



**American University of Beirut
University Scholarship Program
HES Award**

**YEAR ONE
QUARTER FOUR
NARRATIVE REPORT**

**COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT:
No. 72026818CA00002**

**REPORTING PERIOD:
July 1st 2019 – September 30th 2019**

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A. Program Summary

The overarching goal of AUB, through the USAID Higher Education Scholarships (HES) is to increase the private sector competitiveness through increased workforce readiness linked to job opportunities. The project aims specifically at increasing access to quality education, and equipping the beneficiary scholars with the necessary technical, soft, and leadership skills needed to excel in the labor market. Higher Education Scholarships (HES) at AUB will provide undergraduate scholarships, covering educational costs including a housing/transportation allowance and stipends to attend high quality universities that promote critical thinking, freedom, diversity, and respect. The HES consists of two components:

Component 1: The University Scholarship Program (USP VIII)

The University Scholarship Program – Phase Eight (USP VIII): aims at enabling meritorious and financially disadvantaged Lebanese public and private school graduates to access quality higher education to increase their job readiness and maximize their potential in supporting Lebanon’s democratic and economic development.

Component 2: Refugee Scholarship Support (RSS)

HES will offer scholarships to non-Lebanese, having refugee status and are legally residing in Lebanon, to complete undergraduate studies. RSS allows the recruitment, selection, and enrollment of one cohort of non-Lebanese refugee scholars for up to four academic years.

B. Executive Summary

This report summarizes all the activities and events that took place during the period extending from July 1st, 2019 till September 30th, 2019. The narrative provides information on the final selection process of HES Cycle I scholars and reports on the first month of enrollment of both USP VIII and RSS cycle I cohorts. During this period, AUB Office of Admissions received BAC II official results of shortlisted candidates, updated respective excel sheets, and calculated composite scores for the final selection. Then, a sub-selection committee tentatively selected USP VIII and RSS Cycle I scholars. The process of final selection and the list of selected candidates were then presented to the HES Steering Committee for preliminary approval and subsequently shared with USAID-AOR for final approval. All selected candidates (on both the accepted and waiting lists) were also vetted. Once cleared on PVS, selected candidates were contacted and informed about the scholarship. Candidates who accepted the scholarship visited AUB Reynolds Hall to meet with the HES management team and to confirm their desired majors on August 19 and August 20, 2019. Selected candidates were also asked to attend the HES Students’ Orientation on August 22, 2019 and were informed about the schedule of upcoming activities before the beginning of their classes. The Fall Semester 2019 started on August 29, 2019 and all HES (USP VIII and RSS) scholars officially started their journey at AUB.

Cumulative Reporting Table

The table below presents the updated cumulative reporting table that is intended for use every quarter.

Table 1

Cumulative Reporting Table

	Total number of scholarships disbursed to-date (T = E+G+D) i.e. number of initially enrolled scholars as per award target + replacement students who substituted drop-outs after the first academic semester + new additional scholars through cost-savings. Typically, this is indicator number 1 in your PMP, except that the number is not the revised target post drop-outs.	Total number of scholars enrolled during this reporting period (=E) (Updates till end of Sept 2019)	Total number of scholars who graduated this reporting period (Summer 2019) (report only on the number of students who successfully completed the program this quarter; this is NOT a cumulative number of all students who successfully graduated)	Total cumulative number of scholars who graduated to-date under the program (=G) (Updates till end of Sept 2019) (report on the total cumulative number of scholars who graduated from the program successfully including during this period and all previous reporting period)	Total Cumulative Number of Graduate Scholars who are Employed (Updates till end of Sept 2019)	Total cumulative number of scholars who dropped throughout the entire program duration (=D) This number includes any drop-out related to any reason = drop-outs during this quarter + cumulative total number of drop-outs during past reporting periods	Total number of scholars who dropped during this reporting period (April to Sept 2019) This number includes any drop-out related to any reason = drop-outs during this quarter only
USP(1)							
USP(2)	52	0	0	50	32	2	0
USP(3)							
USP(4)	53	0	0	51	26	2	0
USP(5)	65	0	0	57	36	8	0
USP(6)	59	0	40	56	13	3	0
USP(7) – cycle I	53	47	5	5	2	1	0
USP(7) – cycle II	72	70	0	0	0	2	1
USP(7) – cycle III	90*	81**	0	0	0	9	2
USP (8) – cycle I	42	42	0	0	0	0	0
RSS – Cycle I	18	18	0	0	0	0	0
Total scholars at your university	504	258	45	219	109	27	3

