

Law No. (13) of 2021
Establishing the
Dubai Academic Health Institution¹

We, Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Ruler of Dubai,

After perusal of:

Law No. (5) of 1995 Establishing the Department of Finance;

Law No. (3) of 2003 Establishing the Executive Council of the Emirate of Dubai;

Law No. (9) of 2011 Concerning the Dubai Healthcare City;

Law No. (10) of 2012 Establishing Al Jalila Medical Education and Research Support Foundation and its amendments;

Law No. (1) of 2016 Concerning the Financial Regulations of the Government of Dubai and its Implementing Bylaw;

Law No. (7) of 2016 Establishing the Mohammed bin Rashid University of Medicine and Health Sciences;

Law No. (4) of 2018 Establishing the Financial Audit Authority;

Law No. (6) of 2018 Concerning the Dubai Health Authority and its amendments;

Law No. (5) of 2021 Concerning the Dubai International Financial Centre;

Decree No. (22) of 2009 Concerning Special Development Zones in the Emirate of Dubai;

Decree No. (9) of 2012 Approving a Pricing Method for Dubai Health Authority Services;

Decree No. (23) of 2012 Forming the Board of Trustees of Al Jalila Medical Education and Research Support Foundation;

Decree No. (28) of 2015 Concerning Governance of the Boards and Committees Affiliated to the Government of Dubai;

Decree No. (30) of 2016 Concerning Al Jalila Children's Speciality Hospital;

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¹Every effort has been made to produce an accurate and complete English version of this legislation. However, for the purpose of its interpretation and application, reference must be made to the original Arabic text. In case of conflict, the Arabic text will prevail.

Decree No. (17) of 2018 Establishing the Corporations Affiliated to the Dubai Health Authority and Determining their Functions;

Decree No. (23) of 2019 Forming the Board of Trustees of the Mohammed bin Rashid University of Medicine and Health Sciences;

Decree No. (29) of 2020 Forming the Supreme Committee for Development of the Government Sector in the Emirate of Dubai;

Decree No. (10) of 2021 Replacing a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Mohammed bin Rashid University of Medicine and Health Sciences;

Executive Council Resolution No. (17) of 2017 Concerning the Conduct of Medical Tests in the Emirate of Dubai;

Executive Council Resolution No. (18) of 2018 Approving the Organisational Structure of the Dubai Health Authority;

The legislation establishing and regulating free zones in the Emirate of Dubai; and

The presentation of the Chairman of the Supreme Committee for Development of the Government Sector in the Emirate of Dubai,

Do hereby issue this Law.

Title of the Law Article (1)

This Law will be cited as "Law No. (13) of 2021 Establishing the Dubai Academic Health Institution".

Definitions Article (2)

The following words and expressions, wherever mentioned in this Law, will have the meaning indicated opposite each of them unless the context implies otherwise:

UAE: The United Arab Emirates.

Emirate: The Emirate of Dubai.

Ruler: His Highness the Ruler of Dubai.

Government: The Government of Dubai.

Executive Council: The Executive Council of the Emirate of Dubai.

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| DHA: | The Dubai Health Authority. |
| DAHI: | The Dubai Academic Health Institution. |
| Board of Directors: | The board of directors of the DAHI. |
| CEO: | The chief executive officer of the DAHI. |
| Health Sector: | All components of the health system whose objective is to protect Public Health and provide Healthcare and Health Services. |
| Health Services: | The services provided by Healthcare facilities, including hospitals; primary and specialised Healthcare centres; and medical fitness, Public Health, and occupational health centres. |
| Healthcare Staff: | Any of the DAHI employees who practise medical professions, or related professions, as specified by the relevant federal and local legislation. |

Establishment of the DAHI Article (3)

Pursuant to this Law, a public institution named the “Dubai Academic Health Institution” is established as an academic and health organisation. The DAHI will have legal personality, financial and administrative autonomy, and the legal capacity required to undertake all acts and dispositions that ensure the achievement of its objectives.

Head Office of the DAHI Article (4)

The head office of the DAHI will be located in the Emirate. The DAHI may establish branches and other offices in the Emirate pursuant to a resolution of the Board of Directors.

