Hundreds of thousands of students have been displaced by war, and only 1% have access to higher education.

Platform for Education in Emergencies Response (PEER) is an online clearinghouse that enables displaced and refugee students to connect with hundreds of educational opportunities around the world.
We are grateful to the many PEER partners who are making significant contributions toward the goal of ensuring that all displaced Syrian students around the world have access to higher education.
Due to the devastating impact of the Syria crisis, PEER will initially focus on the educational needs of Syrian students at the university level. Next, the platform will expand to target displaced and refugee students in the broader Middle-East and North-Africa regions.
• Address the educational needs of displaced and refugee youth
• Leverage technology to collect, catalogue and disseminate existing resources
• Unify the efforts of organizations, universities and businesses helping displaced students around the world
The Search

About 18,800,000 results (0.64 seconds)

18 million results.
OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS

Are you a displaced Syrian student looking for scholarships, online and language learning opportunities? PEER recognizes the importance of higher education for students affected by crises and strives to help you continue your studies. Click below to start browsing through the PEER database and find the right opportunity for you!
The PEER database features information on scholarship, online, and language learning opportunities. Students can search by opportunity type, degree earned, country in which the opportunity is offered or by keyword. The website is available to students with limited and low bandwidth internet access, and can be accessed from a computer, tablet, or smartphone.
Universities around the world are meeting the challenge of supporting higher education by offering scholarships and opportunities to Syrian students. Featuring your university’s opportunities on PEER allows students to identify available opportunities, and connects your university to a global network of higher education institutions that are committed to supporting Syrian students.
While the crisis in Syria continues, it is clear that ongoing support is needed for Syrian students to continue their education. By joining PEER, your organization can feature scholarship, online, and language learning opportunities as well as any additional services you may offer to students in need. Organizations who join PEER will have the opportunity to join a network of committed organizations and to learn more about their initiatives and programming.
Designing PEER
Meeting the Need

- Mobile friendly
- Low bandwidth
- Quick loading times
- App download not required
- Available offline
- Multilingual
• 20,000 PEER users in the last 7 days
• 1.2 million unique users since March 2017
• 150,000 – 12% – return visitors
• 7.2 million hits since launch
• 47% bounce rate
• 2:24 minutes average time spent on site
• Most PEER users are between ages of 18-34
• 28% of users are female; 72% of users are male
• Users have accessed the site from 214 countries around the world
• Top origin countries of use: Syria, Turkey, Jordan, Lebanon and Germany during the first two months after PEER site launch
• Most users access the site through mobile devices.
Challenges / Lessons Learned

• Maintaining updated database
• Monitoring student success
• Collecting impact stories
• MENA specific opportunities
“For an average person who is living in a peaceful country, being accepted in a scholarship is a life changing experience. It is an opportunity to make dreams come true. For a person like me who is living in a war torn country and whose passport is only accepted in very few countries in the world, it is not an exaggeration to say that being accepted in a scholarship is like achieving the impossible. IIE made every dream possible and achievable for me.”

--Syrian Student and Scholarship Recipient
March 2017: PEER website launched
Fall 2017: Addition of Arabic content and resources to the website
Spring 2018: Addition of virtual student advising and mentoring services
Spring 2018: Expansion to other displaced and refugee student populations
Fall 2019: First annual PEER conference
Spring 2019: In-depth research on higher education in emergencies
Call to Action
Support the PEER Initiative by:

• Entering your organization’s scholarship, online and language learning opportunities into the PEER database;
• Encouraging your university or organization to offer scholarships and higher learning opportunities to displaced students;
• Sharing ideas for collaboration and partnership across organizations;
• Encouraging use of PEER across organizational networks, and among colleagues and students.
We invite you to reach out.

Katherine Miller  (kamiller@iie.org)
Global Education in Emergencies Specialist, IIE
Thank you!

Follow us on Social Media
Facebook: www.facebook.com/IIEPEER
Twitter: www.twitter.com/IIEPEER