

SPRING 2022

CYCLE REPORT

kaffi

Kaffi e.V.



www.kaffi-lb.org



contact@kaffi-lb.org



Nürnberg

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MESSAGE FROM KAFFI

Still Going Strong!

Almost a year since Kaffi's inception last April, we find ourselves standing on solid ground looking towards the horizon and working hard to help our country for a brighter tomorrow. The first cycle was just the beginning, and in our second cycle we showed our dedication to supporting and promoting education in our community.

Kaffi was founded at a very dark hour in the recent history of Lebanon when the youth were being forced to quit their education and lose time, money, and effort they and their parents had invested. In that darkness, and in the middle of a global pandemic, hope felt very distant. We at Kaffi decided to light a candle instead of cursing the dark.

Our commitment to the youth and their education is to enable them to achieve their goals, graduate their studies and go out into their societies building their surroundings and supporting their families back home. Our goal is very simple, help the biggest number of students finish their studies so they can have a sustainable life and become a reliable lifeline to their families and by extension, our country.

In the second cycle, we at Kaffi started expanding our efforts to help even more people. We launched a series of webinars on applying to graduate schools abroad, for the US, Germany, France, and Italy with many more to come. We also recently launched our Kaffi Buddy program, a program that pairs newly travelling students to others who left before them, we hope that this will ease the anxiety of travelling for the first time.

This cycle we were able to support 16 students and restore their hopes. We thank our donors whose support kept us going forward, and our students for their trust and faith in us, and you, the community, who spread our word.

Thank you again for your belief in our mission; we are humbled by your support.

Mahdi Chamseddine

Secretary

mChamseddine



"Many more programs are in the making; we hope to share them with you soon."

WHY DONATE TO KAFFI?

In the past years, the Lebanese currency has lost over 90% of its value amid an ongoing economic crisis. Banks in Lebanon have put severe restrictions on the depositors' money, causing many Lebanese students abroad to lose the financial support their parents were providing them. These students have been through a lot already. Their families can no longer provide for their tuition and living expenses. They have worked so hard to be where they are and the decision of unenrolling and going back to Lebanon is at this point completely out of their hands. *As this crisis is expected to last, Kaffi was founded to push forward long-term solutions through supporting the Lebanese youth abroad.*



The targeted students are those whose educational journey is in jeopardy due to the financial burden and the interruption of support they usually receive from their families. Kaffi has heard their stories. How many of them have already discontinued their studies because they couldn't afford it anymore, or how others still worry daily not knowing what tomorrow brings yet, hoping for a better one. With the help and support of donors and people who believe in the importance of investing in our younger generation through education, Kaffi hopes to progressively increase the number of supported students every year.

Kaffi aims to be the bridge between donors and Lebanese students abroad.

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Kaffi launched its second scholarship cycle for the **Spring 2022** semester on **November 01, 2021**.



The scholarship cycle had two programs:
Kaffi-Launch for tuition-based scholarships, and
Kaffi-Boost for scholarships that provide support
 for living expenses.



The submission of applications to both programs opened until **December 15, 2021**, and the decisions on scholarship awardees were finalized by **January 20, 2022**.

During the application period, Kaffi received
34 applications (21 Boost and 13 Launch)

Based on the available funds & the scores of Kaffi's automatic & anonymous ranking system,
22 students (12 Boost and 10 Launch) were shortlisted and interviewed

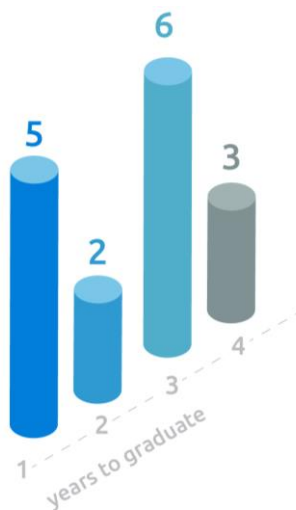
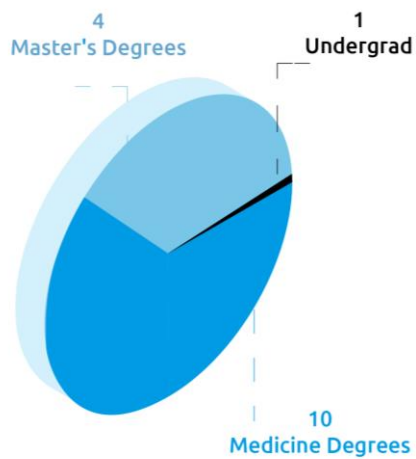
Based on the interview, Kaffi's scholarship committee prepared a proposal that included
16 students (8 Boost and 8 Launch) to be granted scholarships

The proposal was fully approved by Kaffi's Executive Board, and the scholarships were granted to the selected students accordingly

The total sum of awarded scholarships was **€16,050** split into **€6,230** for the
Boost program and **€9,820** for the **Launch program**



Spring 2022 Scholarship Recipients!