Objectives of the DAHI Article (5)

The DAHI aims to:

1. enhance Health Services in the Emirate through an academic health system that ensures integration between Healthcare, medical education, and scientific research;

2. enhance the efficiency and quality of, and accessibility to, scientifically proven Health Services in accordance with the best international standards and practices;
3. promote the sustainability and resilience of the Health Sector services in the Emirate, with a view to achieving the desired outcomes of the health system;
4. contribute to supporting the leading role of the Emirate in academic education and scientific research in the field of medicine and health sciences in a manner that supports the knowledge-based economy;
5. develop, attract, and retain medical and research qualified staff and promote Emiratisation in all areas of the Health Sector;
6. create a favourable environment for conducting scientific and clinical research that promote the health outcomes of individuals and of the community;
7. contribute to promoting the level of readiness and competitiveness of the Health Sector in the Emirate by supporting and developing Healthcare and the means to prevent and treat diseases and epidemics in accordance with the latest health systems; and
8. promote the Emirate as a leading international medical and Healthcare hub, a medical and wellness tourism destination, and a leading destination for medical education and scientific research and innovation.

Functions of the DAHI Article (6)

For the purpose of achieving its objectives, the DAHI will have the duties and powers to:

1. develop and implement its strategy in line with the strategy of the Health Sector in the Emirate;
2. ensure integration of Health Services in a manner that achieves operational efficiency and competency at different levels of Healthcare, with a view to ensuring the safety and satisfaction of recipients of Health Services;
3. manage, operate, and develop Healthcare facilities, including hospitals; primary and specialised Healthcare centres; and medical fitness, Public Health, and occupational health centres, whether directly or by contracting with third parties;
4. provide therapeutic and preventive Health Services and medical fitness and occupational health test services in the Emirate, including in Special Development Zones and free zones, such as the Dubai International Financial Centre. The DAHI

may, in accordance with the relevant rules and standards it adopts, authorise third parties to provide certain administrative services related to medical fitness and occupational health tests;

5. provide Health Services to various segments of the community at fair and reasonable prices in accordance with international health and medical standards;
6. provide and purchase supplies, pharmaceuticals, and other requisites needed for its Healthcare facilities;
7. support the knowledge-based economy by promoting research and innovation and by attracting investments in the fields of health and biotechnology, with a view to achieving the objectives of the DAHI;
8. develop its Healthcare facilities, and the services and programmes they provide, to obtain international accreditation;
9. conduct studies to develop new Healthcare facilities and programmes or broaden the scope of all Health Services and health programmes;
10. develop and provide academic and occupational programmes for the Healthcare Staff, such as medical education programmes, residency programmes, and continuing medical education programmes, with a view to developing and promoting the institutional capacity and competency required for managing Healthcare facilities and their programmes and organisational units;
11. organise and participate in local and overseas medical events and conferences in coordination with the DHA and concerned entities;
12. own and take lease of movable and immovable property, materials, devices, equipment, and systems as required to enable the DAHI to exercise its duties and powers under this Law and the legislation in force in the Emirate;
13. invest the property of the DAHI and dispose of the same in any legal manner, with a view to ensuring the achievement of its objectives;
14. promote cooperation and strategic partnerships with Government Entities and with the private sector, with a view to supporting the achievement of the DAHI objectives; and
15. exercise any other duties or powers required for enabling the DAHI to achieve its objectives under this Law.

DAHI Affiliates
Article (7)

- a. As of the effective date of this Law, the following entities are hereby affiliated to the DAHI:
1. the Dubai Healthcare Corporation of the DHA and its hospitals and organisational units;
 2. the Mohammed bin Rashid University of Medicine and Health Sciences;
 3. Al Jalila Medical Education and Research Support Foundation;
 4. Al Jalila Children's Speciality Hospital; and
 5. any other entity to be affiliated to the DAHI pursuant to legislation issued by the Ruler.
- b. As of the effective date of this Law and for a period of six (6) months afterwards, the entities referred to in paragraph (a) of this Article will retain the legal personality granted to them under their establishing legislation or the legislation regulating their work, and will exercise the duties and powers assigned to them by such legislation under the supervision of the DAHI, provided that these duties and powers do not conflict with the functions of the DAHI.
- c. The DAHI may, within the period stated in paragraph (b) of this Article, seek the assistance of the executive body of the DHA to provide any administrative or technical support services to the DAHI. The DHA must provide all required support to the DAHI to enable it to perform its duties under this Law.
- d. The Board of Directors must, prior to expiry of the period referred to in paragraph (b) of this Article, submit the following through the Supreme Committee for Development of the Government Sector, formed pursuant to the above-mentioned Decree No. (29) of 2020, for approval by the Executive Council:
1. the final proposal of the governance framework of the DAHI, and the duties and powers of the DAHI and the entities referred to in paragraph (a) of this Article;
 2. the final proposal of the organisational structure of the DAHI and the entities that will retain their legal personality and perform their duties and functions under the supervision of the DAHI;
 3. the final proposal of the entities to be dissolved, merged, or transferred; and

4. the strategic plan and programmes, and key performance indicators, of the DAHI.

