

Maktab Scholars Program 2026

Information Pack for Parents and Applicants

A merit scholarship for exceptional students entering O Levels at Maktab

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Parent Information Pack

Everything you need to know about applying

About the Program

The cost of an O Level education places it beyond the reach of some of Lahore's most able students. The Maktab Scholars Program is designed to open this opportunity to students who would otherwise be unable to pursue it.

This program is a highly selective academic scholarship initiative for exceptional students entering Grade IX O Levels at Maktab. Each year, a small cohort of students demonstrating outstanding academic achievement, intellectual promise, discipline, and strength of character may be designated as Maktab Scholars and welcomed into the O Level program on the basis of merit.

The Maktab Scholars Program was launched in 2024. Its inaugural cohort of five scholars will sit the Cambridge examinations in 2027, laying the foundation for a scholarship initiative the school intends to build on in future years.

The program is open to both boys and girls applying as Lahore-based day scholars for the 2026 academic session.

About Maktab

Founded in 2012, Maktab is a private co-educational English-medium school in Lahore, offering education from Preschool to O Levels on a purpose-built, eco-conscious 3.5-acre campus. The school is intentionally small, with class sizes that allow teachers to know each student individually. It takes the arts seriously alongside academics — its annual drama production, with past performances of Shakespeare and works by Manto and Patras Bokhari, is among the most ambitious in the city. Facilities include swimming pools, a running track, dedicated sports grounds, and an unusually well-stocked library of over 10,000 volumes.

Across its three O Level graduating classes to date, Maktab students have achieved around 90% A* and A grades, and have earned *Top in Pakistan* distinctions in Cambridge English Language and French. Graduates have gained admission to distinguished universities abroad, including the University of Oxford and Dartmouth College, as well as to top national universities such as LUMS and NUST.

What the Scholarship Covers

Up to five full scholarships may be awarded each year. Each full scholarship covers:

- tuition
- transport
- Cambridge O Level examination fees

Scholarships are intended to support students through the O Level program, subject to annual review and renewal based on continued academic excellence, responsible conduct, and active participation in school life.

Applicants not selected as Maktab Scholars may be considered separately for financial assistance based on need and merit.

Eligibility

Applicants must:

- be currently in the academic year immediately preceding entry into Grade IX O Levels in August 2026, typically Grade 8 in schools whose academic year ends in May, or Grade 9 in schools whose academic year ends in spring
- demonstrate a strong academic record and intellectual potential
- be prepared to participate in a competitive multi-stage selection process
- be applying as Lahore-based day scholars

The program is open to both boys and girls.

What is Expected of Maktab Scholars

Students selected as Maktab Scholars will be expected to uphold the standards and values associated with this distinction.

Maktab Scholars are expected to:

- maintain consistently strong academic performance
- demonstrate discipline, integrity, and maturity
- participate positively in school and co-curricular life
- serve as role models within the student body
- contribute meaningfully to the culture and values of the school community

Selection Process

The selection process consists of the following stages:

1. Online Application Submission
2. Online Assessment
3. On-Campus Entry Test
4. Interview with Student and Parents

The assessments will evaluate students' skills in English, Urdu, and Mathematics. Final selection will be made by the school on the basis of overall academic and personal merit.

Application Timeline

Stage	Timeline
Applications Open	1 June 2026
Application Deadline	30 June 2026
Online Assessments	Early July 2026
On-Campus Entry Test	Mid July 2026
Interviews	End July 2026

Final Decisions Announced	Early August 2026
Session Commences	Mid-August 2026

Frequently Asked Questions

Is this a merit scholarship or financial aid?

The Maktab Scholars Program is a highly selective academic scholarship for exceptional students for whom an O Level education at Maktab may otherwise be financially out of reach. Selection is based on academic promise, discipline, character, and overall merit. Scholars are brought into Maktab's O Level cohort as full members of the school community.

Applicants not selected as Maktab Scholars may be considered separately for financial assistance based on need and merit.

What does the scholarship cover?

