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PhD Dissertation Defense

Entitled

*THE IMPACT OF CHANGING THE ADMISSION POLICY ON STUDENTS' EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES
IN ABU DHABI HIGHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS*

By

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Date & Venue

05:00 PM

Tuesday, 30th April, 2024

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Abstract

Nowadays, the education field is dynamic and requires changes to open the door for development and enhancement. The ultimate goal of educational change is to meet the global commitments made to education. For the UAE to keep up with the global market, as well as to ensure that its students receive a quality education, changes and reforms are occurring regularly in the educational system. Hence, being careful in dealing with changes is very important as incorrect implementation or decisions can lead to create challenges, opposition, and failure. As in the UAE context, recent research examined teachers' perspectives on educational reforms in Ras Al Khaimah to gain insight into their thoughts on the educational changes and reforms in schools, as well as their thoughts on what they believe would make the reforms more effective. Based on the available information, there is limited research or data has examined the impact of admission policy change on students' educational opportunities at the college and university level. Taking into account characteristics of change can help students and educational administrators alike have a better educational experience and more seamless transitions. The overall purpose of this study is to explore the effect of raising the standard of the admission policy on students' educational opportunities. This research raised the students' voices by providing them with the opportunity to express their perception on how they perceive the increase of the IELTS/EmSAT in the admission policy and how they think it affects their educational opportunities. The quantitative technique is used to address the research questions. The research topic evolved as the objective was to determine the effectiveness of educational reform in boosting the UAE's higher education standards for students. This study will contribute to the body of knowledge on the subject of the policy change and particularly will address the gap that exists in literature and the real practice in the context of the UAE. This research study is significant as it is aiming to explore students' views on the admission policy change. Conducting research in this area can help to promote and support the right development of an educational system that is dynamic and demands these types of adjustments. It will help policymakers, consider several aspects before attempting a change or a reform, evaluate different angles that might be affected by this change, and weigh the potential effect once it comes to reform or change which have an essential role in succeeding or failing the change.

Keywords: Admission Policy, change, student educational opportunities, Higher educational institutions