Board of Directors of the DAHI

Article (8)

- a. The DAHI will have a Board of Directors comprised of a chairman, a vice chairman, and a number of other members who are experienced and specialised in the fields related to the work of the DAHI. Members of the Board of Directors will be appointed pursuant to a decree of the Ruler.
- b. In addition to any provisions related to the governance of boards of directors, as adopted by the Board of Directors in this regard, the provisions of the above-mentioned Decree No. (28) of 2015 or any other superseding legislation will apply to the work of the Board of Directors, particularly to the duties of the chairman and members of the Board of Directors.

Functions of the Board of Directors

Article (9)

- a. The Board of Directors will undertake general supervision of the exercise by the DAHI of its duties and powers under this Law, the resolutions issued in pursuance hereof, and other legislation in force in the Emirate, with a view to achieving the objectives of the DAHI. In particular, the Board of Directors will have the duties and powers to:
 1. approve, and supervise the implementation of, the general policy; strategic, operational, investment, and development plans; work programmes; and projects of the DAHI;
 2. approve the vision, mission, values, and the future orientations of the DAHI in line with the governance principles adopted by the DAHI in this respect;
 3. develop and follow up implementation of the investment plans aimed to enable the DAHI to achieve full financial autonomy and to self-finance its programmes and projects in a manner that enables it to achieve financial sustainability in line with the health investment policy of the Emirate;
 4. approve the organisational structure, draft annual budget, and Financial Statements of the DAHI;
 5. approve, in coordination with the Department of Finance, fees and charges for the services provided by the DAHI, in accordance with the pricing method adopted by the DHA pursuant to the above-mentioned Decree No. (9) of 2012;

6. determine the ceiling of public borrowing and credit facilities that may be obtained by the DAHI, in accordance with the relevant policies and procedures approved by the Board of Directors in coordination with the Department of Finance;
 7. approve the resolutions, policies, and bylaws regulating the administrative, financial, and technical work of the DAHI;
 8. supervise the work of the DAHI and follow up the performance of its duties in an efficient and effective manner, in line with the adopted policies, plans, and strategic programmes and with a view to improving the Health Services it provides;
 9. appoint, and determine the remuneration of, external auditors for projects implemented by the DAHI in partnership with the Government sector and the private sector; and review the reports and notes submitted by these auditors at the end of each Financial Year;
 10. approve the periodic reports submitted to it on the performance of the DAHI, and present the same to the Executive Council;
 11. form permanent or temporary sub-committees and work teams, from amongst the employees of the DAHI or other persons, to assist it in performing its duties; and determine the duties and powers of such sub-committees and work teams; and
 12. exercise any other duties or powers assigned to it by the Ruler or the Chairman of the Executive Council.
- b. In addition to the functions assigned to it under paragraph (a) of this Article, the Board of Directors will exercise the duties and powers assigned to the following boards under the legislation in force:
1. the Board of Trustees of the Mohammed bin Rashid University of Medicine and Health Sciences; and
 2. the Board of Trustees and the Board of Directors of Al Jalila Medical Education and Research Support Foundation.
- c. The Board of Directors may delegate any of its powers under paragraphs (a) and (b) of this Article to a committee comprised of members of the Board of Directors, to any of the Board of Directors members, or to the CEO, provided that such delegation is specific and in writing.

Meetings of the Board of Directors
Article (10)

- a. The Board of Directors will convene at the invitation of the chairman, or the vice chairman if the chairman is absent, at least six (6) times a year and where necessary. Meetings of the Board of Directors will be valid if attended by the majority of its members, provided that the chairman or vice chairman is in attendance.
- b. Resolutions and recommendations of the Board of Directors will be passed by majority vote of attending members; and in the event of a tie, the chair of the meeting will have a casting vote. Resolutions and recommendations of the Board of Directors will be recorded in minutes of meetings signed by the chair of the meeting and attending members.
- c. The Board of Directors may invite experts and specialists, as it deems appropriate, to attend its meetings and to assist it in performing its duties under this Law and the resolutions issued in pursuance hereof. These experts and specialists will not have a vote in the deliberations of the Board of Directors.
- d. A rapporteur will be appointed to the Board of Directors by its chairman. The rapporteur will be responsible for sending meeting invitations to members of the Board of Directors; preparing its meeting agendas; recording its minutes of meetings; following up the implementation of its resolutions and recommendations; and performing any other duties assigned to him by the chairman of the Board of Directors.

