



Windle Trust
International

The Postgraduate Programme

Eligibility Criteria

September 2020

Programme Specific Eligibility Criteria

Note: Meeting the minimum criteria is in no way a guarantee of sponsorship due to the large number of eligible candidates and limited available funds. These criteria reflect currently identified development priorities and may change in the future. These criteria should be read alongside the Scholarship Policy (2020) for overall criteria and priorities and are written to provide more specific criteria relevant to the Postgraduate Programme.

As we work collaboratively with a number of universities and scholarship awarding bodies to provide scholarship opportunities, Windle Trust International does not always make the final decision on which candidates scholarships are awarded to.

In addition to the Selection Priorities, Postgraduate Programme scholars must also meet the following minimum criteria and conditions:

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, and South Sudan.

Uganda specific origin and location criteria

The programme is open to Ugandan candidates who demonstrate a clear, long-term link with the following regions of Uganda that have been affected by or are emerging from conflict:

- West Nile
- Karamoja
- Acholi
- Lango
- Teso

Refugees with legally documented refugee status may be resident in any part of Uganda.

In practical terms applications will be considered from Ugandans who:

- were born in the districts of these regions and/or
- have lived or worked there for at least three years and
- have demonstrated leadership and personal commitment to reducing marginalization and conflict and the underlying causes of these in the above regions

Kenya specific origin and location criteria

The programme is open to Kenyan candidates who demonstrate a clear, long-term link with the following regions of Kenya that have been affected by or are emerging from conflict:

- Garissa
- Turkana

Refugees with legally documented refugee status may be resident in any part of Kenya.

Kenyan candidates will have demonstrated leadership and personal commitment to reducing marginalization and conflict and the underlying causes of these in the following counties in the Arid region of Kenya:

- Garissa
- Turkana
- Baringo
- Isiolo Mandera
- Marsabit
- Samburu
- Tana River
- Wajir

In practical terms applications will be considered from Kenyans who:

- were born in Garissa or Turkana counties and
- are currently working in one of the above Arid region counties and
- have demonstrated leadership and personal commitment to reducing marginalization and conflict and the underlying causes of these in the above counties of the Arid region

Academic ability:

Applicants should have an excellent first degree, with a minimum grade equivalent to a British upper second (2:1) undergraduate degree or above.

Applicants must also be academically qualified to undertake the proposed course with success, and they must meet the normal course entry requirements as set by the university if higher than the above.

Please note the following:

- For the purposes of eligibility applicants with degrees graded “First Class”, “Second Class, Upper Division”, “Distinction” or “Very Good” are considered to be the equivalent, with the exception of medical degrees that are not classified.
- Non-medical degrees that are ungraded or unclassified must have achieved a minimum GPA of 4.0 out of 5.0 or 3.2 out of 4.0 to be considered.
- Degrees graded “Second Class Lower Division”, “Good”, “Third class” or “Pass” are not eligible.
- Candidates with degrees from Sudanese Institutions (other than medicine, dentistry and pharmacy) are required to have a BA/BSc honours degree.

Language ability:

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

Due to requirements for admission to universities in the UK, as well as UK visa requirements, applicants short listed for placement in the UK or on courses taught in English will be required to sit an IELTS test or equivalent. Applicants will need to achieve a score equivalent to IELTS 6.5 or above with no less than 6.0 in any one skill. University English language requirements may be higher.

Applicants may be requested to participate in an English language assessment prior to selection.

Work experience:

Applicants for the Postgraduate Programme are required to have at least two years of professional or volunteer experience relevant to the subject they wish to study. This must have been completed proceeding graduation from the candidate's undergraduate degree. Applicants may apply for selection prior to completing the two years of experience; however, they will be unable to be placed in a university until this requirement has been met.

Age:

Applicants for postgraduate study should be under forty years old at the beginning of their Postgraduate degree.

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:

WTI is particularly keen to encourage applications from women and individuals from other exceptionally disadvantaged groups. This includes those who are resident in 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. In appropriate cases, WTI is willing to consider additional support for these applicants, such as pre-study programmes.

Family members:

In order to spread the benefits of sponsorship as widely and equitably as possible, WTI will not knowingly sponsor more than one member of a family in any one year.

Dependants:

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

Gender:

We give priority to girls and young women in application, enrolment, and selection of Postgraduate Programme scholarships. We maintain a minimum target of 50% female participation in the Postgraduate Programme.

Additional requirements:

Due to the collaborative nature of WTI's scholarship programme, candidates may also have to meet the selection criteria and priorities of our partners in order to achieve successful placement. Candidates will be supported and guided on this following selection.

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