Kaffi-Launch

€ 9810



Kaffi-Boost

€ 6226

Figure 1: Summary statistics of scholarship recipients

Programs

During this cycle, we updated to an **online application** and students were able to choose between one of **two available scholarship programs**:

Kaffi-Launch: provides support for students for their high tuition fees. For this cycle, applications to the Kaffi-Launch program were exclusively limited to students who started their education abroad in or before 2019.

Kaffi-Boost: provides support for students for their living expenses. This program is not limited to students who started their education abroad before the economic crisis in Lebanon and its only to boost students financially until they find a job.

Review Process

Kaffi's application review process followed the following guidelines for the 2nd cycle of 2021-2022:

Eligibility Criteria

This determines the validity of the application given the targeted and prioritized group of students for the cycle.



For the Launch program, an additional criterion was added since the last cycle. It guarantees prioritizing students who left Lebanon during or before the 2019 economic crisis as they are the most affected and in need of help to continue the education they have already started.

✓ *The student should have started the education abroad during or before 2019*

- ✓ *The student is a Lebanese Citizen*
- ✓ *The student doesn't hold citizenship in any European country, the US, or the country of study*
- ✓ *The student doesn't hold a degree from any European country, the US, or the country of study*
- ✓ *The student maintains satisfactory academic performance*

Selection Process

The students were able to fill an online application (using JotForm) for the scholarship program of interest. Each program had a separate application form. Each new online application is assigned an application ID to be used throughout the review process while masking all identifying information (e.g., name, email address).

The applications are reviewed randomly by the scholarship committee members and then automatically and anonymously ranked according to our objective ranking system. The application covers just like last cycle needed information about the academic status of the students, their financial situation and their families, and their legal status (visa). Official supporting documents are also requested as part of the application process and are to be attached to each online application. (e.g., Copy of student's rental contract, Bank statement of student's foreign bank account, etc.)

Top ranking applicants were invited to an interview in order to get any necessary clarifications about the information in the application, get to know the student on a more personal level and assess the motivation of the student and their short/ long term future plans.

BEHIND KAFFI

Kaffi was founded by a group of Lebanese professionals including doctors, engineers, designers and educators from all over the world who share a common vision. Many Kaffi members have witnessed first-hand the experience of studying abroad. They know what it is like to be in a tough financial situation while away from home. They know what it is like to be at the edge of losing what they have worked hard for. They are former Lebanese students who persevered and achieved highly reputable positions and degrees in international companies and universities. They have secured a bright future for themselves and their families. Today they are lending a helping hand to support fellow students.

Kaffi Executive Board & Head of Committees



Mohamed Baker Alawieh

President



Sabrine Abboud

Vice President

Head of Activities
Committee



Mahdi Chamseddine

Secretary

Head of Communication
Committee



Wajeb Saab

Treasurer

Head of Finance
Committee



Zahraa Alawieh

Board Member

Head of Media
Committee



Maha Maksoud

Head of Scholarship
Committee



Sara Alawieh

Head of Academic
Advising Committee

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Kaffi's second cycle campaign of Spring 2022 ran from September 1st, 2021 to January 31st, 2022, inclusive.

For this cycle, in addition to our continued GoFundMe campaign¹, we set up a Benevity² account to leverage donation-matching programs at some companies, and a PayPal account to allow our generous donors to set up recurring donations. Including our new bank account, the information of which can be found on the website³, Kaffi now has four methods of accepting donations.

We received a total of €16,528.43 in donations, of which €5,620 were from GoFundMe, €10698.43 were from Benevity donations and company matches, €160 were from PayPal recurring donations, and €50 were from direct bank transfers. We also had a remaining balance of €30.14 from the previous cycle.

We paid a total of €502.13 in fees, of which €165.74 were GoFundMe fees, €9.68 were Benevity fees, €5.29 were PayPal fees, and €321.42 were Bank account and transfer fees.

