



CRITERIA AND SELECTION PROCEDURES

We have a defined and published set of criteria, and any candidate who meets these criteria is invited to submit a full application to the Trust office in the country where they are resident. The candidate is then interviewed. The Selection Committee considers the application, and approved candidates are put forward for appropriate scholarship schemes.



The Selection Committee is comprised of Windle Trust staff members together with representatives from other relevant organisations. Once a candidate is selected, staff members work intensively with the candidate and the universities to seek the most appropriate course of study. Confirmation of the scholarship is given as early as possible, in order to give the candidate time to prepare. Windle Trust also runs orientation programmes for new students.

The Trust provides pastoral, as well as financial, support to students during their courses. Staff visit students at their universities at least once each year, and keep in regular contact with their director of studies in order to monitor their academic progress. Additionally, the Trust organises regular workshops (at least twice per year) which all the Trust's sponsored students attend.

The Trust gives guidance to graduating students about job-hunting, and tries to put the student in touch with useful contacts. Workshops regularly look at curriculum vitae writing and interview skills. Former students are actively encouraged to stay in touch with the Trust, and through the alumni association.

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GLOBAL CRITERIA

Overall: Priority is given to applicants of particular merit taking into account academic ability, need, development impact, leadership potential, and personal qualities.

Status: Applicants should be refugees, internally displaced or be otherwise affected by conflict.

Origin and location: Applicants should be from the countries of East, Central or the Horn of Africa and be resident in Kenya, Uganda, Sudan, Egypt or Ethiopia.

Academic ability: Applicants must be academically qualified to undertake the proposed course with success, and they must meet the normal entry requirements.

Language ability: Applicants must be capable of studying effectively in the language in which instruction will take place.

Age: Applicants for undergraduate programmes should usually be under thirty years old.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Equal opportunities: Applicants are welcomed from all religious backgrounds and ethnic groups. Efforts are made to award scholarships proportionately amongst the different ethnic groups, but there is no quota system.

Exceptionally disadvantaged applicants: The Trust is keen to encourage applications from women and individuals from other particularly disadvantaged groups. This includes those who are resident in the refugee camps and settlements, those who have lost close family members to war or conflict, as well as those who are particularly vulnerable such as people with disabilities and those who have themselves been victims of violence. The trustees are, in appropriate cases, willing to consider additional support for these applicants, such as pre-study programmes.

Commitment: Applicants must demonstrate the potential, initiative, will and commitment to put what they learn into practice in future for the benefit of their wider community and region. A previous track record of community involvement will be considered favourably.

Location of study: Applicants will usually be considered for sponsorship for undergraduate studies in their country of residence.

Subject of study: Preference is given to subjects that offer a high probability of future employment and are of direct value to development. However, the trustees do not exclude the support of students whose fields of study have a more general application to Africa's needs.

Course costs: The Trust works in partnership with universities and a variety of donors to share the overall cost of sponsorship.

Family members: In order to spread the benefits of sponsorship as widely and equitably as possible, the Trust will not knowingly sponsor more than one member of a family in any one year. However, up to two members of one family may be assisted in cases where the applicants are from an exceptionally disadvantaged group.

Dependents: The Trust is unable to support dependents or other family members of sponsored students. The Trust requires assurance that the student has adequate arrangements in place for the care of their dependents while they are studying.