

Jordanian Judicial Institute (JJI) Overview

Website: www.jij.gov.jo

About the Institute

- Established in 1988.
- A national center of legal excellence that prepares candidates for judicial positions through a diploma program.
- Offers advanced training for judges and justice sector workers both locally and internationally.

Mission, Vision, and Values

- **Mission:** Enhance justice sector performance through the qualification of candidates, judges, and justice personnel, while conducting legal research and studies.
- **Vision:** Excellence in achieving justice.
- **Core Values:** Independence, neutrality, integrity, accountability, respect, innovation and excellence, effective partnership, equality, professionalism, transparency.

Strategic Goals

1. Qualify individuals for judicial positions and enhance judges' competence.
2. Enhance skills of public sector employees.
3. Develop legal research capabilities.
4. Strengthen collaboration with local, regional, and international institutions.
5. Promote legal awareness in society.

Legal Framework

- Operates under Judicial Institute Regulation No. (49) of 2020 and Administrative Organization Regulation No. (22) of 2021.
- Internal regulations include guidelines for conduct, acceptance of non-Jordanian candidates, certificate issuance, training fees, etc.

Organizational Structure

The organizational structure of the Jordanian Judicial Institute reflects a comprehensive institutional framework within the judiciary. Key components include:

- **Judicial Authority:** Encompassing courts, the public prosecution, and internal oversight units.
- **Administrative and Technical Bodies:** Supporting the operations of the Judicial Council.
- **Judicial Council:** Oversees the broader structure and direction.
- **Board of Directors:** The governing body of the Institute, including:
 - The President of the Judicial Council (Chairman)
 - The President of the High Administrative Court (Vice Chairman)

- The Chief Public Prosecutor
- The Chief Inspector of Courts
- The Secretary General of the Ministry of Labor
- The Director General of the Judicial Institute
- Two judges of special rank or higher
- Two faculty members from public law schools in Jordan

Duties of the Board of Directors:

- Formulating the general policy of the Institute.
- Approving plans related to the organization of the Institute's affairs and supervising their implementation.
- Recommending to the Judicial Council the holding of continuous training courses, seminars, and workshops for judges.
- Approving the nomination of part-time lecturers as recommended by the Scientific Committee.
- Approving the study curricula for the Judicial Institute's diploma and other qualification programs, based on the recommendation of the Scientific Committee.
- Establishing the rules and criteria for selecting the approved number of candidates for admission to the Judicial Institute diploma program, in coordination with the Judicial Council.
- Determining the start and end dates of the academic year for any of the training programs offered by the Institute, including semesters, their schedules, vacations (semester and annual), and study/work hours.
- Establishing examination regulations, including setting dates, methods of administration, and monitoring procedures.
- Approving examination results.
- Approving the fees for training programs offered by the Institute, based on the recommendations of the Scientific Committee.
- Determining the compensation and wages paid for teaching or training, in accordance with regulations issued for this purpose.
- Issuing regulations governing student conduct, disciplinary procedures, and applicable disciplinary sanctions.

Duties of the Scientific Committee:

- Recommending the scientific standards and criteria for selecting faculty members.
- Recommending the names of part-time lecturers to work at the Institute.
- Preparing curricula and study plans for the Judicial Institute diploma program.
- Proposing continuous training courses, seminars, and workshops.
- Establishing criteria for evaluating faculty members.
- Seeking the assistance of experts and specialists for the purpose of developing plans and detailing the content of study curricula and programs offered by the Institute.

Performance Excellence

- Received several national and regional awards:
 - King Abdullah II Award for Government Excellence (2014–2015).
 - 1st place in legislation sector (2016–2017).
 - 2nd place in Arab Judicial Training Excellence Shield (2022).

Strategic Plan (2022–2026)

Objectives include:

- Improving operational efficiency and resources.
- Strengthening partnerships.
- Digitizing training and administrative systems.
- Enhancing alignment with international accreditation standards.

Key Achievements (2024–2025)

- 85% progress on international accreditation requirements.
- Launch of an updated e-learning platform and digital library.
- Introduction of a renewed academic journal.
- Smart building infrastructure.
- Simulation and AI-based training methodologies.

