

Questions and Answers

From the WES webinar "The Education System of Ethiopia and Student Mobility Trends" delivered on April 24, 2019.

Is there a reference document with changes to document names over time available? We have many domestic Ethiopian applicants.

We do not have a reference document; however, the following agencies have changed their name:

- *National Organization for Examination (NOE) changed to National Educational Assessment and Examination Agency (NEAEA)*
- *Credential: Ethiopian School Leaving Certificate (8+4) changed to Ethiopian Higher Education Entrance Qualification Certificate (10+2)*

Can you provide a summary of the General Examination and Higher Education Entrance Examinations requirements, as well as the grade distributions noted in the presentation for future reference?

Upon the completion of grade 12, students sit for the nationwide external Ethiopian University Entrance Examination (EUEE). Students sit for seven test subjects, including mathematics, English, civics, general academic aptitude. There are three stream-related specialization subjects.

Exam performance is graded on a numerical 0–100-point scale with a total possible score of 700 in the seven test subjects combined. Cutoff scores for university admission vary by year depending on the number of available seats, but a minimum overall grade average of 295 was required for admission to higher education.

What EC to semester credit algorithm does WES use?

WES converts study completed abroad into comparable U.S. semester credits. The number of credits on our evaluation reports corresponds to the normal credit load carried by a student enrolled in a similar program in the United States. WES equates face value credits for Ethiopian credits to US credits.

Do all high school graduates take the Ethiopian Higher Education Entrance Examination? If a student didn't pass the EHEEE, but did complete grades 9-12, did they complete secondary education or not? Would failing the EHEEE prevent them from accessing higher education options outside of Ethiopia?

WES equivalency for students who only completed (9-12) is: Completion of grade 12. If the student sat and passed EUEE examination and EUEE certificate was awarded, WES equivalency would be High School Diploma.

Why are ECTS credits listed on higher education transcripts? Is it due to education system harmonization in East Africa (modelled on European Bologna Process)?

The credit systems and grading scales used by Ethiopian HEIs resemble those found in the U.S., although it should be noted that Addis Ababa University and several other universities recently began to use the European ECTS credit system.

If a student completes a TVET, are they eligible to be admitted to University?

Yes, upon completion of a TVET, students qualify for admission to a university.

It was mentioned that the calendar in Ethiopia is different. On which transcripts/degree certificates would this alternate date be notable?

There are two calendar variations used in Ethiopia: the Ethiopian Calendar (EC) or Gregorian Calendar (GC). These signifiers will be marked on the academic transcript.

<http://www.ethiopiancalendar.net/>

Can students retake the exams they take at the end of the 10th grade and then at the end of 12th grade? (EGSLCE)?

Yes, students can retake grade 10 and grade 12 completion exams.

Is it normal for a student from Ethiopia to have two versions of General Secondary Education certificate exam results?

We have seen cases where the student took different tests at different dates. However, if you have two different results from the same date, that would be a discrepancy and we would request the National Educational Assessment and Examinations Agency (NEAEA) to issue us the latest examination results.

Is a TVET certificate equivalent to an associate degree in the United States?

No, WES considers all TVET diplomas to be equivalent to a High School Diploma.



How long does it take for a student's bachelor's/master's degree take to be awarded after the program is completed?

At WES, we have seen students send their academic transcript within a semester after the program was completed.