, Specialty 2, Specialty 3 • French language • LVA+LVB

Terminale	Speciality 1 and Speciality 2

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:

1) Online Application Form (available on our school website www.rhhs.edu.lb)
2) Application fee (TBD)
3) Identical recent passport-size photos
    - 6 for KGI
    - 2 for KGII till Grade 12
4) Official transcript of the current year and the previous year to be submitted before sitting for the entrance exam.
5) Class completion certificates from the current school, certified from the Department of Education, showing the applicant's number on the list.
6) Financial clearance from the current private school of the applicant.
7) Secondary school level applicants should submit a certified copy of the Lebanese Brevet certificate, issued from the Department of Education
8) Original or certified copy of the applicant's individual record (issued in the current year) 9) Copy of the applicant's family record.
10) Copy of the applicant's ID (if available)
11) The "School Recommendation Form" is required to be filled by the previous school for applicants to grade 2 till grade 12 (the form is provided by RHHS).

Note: Application Fees nonrefundable.

A) Non-Lebanese applicants:

In addition to the requirements (1 to 7)

- The applicant's Permanent Residence Permit issued from the Lebanese General Security Directorate
- An original ID for Palestinians issued from the Director General for Palestinian Refugees or a newly individual record "Ikhraj Keid"

B) Applicants coming from abroad:

In addition to the above-mentioned documents:

- For applicants to grade 2 till grade 7: A copy of their photo and personal details page of their passport and the General Security stamped passport page, showing the entry date to Lebanon.

- For Applicants to grade 8till grade 12: A certified equivalence for the current class, issued from the Equivalence Committee of the Lebanese Ministry of Education and Higher Education (UNESCO).

Notes:

- No applicant shall be admitted to school unless he or she has successfully passed the last academic year.
- No applicant shall sit for the entrance exam before submitting all the required documents.

LEARNING SUPPORT

We at RHHS believe in diversity and our vision entitles us to work on supporting every student to reach his/her utmost potential. With that in mind, a specialized department has been established with the help of professionals in the field to cater for mild to moderate learning, psychological or physical needs. The school is able to accommodate a limited number of students with diverse learning needs during each academic year.

REQUEST TOUR

The admissions office can arrange an appointment for parents interested in touring the school premises by applying on the school's website "Request a school Visit". A representative from the Admissions Office supports and guides parents throughout the tour.

Tours are offered only during working days.

SMOKE-FREE ZONE

Rafic Hariri High School is proud to announce that it is a tobacco-free campus.

Cigarettes and other tobacco products are prohibited on campus. The policy applies to all school visitors.

TUITION REGULATIONS:

- Current students pay registration deposit in May prior to the coming academic year.

- Registration deposit is nonrefundable, and it is part of the tuition installment fees. Registration fee is refunded only if the school asks the student to leave school.
- As per our school policy, parents who choose to withdraw their child/children from school are liable to pay the full school tuition fees for the year. No refund or transfer shall be made in any case and for any reason.

For more information on admissions, applications, entrance requirements, or withdrawal, please contact the Admissions Office on:

Tel: 961 7 723 551 - 961 7 722 741 - 961 7 723 986 (ext. 216-241)
Email: Registrar@rhhs.edu.lb

ADMISSION POLICY REVISION

The RHHS team reviews the admission policy regularly, systematically and on a yearly basis, and the revision process is open to all members of the school community.