*90 = Original # of students 82 + 9 Drop outs (end of summer 2019) + 8 Replacements (end of August 2019)

** 81 = 73 students (end of summer 2019) + 8 Replacements (end of August 2019)

C. Final Selection Activities

The period extending from July 1st till July 9th, 2019 was dedicated to data entry of USP VIII and RSS shortlisted candidates' results on the leadership interview and AUB English Entrance Exam (EEE). The notes of the financial need interview of both scholars and their parents were cross-matched and a need score was given to each USP VIII and RSS shortlisted candidate and was later added to the excel sheet of USP VIII and RSS candidates respectively. BAC II results were then announced during the second week of July 2019. Admission Officers at AUB Office of Admission checked the BAC II results of both USP VIII and RSS shortlisted candidates and entered their results in the Excel sheets.

Increase in RSS Budget

On July 16 of 2019, AUB received an email from USAID-Contracting and Agreement Officer announcing the increase in allocated funds for refugee scholars under the RSS component. USAID requested expanding the number of selected scholars under the RSS component to the full obligated amount of \$2 million instead of \$1 million. As such, the office of Grants and Contracts informed the HES management team that the increase in budget will allow to expand the accepted refugee scholars under the RSS component to 19 students.

Final Selection Committee Meeting

The HES Selection Committee met on July 25, 2019 at Reynolds Hall-3rd floor. Committee members were: USAID-AOR, Associate Provost, Associate Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Provost Designee, HES Program Director, Director of Admissions and Financial Aid, Associate Directors of Admissions, HES Assistant Director, RSS Coordinator, and USP VII Cycle I Coordinator. The Provost Designee, first introduced the committee members to the HES Award and discussed in general both USP VIII and RSS components. He then explained the purpose of the meeting. Attendees were asked to sign a non-disclosure conflict of interest form as per the new terms of the agreement before starting the meeting.

Shortlisting of Candidates

The Associate Director of AUB Office of Admissions, explained that a sub-selection committee meeting took place on Thursday July 18, 2019. A total of 48 Lebanese candidates and a total of 19 non-Lebanese candidates from both public and private schools were tentatively selected (pending USAID-AOR approval) to join AUB in the AY 2019-2020. She then highlighted, in general, the milestones that took place during the past academic year which led to the selection of these candidates. She explained that the journey began in January when recruitment officers visited Lebanese public schools. Private schools and UNRWA schools were contacted via email and received brochures pertaining to the HES Award. HES program was as well advertised during school fairs which were attended by a number of private and public schools. Associate Director of AUB Office,

then added that a total number of 867 applications were received: 703 applications were received from Lebanese candidates and 164 applications were received from non-Lebanese candidates. She explained that the received applications were all reviewed and data pertaining to each applicant was entered on the system. On May 20, 2019 the HES selection steering committee approved the list of candidates who were shortlisted to participate in AUB-HES Open Days. A total of 272 USP VIII and a total of 64 RSS candidates were shortlisted for the Open Days which took place between May 27 and May 31, 2019. During the Open Days, shortlisted candidates sat for the EEE Exam and underwent two interviews (financial and leadership). Parents of the shortlisted candidates underwent a financial interview as well. Candidates also received a career orientation session and had a campus tour. Associate Director of AUB office of Admission, then explained that when EEE Exam results and Lebanese BACC II results were out, a sub-selection committee meeting took place which led to the shortlisting of 48 Lebanese candidates (40 USP VIII Cycle I candidates and 8 USP VII Cycle III candidates) and 19 non-Lebanese RSS Cycle I candidates. Provost Designee, highlighted that the selection of the candidates was not automatic; committee members checked applicant details case by case in order to make sure that the selection eligibility criteria were met (as per award guidelines). Associate Director of AUB Office of Admission, also explained how the composite scores of applicants were calculated, and she shared the weights for the final selection pertaining to USP VIII and RSS as per below:

USP VIII:

- Grades 10 & 11 School Grades = 35%
- BACC II Results = 30%
- Leadership and Financial Interview = 25%
- EEE Results = 10%

RSS:

- Grades 10 & 11 School Grades = 35%
- BACC II Results = 35%
- Leadership and Financial Interview = 25%
- EEE Results = 5%

Associate Director of AUB Office of Admission also added that under USP VIII component, the HES Award mandates to select 30% of applicants from Beirut and Mount Lebanon, while 70% of applicants from South Lebanon, Nabatiyeh, North Lebanon, Baalbeck-Hermel, Beqaa, and Akkar. The award, on the other hand, does not specify the quota of applicants to be selected from private or public schools. Concerning the RSS component, USAID-AOR explained that the award does not put any restrictions concerning gender, district, or number of applicants to be selected from a specific nationality (Syrians vs. Palestinians in this case). As per USAID-AOR clarifications on the RSS component, the RSS list was to be finalized accordingly. Associate Director of AUB

Office of Admission then stated that all final lists (USP VIII Cycle I, USP VII Cycle III substitutes, and RSS Cycle I) will be sent by email to USAID-AOR on Friday July 26, 2019 for his final approval. HES Director, then stated that all applicants will be vetted on PVS prior to their enrollment. USAID-AOR then stated that he will send an email to HES management clarifying a few aspects pertaining to vetting and will push for expediting the vetting process in order to make sure that all applicants are vetted in due time and prior to the start of the semester. Committee members then approved on the selected lists of USP VIII Cycle I and USP VII Cycle III candidates (8 candidates were selected substituting the dismissed ones). RSS lists were to be finalized as per USAID-AOR guidance. Provost Designee then concluded the meeting by thanking everyone for their attendance and active participation.

USAID-AOR Approval on Final List

Following the Final Selection Committee Meeting, four excel files pertaining to the HES Cycle I (USP VIII and RSS) selected candidates were shared with USAID-AOR for final approval before proceeding with the vetting process. The files consisted of:

- 1- USP VIII excel file including all shortlisted candidates with their corresponding information. The selected candidates were labeled as “A8” for USP VIII in the (Final Decision) column of the excel sheet. Candidates who were placed on the waiting list were labeled as “WL8” in the (Final Decision) column of the excel sheet.
- 2- RSS list including all RSS Cycle I shortlisted applicants with their corresponding information. The RSS selected candidates were labeled as “ACCEPT” in the (Final After Meeting) column of the excel sheet. RSS candidates who were placed on the waiting list were labeled as “WL” in the (Final After Meeting) column of the excel sheet.
- 3- An excel file including 5 sheets of summary tables and statistics on USP VIII selected candidates as per below:
 - a- Gender distribution of the accepted candidates
 - b- Geographic distribution per governorate inclusive of the number of selected scholars and their respective percentages
 - c- Number of scholars who will be enrolled in the University Preparatory Program (UPP) for one term or two terms and their respective percentages
 - d- Number and percentage of scholars who will benefit from AUB housing
 - e- Majors of selected candidates and the number of scholars in each major
- 4- An excel file including 4 sheets of summary tables and statistics on RSS selected candidates as per below:

- a- Gender distribution of the accepted candidates
- b- Geographic distribution per governorate inclusive of the number of selected scholars and their respective percentages
- c- Number of scholars who will be enrolled in UPP program for one term or two terms and their respective percentages
- d- Number and percentage of scholars who will benefit from AUB housing
- e- Majors of selected candidates and the number of scholars in each major

Vetting of Selected HES Cycle I Scholars

USP VIII and RSS Cycle I candidates that were selected or chosen as waiting list candidates were vetted on the Partner Vetting System (PVS). AUB Admission Officers filled the candidates' data on the Partner Information Form (PIF) and subsequently uploaded it on PVS. Once the vetting support unit replied back providing the eligibility letters of all vetting candidates, the HES academic monitors automatically contacted the accepted USP VIII and RSS candidates and informed them that they were selected to receive the USAID-HES scholarship.

Meeting with Selected Scholars and Major Confirmation

HES Cycle I selected scholars attended individual meetings with the HES Management on August 19 and August 20, 2019. During the meeting, each selected scholar:

- was informed about the scholarship benefits (housing or transportation allowance, book allowance, stipends, laptops)
- was told about his/her EEE score and English Placement
- confirmed acceptance of the award
- filled a major confirmation form
- signed a picture consent form (a form that provides authorization for HES-USAID to use student pictures in future social media posts)
- signed a document confirming the submission of "Ifedit Al Milkieh" within one week of the meeting
- was reminded to submit a certified copy of the BAC II results and a valid copy of residency permit (applicable to RSS scholars only)
- received a schedule of upcoming activities (as per Table 1 below)

Table 1

HES Schedule of Upcoming Activities

Date	Activity/Event
Aug 22	HES Scholars' Orientation
Aug 23	Checking into AUB Dorms
Aug 26 and Aug 27	AUB Orientation for all New Regular Students
Aug 26	UPP Orientation
Aug 27 and Aug 28	Advising for all New HES Regular Students
Aug 27	Submission of Signed MOU (USP VIII and RSS Regular Students)
Aug 27	Receiving Laptops (USP VIII and RSS Regular Students)
Aug 28	Submission of Signed MOU (USP VIII and RSS UPP Students)
Aug 28	Receiving Laptops (USP VIII and RSS UPP Students)
Aug 29 till Sept 6	Online Submission of Medical Records
September 21	PP Exam

While conducting the individual meetings, some selected candidates declined the Award for personal reasons or due to disapproval of offered major. Hence, subsequent replacements were made in coordination with AUB Office of Admissions. Replaced candidates along with the justifications on replacement were then sent to USAID-AOR for final approval before being contacted by HES team. The final number of selected HES Cycle I candidates who approved the scholarship ended up to be 42 USP VIII and 18 RSS candidates. It is worth noting that the total number of USP VIII Cycle I selected candidates was 42 instead of 40 due to USP VI remaining balances post project expiry. Also, 9 additional candidates were selected under RSS Cycle I due to the increase in the budget allocation as communicated by USAID.

D. Baseline Collection

Preparatory Year Enrollment

USP VIII

Among the 42 selected USP VIII Cycle I scholars, 15 scholars were placed in the University Preparatory Program (UPP) for one semester and 18 scholars for two semesters.

RSS

Among the 18 selected RSS Cycle I scholars, 10 scholars were placed in UPP for one semester and 7 scholars for two semesters.

Project Duration

All selected HES scholars are expected to graduate within their Cycle I award mandated duration i.e. not more than five years.