CEO
Article (11)

A CEO will be appointed to the DAHI pursuant to a resolution issued by the Chairman of the Executive Council upon the recommendation of the Board of Directors.

Functions of the CEO
Article (12)

- a. The CEO will manage the DAHI, will ensure that it is performing its functions in an effective and efficient manner, and will be directly responsible to the Board of Directors for performing the duties assigned to him under this Law, the resolutions issued in pursuance hereof, and other legislation in force in the Emirate. In particular, the CEO will have the duties and powers to:
 - 1. propose the general policy and the strategic, development, and operational plans of the DAHI in line with the approved strategic plan of the Emirate for the Health

- Sector; submit the same to the Board of Directors for approval; and follow up their implementation;
2. prepare, review, analyse, and implement the operational and action plans of the DAHI and its strategic initiatives, including projects and programmes; and prepare the relevant annual budgets;
 3. draft the resolutions, policies, and bylaws regulating the financial, administrative, and technical work of the DAHI; and submit the same to the Board of Directors for approval;
 4. approve financial transactions subject to the rules stipulated in the financial regulations and bylaws applicable to the DAHI and the table of financial approval powers adopted by Board of Directors;
 5. prepare the draft organisational structure, annual budget, and Financial Statements of the DAHI; and submit the same to the Board of Directors for approval;
 6. oversee the technical, financial, and administrative performance of the DAHI; and submit the relevant reports to the Board of Directors;
 7. prepare Health Services quality assessment reports, and submit the same to the Board of Directors for approval;
 8. propose fees, prices, and charges for the services provided by the DAHI in accordance with the general policy approved by the Board of Directors, in coordination with the Department of Finance, and in accordance with the pricing method approved by the DHA pursuant to the above-mentioned Decree No. (9) of 2012; and submit the same to the Board of Directors for approval;
 9. represent the DAHI before third parties and conclude, within the limits of his approved powers, contracts, agreements, and memoranda of understanding with local and international entities in fields that are relevant to the work of the DAHI;
 10. open and manage accounts with banks within and outside of the Emirate, obtain the necessary loans and credit facilities, and provide appropriate guarantees and mortgage security, including the mortgage of assets and other property, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors and in coordination with the Department of Finance;
 11. supervise performance by the executive body of the DAHI of its duties under this Law, the resolutions issued in pursuance hereof, and other legislation in force in the Emirate; and submit the relevant periodic reports to the Board of Directors;

12. approve the performance indicators system of the executive body of the DAHI;
and
 13. exercise any other duties or powers assigned or delegated to him by the Board of Directors.
- b. The CEO may delegate to any of the DAHI officials any of his powers under paragraph (a) of this Article, provided that such delegation is specific, in writing, and in accordance with the relevant table of approval powers adopted by the Board of Directors.

Executive Body of the DAHI Article (13)

- a. The executive body of the DAHI will be comprised of a number of administrative, technical, and professional employees, who will be governed by the human resources regulations adopted by the Board of Directors.
- b. The human resources legislation applicable by the effective date of this Law will continue to apply to the employees of the DAHI and the entities mentioned in paragraph (a) of Article (7) of this Law, and to the employees to be transferred to the DAHI in accordance with this Law, until the human resources regulations referred to in paragraph (a) of this Article are approved.

Government Non-liability Article (14)

The Government will not be liable for any debts or obligations arising from the business and activities of the DAHI or of any of the entities or companies affiliated to or owned by it; or arising from the exercise by the DAHI of its powers and duties under this Law and the resolutions issued in pursuance hereof. The DAHI will be solely liable for such debts and obligations.

Delegation of Powers Article (15)

The DAHI may delegate any of its functions under this Law to any public or private entity pursuant to an agreement concluded with that entity in this respect. This agreement will determine the rights and obligations of the DAHI and the contracted entity as well as the conditions, requirements, and specifications that the entity must observe when performing the functions delegated by the DAHI.