Judicial Diploma Program

Admission Requirements for the Judicial Institute Diploma Program:

- Jordanian nationality, under 35 years old.
- Clean legal and ethical record.
- A law degree with minimum GPA of "Good", or equivalent qualifications as detailed.
- The applicant must have achieved a minimum average of 70% in the General Secondary Education Certificate (Tawjihi) in the scientific, literary, or information management stream, or an equivalent qualification. In addition, the applicant must meet one of the following conditions:
 - Hold a bachelor's degree in law with a minimum grade of "Good" from a faculty of law at a Jordanian university, or an equivalent law degree from a recognized faculty of law abroad, provided the study was on a full-time basis and the degree is recognized for judicial appointments in the country where it was awarded;
- OR
- Be a licensed practicing lawyer ("ustadh lawyer");
- OR
- Have served in a first-category position in the Ministry of Justice or the General Secretariat of the Judicial Council for:
 - Three years after obtaining the bachelor's degree in law;

- Two years after obtaining a master's degree in law;
- One year after obtaining a doctorate in law.
- The applicant may also be eligible if they are nominated (sponsored) and hold either a bachelor's or master's degree in law, in accordance with the Scientific Scholarships Regulation of the Ministry of Justice.
- The applicant must be among the top ten graduates of their class in the academic year of graduation from a faculty of law at a Jordanian university, within the last three years from the date of the admission competition announcement.
- The applicant must not have been previously expelled from the Institute for any reason, nor have failed the admission exam three times.
- The applicant must pass the admission competition held by the Admission Competition Committee, as stipulated in Article (11) of the Institute's regulations.

Curriculum:

- 33 courses over two academic years.
- The academic year for the diploma program consists of three semesters, each with a duration of 16 weeks:
- Two academic semesters are dedicated to courses and study materials (subjects and modules).
- The third semester is a practical training semester, which includes:
- Apprenticeship-style learning (shadowing judges) at magistrate courts.
- Mock trials (simulated court proceedings).
- Classroom discussion sessions (interactive legal discussions).
- Field visits to institutions related to the judicial field.

Training Methodology

- Based on real needs of judges and legal professionals.
- Utilizes modern frameworks like Bloom's Taxonomy and McCarthy model.
- Scientific committee validates training content.
- Continuous quality measurement (e.g., Kirkpatrick model).

Library and Digital Resources

- Over 17,000 legal books and digital materials.
- Legal databases: Qistas, Maarefah, Adalah, Qararuk.
- MARC 21 indexing system.
- Digital rights management for content access.

Faculty Selection Criteria

- Minimum years of legal or academic experience depending on degree level.

- Includes judges, academics, lawyers, and domain experts.
- Evaluated using a 200-point scale; minimum 120 required for appointment.

Competitions and Additional Programs

In Addition to the Diploma Admission Competitions, the Judicial Institute Also Organizes the Following Legal and Judicial Competitions:

- Judicial Police Competition for legal officers from the Public Security Directorate.
- Customs Public Prosecution Competition for legal professionals at the Jordan Customs Department.
- Legal Advisor Competition for the Ministry of Labor.
- Judiciary and Public Prosecution Competition for the Civil Defense Directorate.
- Military Judiciary Competition.
- Judicial Competition for the Gendarmerie Forces.
- Competitive Mock Trial Competitions for law students, organized in collaboration with primary and secondary partners.

Facilities

- Eco-friendly building using solar power and water harvesting.
- Fully accessible for people with disabilities.
- Built over 14,090 m² in Amman.

International, Regional, and Local Partnerships

- Collaborations with institutions in France, Egypt, Oman, UAE, Libya, and others.
- Active in the Euro-Arab Judicial Training Network.
- Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) with:
 - IDLO, UN Women, ABA, USAID, GIZ, Max Planck Institute, and more.

Standards and Criteria for Selecting and Evaluating Faculty Members at the Judicial Institute:

Eligible candidates for teaching positions at the Judicial Institute include:

1. Judges of the regular courts, whether currently serving or retired, who have completed at least:
 - 15 years of judicial service, or
 - 12 years if holding a Master's degree in law, or
 - 10 years if holding a PhD in law.
2. Faculty members from Jordanian universities, provided that:
 - Their academic rank is at least Associate Professor.
 - Former university faculty members may also be appointed.

3. Licensed senior lawyers ("ustadh" lawyers) with no less than 15 years of legal practice.
 - A combination of judicial and legal practice experience may be counted toward this requirement.
4. Visiting Arab and foreign judges and university professors from Arab and international institutions.
5. Specialist lecturers in technical fields relevant to student training, provided they have at least 5 years of professional experience in their area of specialization.

Additionally:

- A training quality measurement methodology and a faculty selection evaluation system are applied.
- A point-based evaluation is used, with a minimum of 120 out of 200 points required for acceptance as a first-time or returning lecturer.