USP VIII Cycle I Scholars:

- Up to one preparatory year, if needed:

- 18 scholars need 2 semesters UPP
- 15 scholars need 1 semester UPP

- Up to four academic years:

- 10 scholars got accepted under a 4yrs. program: 6 scholars need 1 UPP semester and 4 scholars need 2 UPP semesters

- Overall selection:

- 9 scholars are anticipated for graduation by the 4th year of project
- 9 scholars are anticipated for graduation by the 4th and a half year of project
- 14 scholars are anticipated for graduation by the 5th year of project
- 6 scholars are anticipated for graduation by 5th and a half year of project
- 4 scholars are anticipated for graduation by the 6th year of project

RSS Cycle I Scholars:

- Up to one preparatory year, if needed:

- 7 scholars need 2 semesters UPP
- 10 scholars need 1 semester UPP

- Up to four academic years:

- 4 scholars got accepted under a 4yrs program: 3 scholars need 1 UPP semester and 1 scholar needs 2 UPP semesters

- Overall selection:

- 1 scholar is anticipated for graduation by the 4th year of project
- 7 scholars are anticipated for graduation by the 4th and a half year of project
- 6 scholars are anticipated for graduation by the 5th year of project
- 3 scholars are anticipated for graduation by the 5th and a half year of project
- 1 scholar is anticipated for graduation by the 6th year of project

Gender Distribution

HES Component	Females	Males
USP VIII Cycle I	23	19
RSS Cycle I	14	14

Geographic Distribution

USP VIII Cycle I

District	Number of Students
Beirut	2
Mount Lebanon	11
North Lebanon	7
Akkar	2
Begaa	4
Baalbek Hermel	3
South Lebanon	8
Nabatieh	5
Total	42

Public and Private Schools

USP VIII Cycle I

Among the 42 USP VIII Cycle I selected candidates, 3 scholars were enrolled in grade 12 in a private school with less than 5,000,000 LBP tuition. Also, 1 scholar attended a private school that has a yearly tuition less than 5,000,000 LBP in grade 10 but then transferred to a public school in grades 11 and 12. The 3 selected scholars who attended private schools in grade 12 were informed by HES Management during the major confirmation meeting that they must contribute towards their tuition fees at AUB; these scholars must pay a proportional amount to the average school tuition in grades 10, 11 and 12 irrespective of the source of payment.

RSS Cycle I

All of the 18 selected scholars under RSS Cycle I were enrolled in a public school in grade 12. Also, only one selected scholar was enrolled in a private school in grade 10 that has a yearly tuition less than 5,000,000 LBP but then transferred to a public school in subsequent high school years. As per HES Award guidelines, RSS scholars enrolled in private schools with less than 5,000,000 LBP tuition don't have to contribute towards their tuition fees at AUB.

Housing/Transportation

USP VIII Cycle I

A total number of 30 scholars (71.4%) under USP VIII Cycle I will benefit from AUB Housing, and a total of 12 USP VIII Cycle I scholars will receive a transportation allowance (28.6%).

RSS Cycle I

A total of 14 (77.8%) RSS Cycle I scholars will benefit from AUB Housing, and a total of 4 RSS Cycle I scholars (22.2%) will receive a transportation allowance.

Proficiency Profile Test

All HES Cycle I scholars sat for the Proficiency Profile (PP) test on September 21, 2019. The PP is a test of college-level skills in reading, writing, critical thinking, and mathematics designed to measure the academic skills developed through general education courses. The assessment of the candidates' value-added performance will be done through a longitudinal study and results will be shared in due time with USAID.

E. HES Students' Orientation

On August 22 of 2019, HES scholars (USP VIII and RSS) attended their first student orientation session prior to their enrollment at AUB. The orientation session provided the selected scholars with an overview of the HES Award requirements, benefits, as well as responsibilities. Scholars were also introduced to the Center for Civic Engagement and Community Service Team (CCECS), were provided with information about the expected volunteering hours required per semester, were briefed on the Community Service Project (CSP) requirement, and were given an introduction on the various AUB Clubs and Societies at AUB. Following that, scholars were introduced to the healthcare services at AUB as part of their Health Insurance Plan (HIP). Information related to HIP services was provided by a representative from AUB Benefits Office. At the end of the orientation, the HES academic monitors met with USP VIII and RSS scholars respectively. Academic Monitors explained to the scholars the terms of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and distributed to each scholar two copies of the MOU. Scholars were asked to sign both copies and hand in one of the signed copies to their respective academic monitor. A detailed description of the program of the orientation session is mentioned in the table below.

