



Academic and Career Counseling for Elevated Livelihoods

Academic and career counseling is critical in enabling youth to make informed decisions about their education and careers. Stakeholders should work together so that youth have access to opportunities that can guide them toward their goals, provide them with the resources they need, and support them in building a better future for themselves, their families, and their communities.



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What is counseling?

Academic and career counseling refers to addressing students' academic, career, and personal/social development to help them attain their full academic potential, develop positive social skills and values, and make informed career decisions.

Counseling provides youth with a sense of purpose and allows them to explore market-driven education and job opportunities that will contribute to the sustainable development and economic growth of their communities.

Elements of effective counseling



Data informed

Evidence-based approaches to holistic counseling



Proactive

Deliberate, structured intervention to motivate students to seek help



Collaborative

Involves parents/guardians, teachers, and other relevant stakeholders



Monitored

Assesses students' needs and progress, promoting independence and goal setting

Why is Effective Counselling Important?

Effective counseling improves high school graduation, college attendance, and retention rates. ([Education Next](#), 2020)

Students who met with an academic advisor were 25% more likely to report feeling prepared for university. ([AGF](#), 2018)

Teenage participation in career counseling has been linked to wage increases of 10-20% for young adults. ([OECD](#), 2021)

AGF's Research-Key Highlights

According to our research and expert consultations, counseling should be:

- ✓ Customized to local universities and the job market
- ✓ In-person, held in Arabic and English by professionally trained counselors
- ✓ Long-term, start early and involve all relevant stakeholders, including parents
- ✓ Skills-based, building youth's decision-making and critical thinking skills about their future

