Vocational Education and Training Centre

For students without the Tawjihi secondary school examination or those who left school after tenth grade, the center offers the following training programs (with certificates accredited by the Palestinian Ministry of Labor):

- Cooking course
- Secretarial work
- Executive secretarial labour
- Housekeeping
- IT course
- English or German Language course
- Specialist courses in Hotel Management and Tourism

„Due to the increase of tourists’ number and the new investments in the hospitality industry from hotels, restaurants and other recreational places, more professional jobs are needed and our aim in the college is to provide the labor market with well qualified graduates to contribute to the proficiency of these different jobs.”

Laurette Abu Jaber, Dean of the Community College

Vocational Course in Cooking

Within ten months students will develop skills in the English language, service, cost control, menu planning, nutrition, and food science. Moreover, they will learn how to cook traditional and international cuisine. Lessons will take place two days a week in the teaching kitchen of the Talitha Kumi Community College and will be supplemented four days a week by practical training in the hospitality service industry.

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Talitha Kumi – Community College
Vocational Education and Training Centre
Beginnings of Talitha Kumi Community College

Talitha Kumi is a German-Palestinian educational institution located in Beit Jala, near Bethlehem. It offers education to children from kindergarten through to the Palestinian Tawjihi secondary examination and the German Abitur high school diploma. The school center is run by the Berlin Mission (Berliner Missionswerk).

From its very beginnings in 1851, Talitha Kumi has been offering educational opportunities that are open to everyone. These were augmented in the mid-1990s by a one-year vocational training program offered in the field of hotel business.

Based on the established German “dual system” for apprentices, Talitha Kumi taught theory courses in conjunction with supplemental job training at Talitha Kumi Guest House and hotels in the Bethlehem region and Jerusalem. This dual system was the first of its kind in the area. After the successful inauguration of this training program, Talitha Kumi was able to open Talitha Kumi Community College in 2000, specializing in hotel business careers up to diploma level. The graduates receive certificates accredited by the Ministry of Higher Education. College students are given the opportunity to take part in an exchange program with the Dietrich-Bonhoeffer-Haus hotel in Berlin, Germany.

Education and Training for Careers in the Tourism Sector

We aspire to give everyone the chance to be successful in his or her life and to become a respected, active member of our society. Moreover, we want our students to explore and develop their distinct skills and talents. So we accept each and every student who has passed the Tawjihi, irrespective of the grade achieved. To enrich the burgeoning tourism sector with a qualified labor force, we provide our students with a detailed knowledge of hospitality; this is achieved not only through theory courses, but also through extensive on-the-job training in related businesses. By exchanging experiences with various specialized colleges locally and abroad we are also striving to improve the standard of our education in the long term.

Admission: Students can attend Talitha Kumi Community College after the twelfth school grade. To do so, the applicant must provide evidence of a good level of spoken and written English and take an interview with the college staff. More information: www.talithakumi.org/en/vocational-training-centre.html

Graduation: To graduate from Talitha Kumi Community College, candidates must successfully complete all the mandatory courses in four semesters by scoring a minimum accumulative average of 60 percent.

Diploma after two Years of Studies

Students can choose between three different courses of study:

Students of Hotel Management will learn not only about management and business communication, accounting, and economics but also about hospitality, food production, and housekeeping. These skills will be enhanced by on-the-job training in related companies. The students will also receive language instruction to improve their competence in both Arabic and English.

Students of Food & Beverage Management will learn about food production, hygiene, healthy nutrition, and tourism. They will acquire German language competence, as well as improving their English. Their skills will be reinforced by on-the-job training.

Students of Rooms Division Management will gain knowledge of reception, housekeeping, and communication technology while also becoming proficient in marketing, economics, and sales, all enriched by on-the-job training in related companies.