Table 2

HES Students' Orientation Session Program

Time	Topic
9:00 - 10:00 AM	Introduction to HES Scholarship Overview of HES benefits and responsibilities
	Introduction to Center for Civic Engagement and Community Services (CCECS)
10:00 - 10:30 AM	Introduction to Student Affairs Services (clubs and societies)
10:30- 10:45 AM	Coffee Break
10:45 - 11:15 AM	Overview of Health Insurance Plan (HIP) at AUB
11:15 - 12:00 PM	MOU Briefing

On August 28 and August 31 of 2019, HES (USP VIII and RSS) Cycle I regular scholars attended 10 hours of IT training tackling operating system, word processing, spreadsheets, presentation programs, google search engine, google tools, website creation, and social media. These training sessions help regular HES scholars understand and utilize campus resources. UPP scholars will receive the same trainings but through their regular course of studies during UPP enrollment.

F. Students' Enrollment for Fall Semester 2019 (Academic Year 2019-2020)

The Fall Semester 2019 began on August 29, 2019. A total of 9 USP VIII Cycle I scholars and 1 RSS Cycle I scholar registered their courses as full timers and submitted their schedules to their respective academic monitors for confirmation. Some of the scholars waited till the drop and add period to finalize their schedules. After filling and updating the graduation plans, scholars had them reviewed and signed by their respective academic advisors before the last day of drop and add period (September 6, 2019). All HES regular scholars then submitted their graduation plans to their respective academic monitor who reviewed and verified them against projected program duration according to the students' majors and English placement upon admission to AUB. On the other hand, a total number of 33 USP VIII Cycle I scholars and 17 RSS Cycle I scholars were enrolled in UPP and started their classes as scheduled. All HES scholars were asked to share with their respective academic monitor their contact numbers and emails (once activated).

G. Administrative Follow-Up

Dorms

USP VIII Cycle I

A total of 30 USP VIII Cycle I scholars are residing in AUB dorms on campus during the Fall Semester 2019. All scholars are adapting to life in the dorms and seem comfortable with their desired roommates. The remaining 12 USP VIII scholars benefit from the transportation allowance. Scholars who benefit from the transportation allowance are residents of Beirut and Mount Lebanon.

RSS Cycle I

A total of 14 RSS scholars are residing in AUB dorms on campus during the Fall Semester 2019. All scholars are adapting to life in the dorms and seem comfortable with their desired roommates. The remaining 4 RSS scholars benefit from the transportation allowance. Scholars who benefit from the transportation allowance are residents of Beirut and Mount Lebanon.

Stipends

USP VIII Cycle I

A total of 42 USP VIII Cycle I scholars received stipends amounting to 400 USD during the month of September 2019 as part of the 1,600 USD total amount of stipends that the HES scholars shall receive during a regular semester.

RSS Cycle I

A total of 18 RSS Cycle I scholars received stipends amounting to 400 USD during the month of September 2019 as part of the 1,600 USD total amount of stipends that the scholars shall receive during a regular semester.

Book Allowances

USP VIII Cycle I

A total of 42 USP VIII scholars received their book allowances amounting to 325 USD at the beginning of the Fall Semester 2019.

RSS Cycle I

A total of 18 RSS Cycle I scholars received their book allowances amounting to 325 USD at the beginning of the Fall Semester 2019.

H. HES on Social Media

USP/USAID Department is currently on three different social media platforms (Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram) as well as the USP Website. Since the USP Department hired a full time Media officer, more engagements have been shown on all three platforms with weekly posts on Facebook and Instagram, and almost daily posts on Twitter. The current number of followers on each platform is as follows: Facebook (2,679 likes) Twitter (294 followers), and Instagram (198 followers). All events and discussions are marketed on all social media platforms with live stories on Instagram and live tweeting from Twitter during all events and discussions as well as students' trips and activities.

