

Extending Knowledge Beyond Our Classrooms

In the 21st century, a university's role extends far beyond its enrolled students. As a national institution dedicated to the public good, The Public Authority for Applied Education and Training (PAAET) is committed to opening its doors and sharing its knowledge with all of Kuwait.

We believe that education is a lifelong journey, and our resources should be a catalyst for learning, innovation, and growth for everyone. This page showcases how we provide **free access to our educational resources for non-students**, reinforcing our commitment to building an informed and skilled society. These initiatives operate under PAAET's **Open Access and Community Engagement Policy (2023)**, which formalizes free public access to educational resources and ensures sustainable governance through the Library and Information Services Department.

How We Serve the Community: Our Open Access Initiatives

PAAET has developed a strategic, multi-level approach to community access, ensuring we serve the public effectively while maintaining our primary focus on student education.

1. Access to Our Physical Spaces & Libraries

We open our physical campuses to the community, providing a space for research and collaboration. This on-site access is provided free of charge to registered community members, including non-PAAET learners.

- **Community Library Access:** Alumni and registered members of the public can access our physical library collections for on-site reading and reference.
- **Facility Sharing:** Through formal partnerships with schools and professional bodies, we provide scheduled access to specialized facilities like computer labs and workshops.



PAAET's libraries provide free access to learning resources for students and the wider community.

In 2024, more than 500 community members visited our libraries and used learning facilities, and our digital repository recorded over 1000 public downloads of open educational resources.

2. Free Digital Educational Resources (OER)

Knowledge should have no boundaries. PAAET is dedicated to making its academic output available to all.

- **Institutional Repository:** Our publicly accessible digital repository hosts a wealth of resources, including faculty research, recorded lectures, and specially created Open Educational Resources (OER) like course modules.



PAAET's digital platforms make education and resources accessible anytime, anywhere.

3. Public Events & Lifelong Learning

We bring the academy to the public through a dynamic schedule of events and learning opportunities.

- **Public Lecture Series:** We regularly host free lectures on topics of public interest, from technology to culture, featuring our distinguished faculty and guest experts.
- **Free Workshops & Seminars:** Our Continuing Education Center offers numerous free short courses and seminars on essential skills like digital literacy and professional development.



A public lecture hosted by PAAET to enhance research awareness and lifelong learning among students and the wider community.

Our Impact: Building a Knowledge-Based Society in Kuwait

By adopting this tiered model of openness, PAAET directly supports Kuwait's national development goals under **Vision 2035 "New Kuwait"**. We are not just a place of learning for students; we are a vital community hub that:

- Fosters a culture of lifelong learning.
- Democratizes access to high-quality knowledge.
- Strengthens the intellectual and social fabric of the nation.

The Future of Open Access at PAAET

Building on this strong foundation, we are excited to expand our impact. Our future initiatives aim to:

- **Launch the "PAAET Open" Portal:** A single, user-friendly online platform consolidating all our free resources.
- **Enhance Community Membership:** Developing new membership tiers for alumni and partners to access more digital resources.
- **Create a "Community Scholar" Program:** Allowing external professionals and researchers to apply for temporary access to our specialized resources.

Together, we are building a more educated, innovative, and connected Kuwait.