

Aliim

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Where are you headquartered?

A. Aliim Corporation, known as “Aliim”, is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, headquartered in New York, with team members located in Lebanon, Germany, the Netherlands, Mexico, Uganda, and the U.S.

Q. What does Aliim mean?

A. Aliim is a derivative of the noun “تعلم” which means “learning, education, study” in Arabic.

Q. What kind of smartphone is required to use your learning platform?

A. Any Android based smartphone.

Q. How will your program keep tabs on the children who receive the smartphones? Will they receive assignments and ongoing correspondence from teachers, or is all coursework completed through the app?

A. We will keep track of each student’s progress through the classroom management platform accessed through an app on the smartphone, which notifies the student, their parents, mentors, and Aliim program supervisors of important learning indicators. When a student is struggling with a specific concept, the student’s assigned mentor will reach out to the student directly through the app to provide support. Supplemental learning material will also be provided through the app. If needed, the student’s mentor may go over the supplemental learning materials with the student, providing further explanations over a video conferencing platform like Skype. If problems persist, Aliim supervisors will meet with the student and their parents in person to discuss what additional support the student needs to progress through the program.

Q. How long will the pilot program run?

A. The pilot program will run for a normal school year, 9 months.

Q. Will courses be taught in English or Arabic?

A. Courses will be in Arabic, except for the English module which will be both Arabic and English. In phase two of our program, we will include an English translation of each lesson and activity. This will help students learn English faster as it provides more exposure to the language.

Q. How much will your crowdfunding effort aim to raise?

A. \$75,000 which will provide the Smartphone Schools program to 250 Syrian refugee youth ages 12-15 for one school year.

Q. What other refugee populations do you hope to reach next?

A. The pilot program is targeted at refugee girls because we believe they are the most vulnerable, but we intend to focus on expanding the program to include boys as possible. We also hope to expand to reach more Syrian refugees in Jordan, Turkey, and Western Europe. We are also looking into how our mobile learning framework can help South Sudanese refugees.

Q. How big is your team?

A. We are a small team of 10 core people and a growing network of mentors and volunteers.