I. Civic Engagement Component

HES Scholars' Engagement in AUB Clubs and Societies

USP VIII Cycle 1

A total of 41 USP VIII Cycle 1 scholars reported having registered in AUB clubs and societies for the Academic Year 2019-2020. Only 1 USP VIII scholar did not register yet in any club or society during this reporting period. The scholar was contacted by his academic monitor and explained that he will officially register in the USP Club.

RSS Cycle 1

A total of 18 RSS Cycle 1 scholars reported having registered in AUB clubs and societies for the 2019 - 2020 Academic Year. CCECS will be following up with the scholars who have not registered in any AUB Club/ Society yet.

Introduction to Civic Engagement and Leadership Development

Introductory sessions on civic engagement and leadership development were delivered on September 13 and September 27, 2019 by CCECS team to all HES Cycle I scholars. The two sessions that were delivered on September 13 were specifically addressed to HES - UPP scholars noting that their volunteering rotations (15 hours/semester) will adhere to UPP classroom requirements as per the following: 15 hours of voluntary activities with one NGO and based on one intervention sector. Scholars were first introduced to the AUB Center for Civic Engagement and Community Service (CCECS) that will be mentoring and guiding them throughout their journey at AUB in order to successfully fulfill the civic engagement requirements of their scholarship. This was followed by an overview on volunteering, including its definition, expectations, processes, reporting tools, and best

practices. In addition to that, scholars were briefed on the various intervention sectors that the NGOs operate under. Scholars were then asked to select a preferred intervention sector. The two sessions that took place on September 27 targeted HES – regular (non-UPP) scholars. Scholars were first introduced to the AUB Center for Civic Engagement and Community Service (CCECS) that will be mentoring and guiding them throughout their journey at AUB in order to successfully fulfill the civic engagement requirements of their scholarship. This was followed by an overview on volunteering, including its definition, expectations, processes, reporting tools, and best practices. The overall objective of these sessions is to enable scholars gain a clear understanding of their expected and required participation in civic engagement and leadership development events, activities, and projects that CCECS provides to all HES scholars.

Volunteering Rotations

Volunteering Rotations Update – HES UPP Scholars

During September 2019, CCECS team scheduled individual/group meetings with HES-UPP scholars to ensure their placements with NGOs based on: (1) the sector of intervention they have chosen; (2) the tasks/activities they are interested in; (3) their academic schedule; and (4) the location, if possible.

Volunteering Rotations Update – HES Regular (non-UPP) Scholars

Given that the introductory session was delivered at the end of September, the scholars have not yet engaged in any activity. Nevertheless, a list of volunteering opportunities that was prepared by the CCECS team has been provided to the scholars and will continue to be shared with them on a bi-weekly basis.

J. Upcoming Events

In the upcoming quarter, HES management team will follow-up as usual on the students' academic progress making sure that all scholars progress according to plan. A total of 15 USP VIII Cycle I scholars and 10 RSS Cycle I scholars who were enrolled in UPP for one term are expected to become regular scholars in the Spring Semester 2020. These scholars will be guided to register their courses as per selected degree requirements. All HES scholars will be encouraged to engage in volunteering activities and to meet their extra-curricular requirements on time. Scholars will be provided with volunteering opportunities from the center's database of credible local NGOs and community partners. They will also be encouraged to suggest new volunteering activities and build partnerships with organizations that match their skills and interests. In the upcoming quarter as well, USP VIII and RSS scholars and their parents will be invited to attend the HES Parents' Orientation. HES scholars will also be asked to attend a Town Hall meeting and a USP-USAID Official event that will hopefully take place before the end of the Fall Semester 2019.