The funds, after fees, totalled €16,056.44. These were allocated by the scholarship committee to 16 students, with scholarship amounts totalling €16,036.99:

€6,226.48 for Boost scholarships

€9,810.51 for Launch scholarships

¹ www.gofundme.com/f/kaffi

² <https://www.benevity.com>

³ <https://www.kaffi-lb.org>

The following table summarizes the financial numbers of the first two scholarship cycles at Kaffi. We hope, with the generosity of donors and through our expanding efforts and programs, to continue for many cycles to come.

	Fall 2021		Spring 2022	
	Total	%	Total	%
Carry-over from previous cycle	-	-	30.14	0.18
Gofundme donations	13582	91.1	5620	33.94
Benevity donations	-	-	10698.43	64.61
Paypal donations	-	-	160	0.97
Cash donations	1209	8.11	0	0
Bank donations	117.9	0.79	50	0.3
Total donations	14908.9	100	16528.43	99.82
Total income	14908.9	100	16558.57	100
Gofundme fees	431.04	2.89	165.74	1
Benevity fees	-	-	9.68	0.06
Paypal fees	-	-	5.29	0.03
Bank fees	297.72	2	321.42	1.94
Total fees	728.76	4.89	502.13	3.03
Boost scholarships	7200	48.29	6226.48	37.6
Launch scholarships	6950	46.62	9810.51	59.25
Total scholarships	14150	94.91	16036.99	96.85
Total expenses	14878.76	99.8	16539.12	99.88
Carry-over to next cycle	30.14	0.2	19.45	0.12

Monthly financial reports are listed below for the months of October 2021 to February 2022. Note that donations received in February are considered as part of next cycle's donations, and will be used to fund scholarships for the Winter 2022 cycle.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS



Sunday, February 20, 2022

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Trial Balance

Period: 10/01/21..10/31/21

Kaffi

INVENT-SRV\KAFFI1

		Opening Balance		Net Change		Balance	
No.	Name	Debit	Credit	Debit	Credit	Debit	Credit
2930	Bank EUR	4,471.71			0.52	4,471.19	
2950	GoFundMe EUR			19.17		19.17	
2960	Benevity EUR			1,222.07		1,222.07	
2990	Liquid Assets, Total	4,471.71		1,241.24	0.52	5,712.43	
6310	Cash Funds		1,209.00				1,209.00
6320	Cofundme Funds		18,157.00		20.00		18,177.00
6330	Bank Funds		117.90				117.90
6350	Benevity funds				1,222.95		1,222.95
6399	Funds Total		19,483.90		1,242.95		20,726.85
6999	Income Total		19,483.90		1,242.95		20,726.85
7310	Boost Scholarships	7,200.00				7,200.00	
7320	Launch Scholarships	6,950.00				6,950.00	
7399	Student Scholarships Total	14,150.00				14,150.00	
8650	Bank fees	297.72		0.52		298.24	
8660	Cofundme Fees	564.47		0.83		565.30	
8662	Benevity fees			0.88		0.88	
8690	Other Operating Exp., Total	862.19		2.23		864.42	
8999	Total Operating Expenses	862.19		2.23		864.42	

Figure 2: Financial Report October 2021

Trial Balance

Sunday, February 20, 2022

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INVENT-SRV\KAFFI1

Period: 11/01/21..11/30/21

Kaffi

No.	Name	Opening Balance		Net Change		Balance	
		Debit	Credit	Debit	Credit	Debit	Credit
2930	Bank EUR	4,471.19		1,222.08	3.80	5,689.47	
2950	GoFundMe EUR	19.17		605.62		624.79	
2960	Benevity EUR	1,222.07		8,596.98	1,222.07	8,596.98	
2970	PayPal EUR			19.35		19.35	
2990	Liquid Assets, Total	5,712.43		10,444.03	1,225.87	14,930.59	
6310	Cash Funds		1,209.00				1,209.00
6320	Gofundme Funds		18,177.00		625.00		18,802.00
6330	Bank Funds		117.90				117.90
6340	Paypal funds				20.00		20.00
6350	Benevity funds		1,222.95		8,602.88		9,825.83
6399	Funds Total		20,726.85		9,247.88		29,974.73
6999	Income Total		20,726.85		9,247.88		29,974.73
7310	Boost Scholarships	7,200.00				7,200.00	
7320	Launch Scholarships	6,950.00				6,950.00	
7399	Student Scholarships Total	14,150.00				14,150.00	
8650	Bank fees	298.24		3.80		302.04	
8660	Gofundme Fees	565.30		19.38		584.68	
8661	Paypal fees			0.65	0.01	0.64	
8662	Benevity fees	0.88		5.90		6.78	
8690	Other Operating Exp., Total	864.42		29.73	0.01	894.14	
8999	Total Operating Expenses	864.42		29.73	0.01	894.14	

Figure 3: Financial Report November 2021

"This team has my full trust, and the initiative is a GREAT start to find solutions for families instead of keeping them dependent indefinitely."

