

Studying in Morocco

A guide for international students & families — how Moroccan higher education works, the student visa, affordable study in French/Arabic (and English at Al Akhawayn), and scholarships.

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AFFORDABLE, FRENCH/ARABIC IMMERSION, ENGLISH AT AL AKHAWAYN

Morocco offers **affordable higher education** with a distinctive mix: **French- and Arabic-medium public universities** (Mohammed V, Hassan II, Cadi Ayyad), the **all-English, American-model Al Akhawayn University**, and generous **AMCI scholarships** for African and Arab students. Add rich immersion, a strategic Africa—Europe location, and strengths in Islamic and North-African studies. Students get a **student visa and residence permit**. This guide walks it in **ten steps**.

General guidance, not legal or immigration advice. Moroccan rules, tuition, and the funds requirement change. The details here are recent examples and **must be confirmed with your university, Moroccan immigration, and the Moroccan consulate.**

Understand Why Students Choose Morocco

WHAT TO KNOW

Morocco offers **affordable tuition; French and Arabic immersion; an all-English, American-model university (Al Akhawayn); generous AMCI scholarships for African and Arab students; and a strategic Africa→Europe location** — a versatile destination.

BY THE NUMBERS

Affordable

+ immersion

Al Akhawayn

all-English (US model)

AMCI

African/Arab scholarships

HOW TO HELP

Weigh Morocco's **affordability, language options, and AMCI scholarships** against a mostly French-taught public system — for French/Arabic immersion or an English US-style degree, it's distinctive.

GOOD TO KNOW

Al Akhawayn offers a **US-style, all-English education** (NEASC-accredited) in North Africa — a rare combination.

Understand the System

WHAT TO KNOW

Public universities (**Mohammed V — Rabat; Hassan II — Casablanca; Cadi Ayyad — Marrakech**) teach mainly in **French** (Arabic for law/literature). Two are internationally focused: **Al Akhawayn (all-English, American liberal-arts, NEASC/ABET-accredited)** and **Mohammed VI Polytechnic (UM6P — English and French)**.

BY THE NUMBERS

Public

Mohammed V, Hassan II (French)

Al Akhawayn

all-English (US model)

UM6P

English & French

HOW TO HELP

Choose a **public university** (affordable, French/Arabic) or an **international university** (Al Akhawayn — English; UM6P) by field and language.

WATCH OUT

Al Akhawayn's computer-science and engineering degrees are **ABET-accredited**, and its curriculum follows the American liberal-arts model.

Get the Student Visa & Residence Permit

WHAT TO KNOW

Apply for a **student visa** at a Moroccan consulate (with your acceptance letter, funds proof, a medical certificate, and police clearance — about 2–4 weeks). After arriving, **register with the authorities to obtain your residence permit (carte de séjour)** for the duration of your studies.

BY THE NUMBERS

Student visa

via consulate (2–4 wks)

+ medical & police

& funds

Carte de séjour

residence permit

HOW TO HELP

Apply for the **student visa** (acceptance, funds, medical, police), then obtain your **residence permit (carte de séjour)** after arrival — your university guides the process.

GOOD TO KNOW

After arrival you must **register to get your carte de séjour** — a legal requirement for your stay.

Apply to Universities

WHAT TO KNOW

Apply **directly to each university**. **Al Akhawayn** requires TOEFL/IELTS (for non-native English speakers), a minimum ~2.5/4.0 GPA, and has set deadlines (May 31 for August; October 31 for January). **Public universities** require **French proficiency** (a preparatory “French year” if your level is insufficient). Documents need translation to French or Arabic.

BY THE NUMBERS

Al Akhawayn

TOEFL/IELTS, GPA 2.5

Public

French (prep year possible)

Documents

translated

HOW TO HELP

Apply **directly** — Al Akhawayn (TOEFL/IELTS, GPA, set deadlines) or a public university (French proficiency, possibly a prep year) — with translated documents.

GOOD TO KNOW

Public-university applicants usually need **French proficiency**; if it's insufficient, a preparatory French year is required.

Plan for Tuition & Scholarships

WHAT TO KNOW

Public-university tuition for internationals runs roughly **€2,000–8,000/year**; **Al Akhawayn** is about **\$7,600/year** (~307,000 MAD over four years). The **AMCI** scholarship is the main gateway for African and Arab students at public institutions (covering tuition, medical insurance, and a monthly stipend); universities also offer merit aid.

BY THE NUMBERS

Public

€2,000–8,000/yr

Al Akhawayn

~\$7,600/yr

AMCI

African/Arab scholarships

HOW TO HELP

Budget the tuition (public €2k–8k; Al Akhawayn ~\$7,600) plus living costs, and pursue **AMCI** (for African/Arab students) or university merit scholarships.

GOOD TO KNOW

AMCI scholarships (via the “Maroc Alumni” platform, with home-country nomination) can cover tuition, insurance, and a stipend — a major route for African/Arab students.