Up to five full scholarships may be awarded each year, covering tuition, transport, and Cambridge O Level examination fees.

Is the scholarship renewable?

Scholarships are intended to support students through the O Level program, subject to annual review and renewal based on continued academic excellence, responsible conduct, and active participation in school life.

Who can apply?

Students currently in the academic year immediately preceding entry into Grade IX O Levels in August 2026 may apply. This typically means Grade 8 in schools whose academic year ends in May, or Grade 9 in schools whose academic year ends in spring. Applicants must be Lahore-based day scholars.

Are both boys and girls eligible?

Yes. The program is open to both boys and girls.

What will the assessments cover?

The assessments will evaluate students' skills in English, Urdu, and Mathematics.

Will Maktab Scholars be part of the regular student body?

Yes. Maktab Scholars join the O Level cohort as full members of the school community.

Can current Maktab students apply?

Yes. Any eligible student may apply, whether currently at Maktab or at another school.

What if I do not qualify for the scholarship?

Given the highly competitive nature of the Maktab O Level Scholars Program, some strong applicants may not ultimately be selected for the scholarship despite being fully eligible for admission to Maktab. In such cases, admitted students may still be considered for financial aid as regular Maktab students. Please note that financial aid is awarded separately from the scholarship program and provides partial fee support and not full coverage.

What happens if a student is not selected as a Maktab Scholar?

Applicants not selected as Maktab Scholars may be considered separately for financial assistance based on need and merit.

Is the scholarship fully funded?

Yes, it is fully funded.

Which subjects does the Maktab O Level program offer?

Students study Pakistan Studies and Islamiyat in Grades IX and X. The remaining O Level subjects are studied in Grades X and XI.

Core O Level subjects include:

- Urdu – First Language
- English Language
- Mathematics
- Pakistan Studies
- Islamiyat
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics

The following electives may also be offered, depending on student interest and faculty availability:

- English Literature
- Computer Science
- Economics
- Business Studies
- Sociology
- Accounting
- Global Perspectives

What documents are required?

Likely documents include recent academic records, school reports, CNIC/B-Form, current photograph, and any supporting information requested in the application form. If a candidate is selected for the scholarship, documents to help assess financial need will also be required.

Is diversity considered during the selection process?

Yes. Maktab values a diverse and inclusive learning environment. The final selection process may take into account factors such as gender, background, ethnicity, and other aspects of diversity alongside overall merit and potential.

Part 2

Application Instructions

How to apply, step by step

Before You Begin

Please make sure your child meets the eligibility criteria before starting the application.

Applicants must:

- be currently in the academic year immediately preceding entry into Grade IX O Levels in August 2026, typically Grade 8 in schools whose academic year ends in May, or Grade 9 in schools whose academic year ends in spring
- demonstrate a strong academic record and intellectual potential
- be prepared to participate in a competitive multi-stage selection process
- be applying as Lahore-based day scholars

What You Will Need

Before opening the application form, please have the following ready:

- the applicant's full name, date of birth, and current school details
- parent or guardian contact details, including email and phone number
- a scanned copy or clear photograph of the applicant's most recent school report card or transcript
- a recent passport size photograph of the candidate (taken within the last 6 months)
- a scanned copy of the applicant's B-Form or passport
- a short statement (no more than one page) from the applicant about why they wish to be considered for the scholarship
- the name and contact details of one teacher who can provide a reference

How to Apply

1. Visit the Maktab Scholars Program 2026 page on the Maktab website.
2. Click "Apply to Become a Maktab Scholar" to open the online application form.
3. Complete all fields in the application. Save your progress as you go where the form allows.
4. Upload all required documents in PDF or JPG format. Each file should be under 5 MB.
5. Review your application carefully before submitting.
6. Submit the application before the deadline of 30 June 2026.
7. You will receive an automatic confirmation email after submission. If you do not receive one within 24 hours, please contact the Admissions Office.