Dana Ali Ahamd, Gofundme Donor

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/kaffi>



Kaffi: Supporting Lebanese Students Abroad

€20,471 raised of €85,000 goal

[Donate now](#) 

Trial Balance

Sunday, February 20, 2022

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Period: 12/01/21..12/31/21

INVENT-SRV\KAFFI

Kaffi

No.	Name	Opening Balance		Net Change		Balance	
		Debit	Credit	Debit	Credit	Debit	Credit
2930	Bank EUR	5,689.47		9,331.77	74.20	14,947.04	
2950	GoFundMe EUR	624.79		387.90	624.79	387.90	
2960	Benevity EUR	8,596.98		869.70	8,596.98	869.70	
2970	PayPal EUR	19.35		67.50		86.85	
2990	Liquid Assets, Total	14,930.59		10,656.87	9,295.97	16,291.49	
6310	Cash Funds		1,209.00				1,209.00
6320	Cofundme Funds		18,802.00		400.00		19,202.00
6330	Bank Funds		117.90		50.00		167.90
6340	Paypal funds		20.00		70.00		90.00
6350	Benevity funds		9,825.83		872.60		10,698.43
6399	Funds Total		29,974.73		1,392.60		31,367.33
6999	Income Total		29,974.73		1,392.60		31,367.33
7310	Boost Scholarships	7,200.00				7,200.00	
7320	Launch Scholarships	6,950.00				6,950.00	
7399	Student Scholarships Total	14,150.00				14,150.00	
8650	Bank fees	302.04		74.20	60.00	316.24	
8660	Cofundme Fees	584.68		12.10		596.78	
8661	Paypal fees	0.64		2.50		3.14	
8662	Benevity fees	6.78		2.90		9.68	
8690	Other Operating Exp., Total	894.14		91.70	60.00	925.84	
8999	Total Operating Expenses	894.14		91.70	60.00	925.84	

