

Communication Regarding Fasting in Schools and Academic Institutions

Subject: Fasting in schools & institutions

Dear Sir/Madam,

We would like to inform you that there is a holy month of the Islamic calendar called Ramadhan, in which Muslims of all denominations fast every day. The month that it falls on varies from year to year as it is based on a lunar calendar. During the month of Ramadhan able bodied Muslims, who have reached the age of puberty, observe fasting from morning twilight to after sunset.

As students who are fasting cannot eat or drink during lunch, we kindly request schools and academic institutions discuss reasonable accommodations with the observant individual(s). This would allow for the student(s) to observe their religious practice in a manner that does not compromise their beliefs or feel marginalized amongst other students who are having their lunch. We hope you understand this religious obligation and appreciate your support in this situation.

This communication was issued in response to the high number of requests from the guardians of Muslim students for an official letter explaining this intricacy of the Islamic religion. I.M.A.M. is a non-profit religious organization authorized and commissioned by the supreme religious authority of Shia Muslims, which has been based in the Seminary of Najaf in Iraq for more than a millennium, to support and serve the Shia Muslim community in North America.

For more information, please do not hesitate to contact us through any of the communication channels listed below.

Sincerely,

I.M.A.M.