CRESCENT ACADEMY INTERNATIONAL

Faith • Knowledge • Unity • Service

In the Name of God, the Beneficent, the Merciful

Zakat Distribution Policy

Purpose and Guiding Principles

Crescent Academy International is a faith-based K–12 Islamic school committed to providing a holistic education that integrates academic excellence, Islamic studies, Qur'anic learning, and character development rooted in Islamic values. Recognizing zakat as a sacred obligation and trust, Crescent administers zakat funds with care, transparency, and adherence to established Islamic legal principles.

Zakat funds accepted by Crescent are distributed solely in accordance with the categories of eligible recipients outlined in the Qur'an (9:60) and as interpreted by qualified Sunni scholars.

Zakat funds are allocated to zakat-eligible families in accordance with established principles of Islamic law and may, upon their authorization, be applied toward qualifying educational expenses.

Zakat Eligibility Framework

Crescent administers zakat on behalf of zakat-eligible families whose financial circumstances fall under the recognized categories of *fuqarāʾ* (the poor), *masākīn* (the needy), or *al-ghārimūn* (those burdened by debt).

As Crescent serves minors who are legally and financially dependent on their parents or guardians, zakat eligibility is determined based on the financial status of the household, not the individual student. Zakat is applied in a manner that alleviates financial hardship faced by eligible families and ensures that access to Islamic education is not prevented due to economic constraints.

Role of Crescent Academy International

Crescent serves as an administrator and distributor of zakat funds on behalf of eligible families. Zakat funds are not treated as unrestricted institutional revenue. Rather, they are applied in a manner consistent with donor intention and Islamic legal guidelines.

Zakat funds allocated to eligible families may, upon their authorization, be applied by Crescent Academy toward qualifying educational expenses.

Eligibility is determined through a confidential needs-based review process overseen by designated school leadership and financial aid personnel, with appropriate documentation and internal controls.

Permissible Uses of Zakat Funds

Zakat funds administered by Crescent may be applied to direct, student-related educational expenses for zakat-eligible families, including but not limited to:

- Tuition obligations
- Mandatory educational fees
- Meal costs incurred on behalf of zakat-eligible students
- Required textbooks and instructional materials
- *Zakat assistance awarded based on documented financial eligibility*

These applications reflect the intent of zakat to relieve hardship and support essential needs while enabling access to Islamic education.

Zakat funds may not be used for general institutional operations, capital improvements, administrative overhead, fundraising costs, or long-term development initiatives. Such expenses are funded through sadaqah and other non-zakat contributions.

Ethical Considerations and Donor Guidance

Individuals may not discharge their personal zakat obligations by directing zakat to those whom they are legally required to support. Crescent administers pooled zakat funds independently and allocates them solely on the basis of documented eligibility.

Donors are encouraged to consult their own trusted scholars regarding their individual zakat obligations.

Commitment to Transparency and Trust

Crescent is committed to stewarding zakat funds with integrity, accountability, and respect for donor intention. Clear distinction is maintained between zakat and sadaqah contributions, and Crescent endeavors to communicate transparently with its community regarding the application and impact of zakat funds.

Crescent Academy International remains committed to administering zakat in a manner consistent with established Sunni jurisprudential principles.