Figure 4: Financial Report December 2021


https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=XN9FH3XZSU4FS

Trial Balance

Sunday, February 20, 2022

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Period: 01/01/22..01/31/22

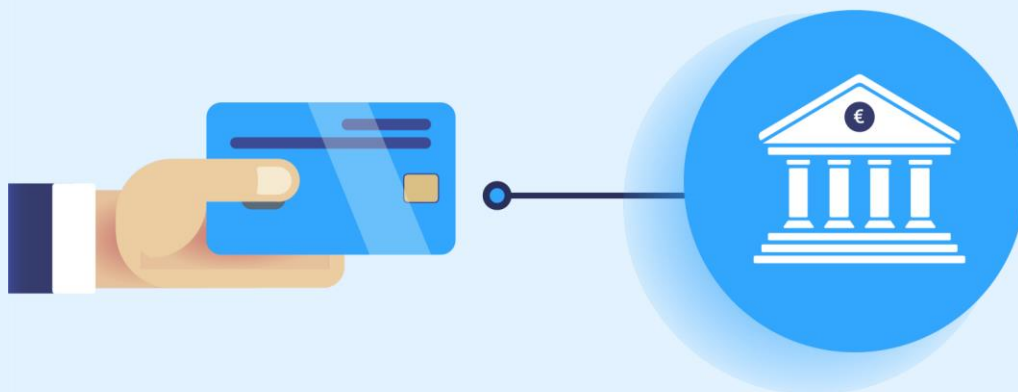
INVENT-SRV\KAFFI1

Kaffi

No.	Name	Opening Balance		Net Change		Balance	
		Debit	Credit	Debit	Credit	Debit	Credit
2930	Bank EUR	14,947.04		542.60	14,245.41	1,244.23	
2950	GoFundMe EUR	387.90			387.90		
2960	Benevity EUR	869.70				869.70	
2970	PayPal EUR	86.85		87.20	154.70	19.35	
2990	Liquid Assets, Total	16,291.49		629.80	14,788.01	2,133.28	
6310	Cash Funds		1,209.00				1,209.00
6320	Gofundme Funds		19,202.00				19,202.00
6330	Bank Funds		167.90				167.90
6340	Paypal funds		90.00		90.00		180.00
6350	Benevity funds		10,698.43				10,698.43
6399	Funds Total		31,367.33		90.00		31,457.33
6999	Income Total		31,367.33		90.00		31,457.33
7310	Boost Scholarships	7,200.00		4,200.00		11,400.00	
7320	Launch Scholarships	6,950.00		9,810.51		16,760.51	
7399	Student Scholarships Total	14,150.00		14,010.51		28,160.51	
8650	Bank fees	316.24		234.90		551.14	
8660	Gofundme Fees	596.78				596.78	
8661	Paypal fees	3.14		2.80		5.94	
8662	Benevity fees	9.68				9.68	
8690	Other Operating Exp., Total	925.84		237.70		1,163.54	
8999	Total Operating Expenses	925.84		237.70		1,163.54	

Figure 5: Financial Report January 2022

Donation Through Direct Money Transfer Is Possible:

**Account Name:** Kaffi e.V.**IBAN:** DE51430609671262435500**SWIFT/BIC Code:** GENODEM1GLS **Bank Name:** GLS Bank**Currency:** EUR

We are now on Benevity!



We are now on @benevity, a donation platform that several companies are partnered with, like @Google & @Microsoft. These companies typically match employee donations, thus doubling your contribution to us.

If your company is partnered with Benevity, consider us for your donation.

Trial Balance

2022

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INVENT-SRV\KAFFI

Period: 02/01/22..02/20/22

Kaffi

No.	Name	Opening Balance		Net Change		Balance	
		Debit	Credit	Debit	Credit	Debit	Credit
2930	Bank EUR	1,244.23		869.70	2,094.48	19.45	
2950	GoFundMe EUR			67.79		67.79	
2960	Benevity EUR	869.70			869.70		
2970	PayPal EUR	19.35		67.85		87.20	
2990	Liquid Assets, Total	2,133.28		1,005.34	2,964.18	174.44	
6310	Cash Funds		1,209.00				1,209.00
6320	Gofundme Funds		19,202.00		70.00		19,272.00
6330	Bank Funds		167.90				167.90
6340	Paypal funds		180.00		70.00		250.00
6350	Benevity funds		10,698.43				10,698.43
6399	Funds Total		31,457.33		140.00		31,597.33
6999	Income Total		31,457.33		140.00		31,597.33
7310	Boost Scholarships	11,400.00		2,026.48		13,426.48	
7320	Launch Scholarships	16,760.51				16,760.51	
7399	Student Scholarships Total	28,160.51		2,026.48		30,186.99	
8650	Bank fees	551.14		68.00		619.14	
8660	Gofundme Fees	596.78		2.21		598.99	
8661	Paypal fees	5.94		2.15		8.09	
8662	Benevity fees	9.68				9.68	
8690	Other Operating Exp., Total	1,163.54		72.36		1,235.90	
8999	Total Operating Expenses	1,163.54		72.36		1,235.90	

Figure 6: Financial Report February 2022

ACADEMIC ADVISING

Webinars

After the end of the first scholarship cycle Fall 2021, Kaffi created an Advising Committee with the goal of providing academic guidance for the Lebanese students as they pursue an education abroad, or begin to adjust to life away from their families and home country.

The advising committee started, as its first program, a series of webinars aimed at helping students currently in Lebanon to better understand the process of applying to graduate schools abroad.

Between October 2021 and February 2022, a total of four webinars were held: focusing on applying to graduate schools in the [US, Germany, France, and Italy](#). Kaffi members and guest speakers were invited to talk about their experience of applying to graduate schools in these countries and in living, studying and working abroad.

The webinars were held live over video conferencing after which students were able to engage with the speakers in a live Q&A session. Following each webinar, a recording of the presentation (excluding the Q&A) was posted on our YouTube channel⁴, and a dedicated resource page for the country was added to our website⁵.



⁴ <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCDlVbaKgBidMCPbeVvquKwQ>

⁵ <https://www.kaffi-lb.org/academic-advising>

Webinars covered a wide range of topics, including searching for the right university, preparing admission applications, finding accommodation, job and scholarship opportunities, managing expenses, and studying with a family. They also addressed a list of frequently asked questions before the live Q&A sessions.