Financial Resources of the DAHI
Article (16)

- a. The financial resources of the DAHI will consist of:
 - 1. movable and immovable property allocated to the DAHI by the Government;
 - 2. the support allocated to the DAHI in the General Budget of the Emirate;
 - 3. the revenue collected by the DAHI in return for the services it provides. This revenue must be deposited in the DAHI account;
 - 4. the return on investments of the DAHI property;
 - 5. the grants, gifts, donations, endowments, and bequests received by the DAHI and accepted by the CEO in accordance with the rules and procedures approved by the Board of Directors and in line with the relevant legislation in force; and
 - 6. any other resources approved by the Board of Directors.
- b. The provisions of the above-mentioned Law No. (1) of 2016 and its Implementing Bylaw, and the relevant agreements made with the Department of Finance, will apply to the support provided to the DAHI in accordance with sub-paragraph (a)(2) of this Article.

Management of Accounts and Records, and Financial Year
Article (17)

- a. In managing its accounts and records, the DAHI will apply the rules and principles of government accounting.
- b. The Financial Year of the DAHI will commence on 1 January and will end on 31 December of each year, except that the first Financial Year will commence on the date on which this Law comes into force and will end on 31 December of the following year.

Control and Audit of the DAHI
Article (18)

The records and accounts of the DAHI will be subject to control and audit by the Financial Audit Authority.

Cooperation with the DAHI
Article (19)

All Government Entities in the Emirate must fully cooperate with the DAHI and provide it with the required support to enable it to achieve its objectives and perform the duties and functions assigned to it under this Law and the resolutions issued in pursuance hereof.

Issuing Implementing Resolutions
Article (20)

The Board of Directors will issue the resolutions required for the implementation of the provisions of this Law.

Transfer and Succession
Article (21)

- a. As of the date on which this Law comes into force, the following will be transferred to the DAHI:
1. the Health Fund Office of the DHA, including the employees working at this organisational unit and the approved financial appropriations allocated to it in the annual budget of the DHA;
 2. the hospitals and organisational units of the Dubai Healthcare Corporation, as stated in the organisational structure of the DHA approved pursuant to the above-mentioned Executive Council Resolution No. (18) of 2018;
 3. all employees and Health Staff working at the hospitals and organisational units stated in sub-paragraph (a)(2) of this Article and the financial appropriations allocated to the DHA by the Department of Finance for those hospitals, organisational units, Health Staff, and employees;
 4. the ownership of the real property, movables, assets, devices, equipment, and other property owned by the entities stated in paragraph (a) of Article (7) of this Law, or owned by the DHA and administered by the hospitals and organisational units referred to in sub-paragraphs (a)(1) and (a)(2) of this Article, including any rights and obligations related to such real property, movables, assets, devices, equipment, and other property;
 5. the ownership of the Dubai Dental Hospital, including the real property, movables, assets, devices, equipment, and other property owned by the hospital;

6. the employees of the entities mentioned in paragraph (a) of Article (7) of this Law, the financial appropriations allocated to these entities in their budgets in accordance with the provisions of the above-mentioned Law No. (1) of 2016 and other legislation in force in the Emirate; and
 7. the employees of the DHA transferred to the DAHI by agreement between the DHA and the DAHI, including the financial appropriations allocated to the DHA by the Department of Finance for these employees, with a view to enabling the DAHI to perform its duties and functions under this Law.
- b. Employees will be transferred to the DAHI in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (a) of this Article without prejudice to their existing rights.
 - c. The DAHI hereby succeeds the organisational units and hospitals referred to in subparagraphs (a)(1), (a)(2), and (a)(5) of this Article in respect of the rights and obligations of these organisational units and hospitals.

Compliance Article (22)

The DHA and the DAHI must coordinate with the concerned entities in the Emirate to achieve compliance with the provisions of this Law within no later than six (6) months from the date on which this Law comes into force. The Chairman of the Executive Council may, where required, extend this time limit for the period he deems appropriate.

Repeals Article (23)

- a. Pursuant to this Law, the following decrees are repealed:
 1. Decree No. (23) of 2012 Forming the Board of Directors of Al Jalila Medical Education and Research Support Foundation;
 2. Decree No. (23) of 2019 Forming the Board of Trustees of the Mohammed bin Rashid University of Medicine and Health Sciences; and
 3. Decree No. (10) of 2021 Replacing a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Mohammed bin Rashid University of Medicine and Health Sciences.
- b. Any provision in any other legislation will be repealed to the extent that it contradicts the provisions of this Law.

- c. The Health Sector and Health Services legislation in force in the Emirate will remain in force to the extent that it does not contradict the provisions of this Law, until new superseding legislation is issued.

Publication and Commencement
Article (24)

This Law will be published in the Official Gazette and will come into force on the day on which it is published.

Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum
Ruler of Dubai

Issued in Dubai on 12 July 2021
Corresponding to 2 Thu al-Hijjah 1442 A.H.