Meet the Financial Requirement

WHAT TO KNOW

For the visa you show **proof of funds** covering tuition (€2,000–8,000) and living (€4,000–6,000/year), plus **health insurance** and a **clean criminal-background check**. Confirm the exact requirements with the Moroccan consulate.

BY THE NUMBERS

Funds

tuition + living (€4–6k)

+ insurance

& police check

Confirm

per consulate

HOW TO HELP

Prepare **proof of funds (tuition + €4–6k living)**, **health insurance**, and a **criminal-background check** — confirm the exact requirements with the Moroccan consulate.

GOOD TO KNOW

Requirements include **health insurance and a clean background check** — follow the consulate's official checklist.



Meet Language Requirements

WHAT TO KNOW

Morocco's system uses **French (dominant, especially for technical/scientific fields), Arabic (law, literature, Islamic studies), and English (Al Akhawayn, UM6P, business/international programs)**. Public programs usually need French (with a preparatory year if needed); Al Akhawayn needs English (TOEFL/IELTS).

BY THE NUMBERS

French

dominant (public)

Arabic

law, literature

English

Al Akhawayn, UM6P

HOW TO HELP

Match the language to your program — **French** (public, prep year possible), **Arabic** (law/literature), or **English** (Al Akhawayn/UM6P) — and build the relevant language early.

GOOD TO KNOW

French is the **dominant language** for technical and scientific fields — a preparatory French year is offered if your level is insufficient.

Prepare for the Move

WHAT TO KNOW

After your visa, **obtain your carte de séjour, arrange housing, and set up banking and insurance.** Most students are based in **Rabat, Casablanca, or Marrakech** (Al Akhawayn is in Ifrane, a scenic Middle Atlas town). Morocco is welcoming, affordable, and rich in culture and history.

BY THE NUMBERS

Carte de séjour + housing

first tasks

Cities

Rabat, Casablanca, Marrakech

Al Akhawayn

in Ifrane

HOW TO HELP

Handle arrival admin — **carte de séjour, housing, banking, insurance** — in Rabat, Casablanca, or Marrakech (or Ifrane for Al Akhawayn); Morocco is welcoming and affordable.

GOOD TO KNOW

Al Akhawayn's **Ifrane campus** sits in the Middle Atlas — a scenic, tight-knit college town.

Explore the English & International Route

WHAT TO KNOW

For English-taught study, **Al Akhawayn** offers an American liberal-arts education (business, humanities/social sciences, science/engineering) with **ABET-accredited engineering and strong North-Africa/Middle-East and Islamic studies**, plus wide study-abroad partnerships — and **UM6P** adds English/French technical programs.

BY THE NUMBERS

Al Akhawayn

US-model, English

Strengths

engineering, NAMES, Islamic studies

UM6P

technical (English/French)

HOW TO HELP

Consider the **English/international route** (Al Akhawayn's US-model degrees; UM6P) for a globally oriented education with strong regional and Islamic-studies offerings.

GOOD TO KNOW

Al Akhawayn is strong in **North-Africa/Middle-East studies, diplomacy, and Islamic studies** — distinctive graduate options.

Thrive & After Study

WHAT TO KNOW

Morocco's **strategic Africa→Europe location** and your **French/Arabic/English skills** open regional and international opportunities. Confirm the current post-study visa/work pathway if you want to stay, and use your networks across Africa, Europe, and the Arab world.

BY THE NUMBERS

Africa → Europe

strategic location

Languages

regional opportunities

Post-study

confirm pathway

HOW TO HELP

Leverage Morocco's **location and your multilingual skills** for opportunities across Africa, Europe, and the Arab world, and confirm the current post-study pathway if you want to stay.

GOOD TO KNOW

Confirm the **current post-study options** — they can change, and vary by field and situation.

Studying in Morocco: The Essentials

A snapshot — figures change, so confirm with your university, Moroccan immigration, and the Moroccan consulate.

The system

Public universities (Mohammed V — Rabat; Hassan II — Casablanca; Cadi Ayyad — Marrakech; primarily French, Arabic for law/literature) plus internationally focused institutions — Al Akhawayn (all-English, American liberal-arts, NEASC/ABET-accredited) and Mohammed VI Polytechnic (English/French).

Visa & permit

Apply for a student visa at a Moroccan consulate (acceptance, funds, medical certificate, police clearance; ~2–4 weeks), then register on arrival for your residence permit (carte de séjour).

Tuition & scholarships

Public universities ~€2,000–8,000/year for internationals; Al Akhawayn ~\$7,600/year; the AMCI scholarship (via “Maroc Alumni”, home-country nomination) covers tuition, insurance, and a stipend for many African/Arab students; university merit aid.

Money & language

Show proof of funds (tuition + €4,000–6,000/year living), health insurance, and a criminal-background check; French dominates public programs (prep year possible), Arabic for law/literature, English at Al Akhawayn/UM6P.

Strengths & after

Al Akhawayn offers US-model English degrees (ABET engineering; North-Africa/Middle-East and Islamic studies); Morocco’s Africa→Europe location and multilingual skills open regional careers — confirm the post-study pathway.

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