The advising committee at Kaffi plans to continue the webinar series, with talks already planned for Switzerland and Canada. We have also received interest from students regarding Belgium and the UK, and are currently looking for guest speakers to hold the webinars for these countries.

Kaffi Buddy Program

The advising committee also launched KaffiBuddy⁶: a platform that matches new Lebanese students abroad with buddies, who can help them during their transition process to a new country.

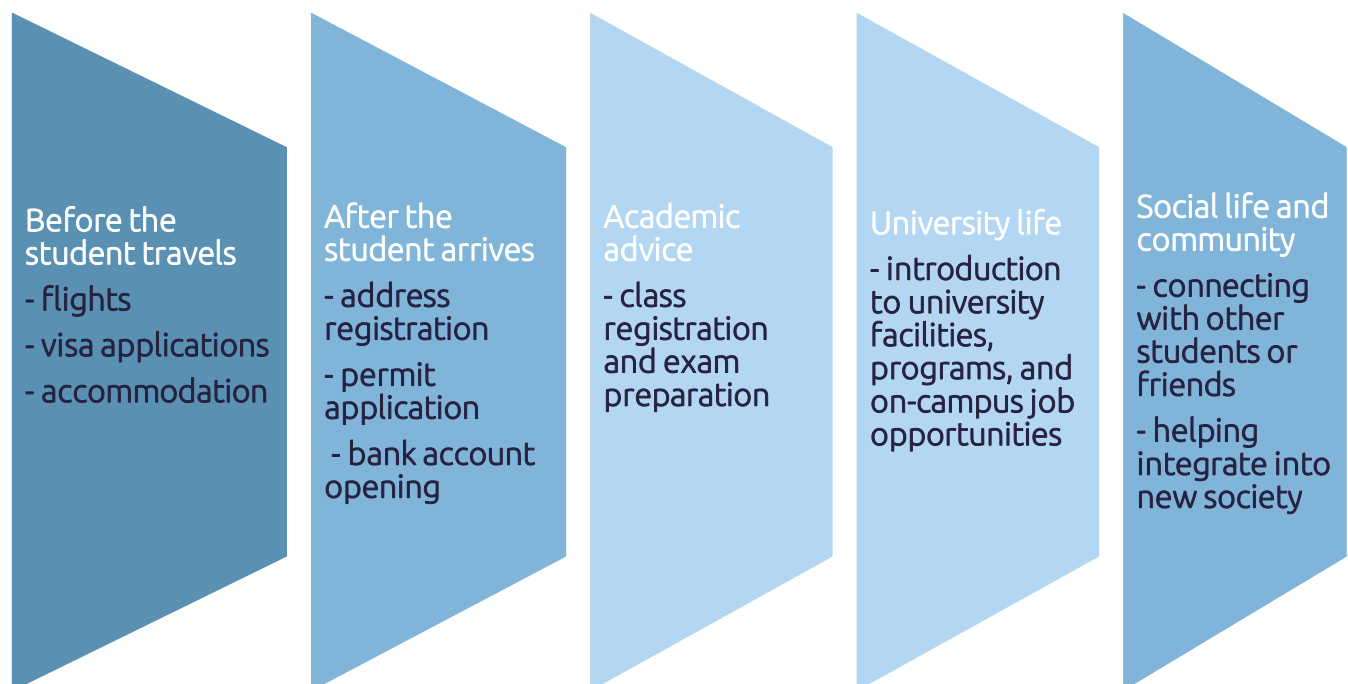
Buddies are students or graduates who are based and have lived in the same city or country as the incoming student. Buddies also share the same educational background (same university, same major) as the students, and share other general interests as well.



As a first step of the KaffiBuddy program, we set out to create a database of buddies who are willing to help incoming students. We advertised on various social media platforms to invite people interested in becoming buddies. Buddy applicants are required to fill a form⁷ with the necessary information to allow us to verify their identities, and potentially match them with incoming students.

Once we have a large enough group of buddies in a certain location, students in or going to that location will be invited to apply for the program. Each student will get matched with a buddy and will be able to contact them and set up a meeting if they wish.