After You Apply

The selection process consists of four stages, followed by final decision:

1. Online Application Submission — completed by 30 June 2026
2. Online Assessment — early July 2026
3. On-Campus Entry Test — mid July 2026
4. Interview with Student and Parents — end of July 2026

Shortlisted applicants will be contacted by email at each stage. The assessments will evaluate students' skills in English, Urdu, and Mathematics. Final decisions will be communicated in early August 2026.

Tips for a Strong Application

- Submit early. Do not wait until the deadline.
- Make sure all uploaded documents are clear and legible.
- In the applicant's personal statement, ask your child to write in their own voice. The school is looking for a sense of who the student is, not a polished essay written by someone else.
- Choose a teacher reference who knows your child well and can speak to their academic ability and character.
- Keep your contact details up to date so the Admissions Office can reach you at each stage.

Need Help?

If you have any difficulty with the application form or need assistance, please contact the Maktab Admissions Office using the details on the final page of this document.

Selection Process Overview

How Maktab Scholars are selected

How Selection Works

The Maktab Scholars Program is a highly selective academic scholarship. Selection is based on academic promise, discipline, character, and overall merit. The process has four stages, followed by a final decision.

Each stage is designed to help the school understand the applicant's academic ability, intellectual potential, and personal qualities. At each stage, only shortlisted applicants move forward.

The Four Stages

Stage 1 — Online Application Submission

Applicants and their parents complete the online application form by 30 June 2026. The form captures essential information about the applicant, their academic record, and their interest in the program. Required documents include the most recent school report card or transcript, identification, a short personal statement from the applicant, and one teacher reference.

Stage 2 — Online Assessment

Shortlisted applicants are invited to sit an online assessment in early July 2026. The assessment evaluates students' skills in English, Urdu, and Mathematics. It is taken from home under timed conditions.

Stage 3 — On-Campus Entry Test

Applicants who perform strongly in the online assessment are invited to Maktab for an on-campus entry test in mid July 2026. This is a more comprehensive written assessment, again covering English, Urdu, and Mathematics. The on-campus visit also gives families a chance to see the school.

Stage 4 — Interview with Student and Parents

Shortlisted applicants and their parents are invited to an interview at the end of July 2026. The interview gives the school an opportunity to understand the student's character, motivation, and family context, and gives the family an opportunity to ask questions about the program and the school.

Final Decision

Final selection is made by the school on the basis of overall academic and personal merit. Decisions are announced in early August 2026, and successful applicants join the O Level cohort when the session commences in mid-August 2026.

One-Page Flyer

Share with families, teachers, and school counsellors

MAKTAB SCHOLARS PROGRAM 2026

A merit scholarship for exceptional students entering O Levels at Maktab

APPLICATIONS OPEN: 1 JUNE 2026 | DEADLINE: 30 JUNE 2026

What is it?

Up to five full scholarships, awarded by merit, to exceptional students entering Grade IX O Levels at Maktab in August 2026.

Each scholarship covers tuition, transport, and Cambridge O Level examination fees.

Who can apply?

- Students currently in Grade 8 or 9 (the academic year immediately preceding O Levels)
- Lahore-based day scholars
- Boys and girls both eligible
- Strong academic record and intellectual promise

Why Maktab?

- Around 90% A* and A grades across O Level cohorts to date
- Top in Pakistan distinctions in Cambridge English Language and French
- Graduates admitted to Oxford, Dartmouth, LUMS, NUST and other leading universities
- Small classes, strong arts program, 10,000-volume library, sports and swimming facilities

How to apply

5. Visit <https://maktab.org.pk/en/> to find the Maktab Scholars Program 2026 page
6. Complete the online application form before 30 June 2026
7. Shortlisted applicants will sit online and on-campus assessments in July
8. Final decisions announced early August 2026

Please share this with families, teachers, and school counsellors who may know an able student.

Contact

For further information regarding eligibility, admissions, scholarship criteria, or timelines, please contact the Maktab Admissions Office.

Maktab Admissions Office

Email: admissions@maktab.org.pk

Phone: 042-3545-9421

WhatsApp: 0300 4995230

Website: <https://maktab.org.pk/en/>