From Kaffi's perspective, the duties of the buddies are not strictly defined, and can vary from buddy to buddy, depending on the student's needs and buddy's expertise. Some examples of buddy duties might include helping with:

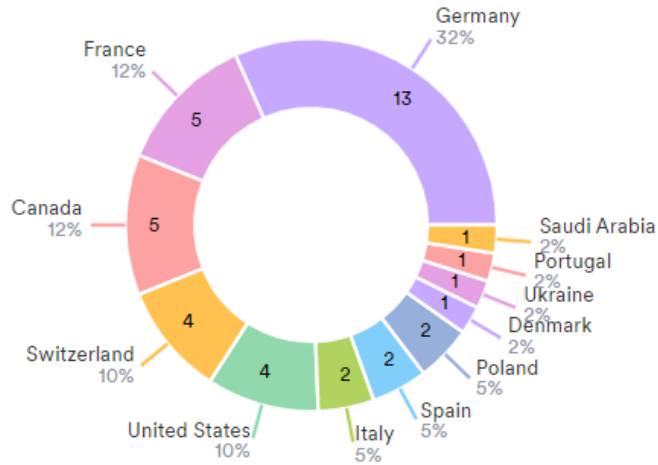


⁶ <https://www.kaffi-lb.org/academic-advising/kaffi-buddy>

⁷ <https://form.jotform.com/213205911337347>

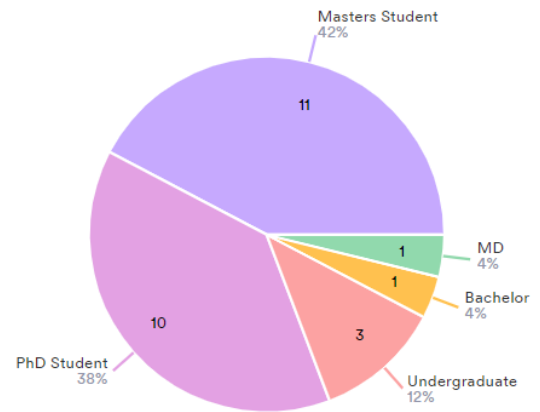
Current Address

41 Responses



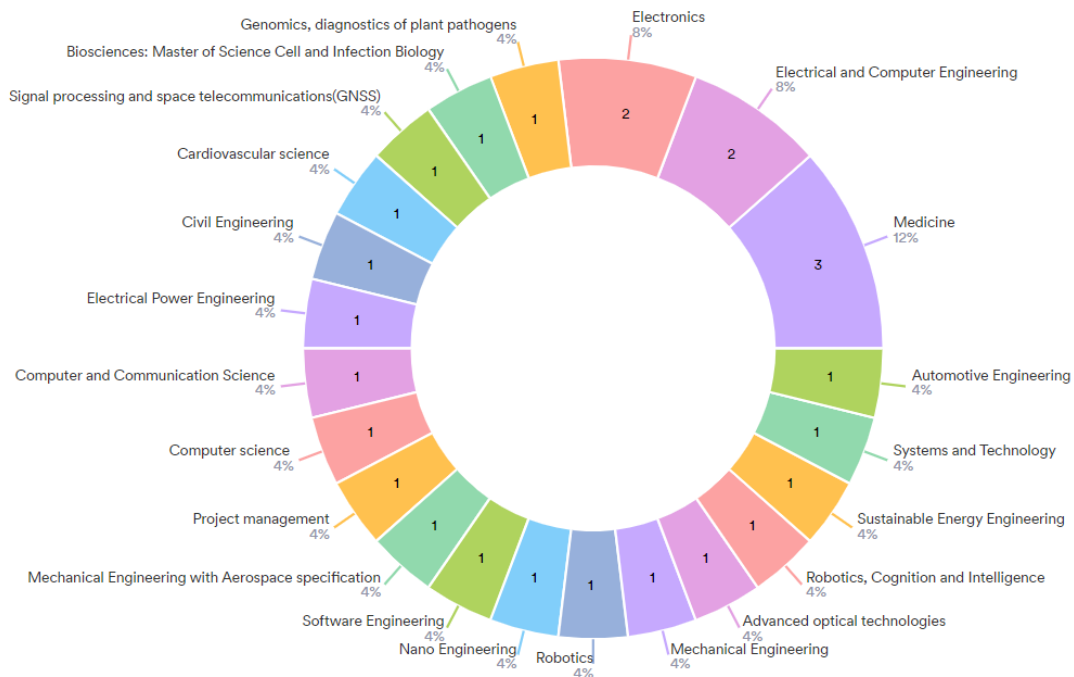
Academic Group

26 Responses- 15 Empty



Field of Study

26 Responses- 15 Empty



Thus far, we have received 33 applications in 11 different countries. The information is summarized in the infographics below.



STUDENTS' TESTIMONIALS

“ Kaffi Launch Scholarship Recipient



Hello!! I'm Manessa , a dentistry student. Despite being a mother living abroad, I had the passion to continue my education, but the economic crisis in Lebanon was a great obstacle in my way. Kaffi gave me a very big help to continue my education in order to reach my goal. It is a big blessing to me and other Lebanese students to be able to continue with the help of our Lebanese brothers and sisters through kaffi.

MANESSA

DENTISTRY

20/
22 SPRING

”

“ Kaffi Launch Scholarship Recipient



I was studying in Ukraine before the economic crisis started in Lebanon, back then life was stable, and we as Lebanese students had to focus only on our education. Now with the currency devaluation everything is expensive to us and hard to afford. After 3 years of my medical studies, my parents and I decided to freeze my education plan abroad, leave my career passion behind my back, and go back to Lebanon because we can't afford this plan anymore. That's where I was introduced to "Kaffi" scholarship that helped me cover more than %50 of my tuition fees and proceed with my studies. I think that such projects as "Kaffi" are extremely important for Lebanese students who are studying abroad far away from their families to then work there and provide sustainable help for the people they love back home!

HADI HALLAL

GENERAL MEDICINE

20/
22 SPRING

”

“ Kaffi Boost Scholarship Recipient



It's not only about being able to afford the cost of surviving and studying abroad, it's about the emotional and psychological scar that is left there inside us when we see our parents trying to afford whatever they can to help us pursue our education, but they can't anymore! And that is because of the crisis that happened in my country Lebanon that led to a massive currency devaluation and most of the people lost their purchasing power. At the beginning of the crisis, it was a complete shock for me, knowing that I was working as a part time student in France, I couldn't handle my studies properly with all the mental pressure I was facing with my family to afford my studies. I failed the first semester. But I didn't give up, I doubled my part time working hrs, and decided that I am going to proceed with Finance degree, because I need it, it's my passion and my passport to work in what I love in Europe so I can help my parents back home financially. Working alone was not enough to pay my bills, "Kaffi" scholarship helped me with a small portion that was really a huge booster for me, not only from the financial side but the psychological support as well!

ALI HAMADE

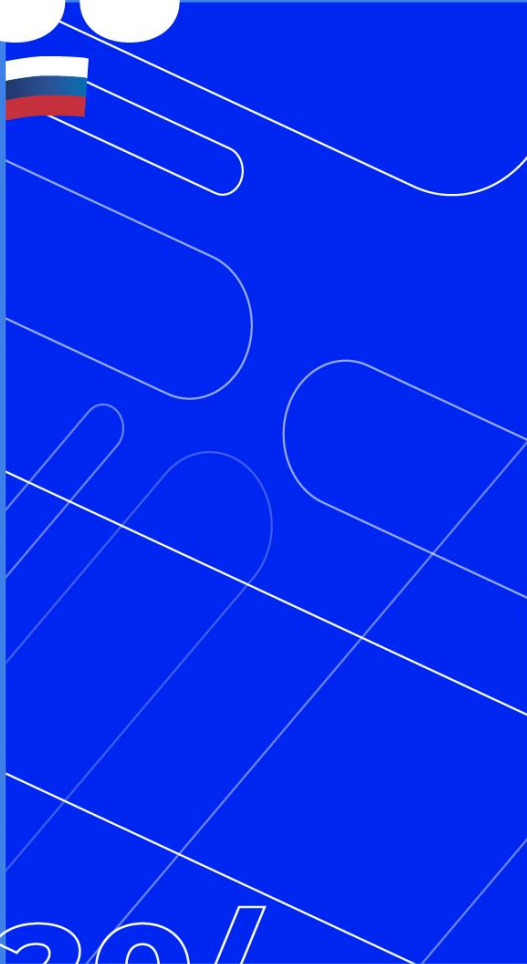
Economie et Gestion, parcours économie quantitative

20/
22 SPRING

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Kaffi Launch Scholarship Recipient



As Lebanese foreign students one of our biggest problems are our financial obstacles. Relying on our parents to provide us with the money we need is now unreachable due to all the economic problems happening. "Kaffi" however made it way easier! Projects like kaffi should be taken more seriously and be heard and helped so they also continue to provide assistance to those who need it.

MIRA

GENERAL MEDICINE



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