

# STUDENT REFUGEE PROGRAM (SRP)

# **CALL FOR APPLICATIONS, 2024-2025**

World University Service of Canada (WUSC), in partnership with Windle International Uganda, would like to invite suitably qualified refugee youth to apply for the 2024-2025 cohort of the SRP.

#### **ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

Applicants must:

- Be currently living as a refugee in Uganda and have continuously resided in Uganda for 3 years at the time of application (must have arrived before January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020);
- Be between 18-25 years old as of January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 (applicants must be born no earlier than January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1998 and no later than January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2005);
- Be eligible and suitable for resettlement under the criteria of Canada's Private Sponsorship of Refugees program;
- Have completed secondary school and already be in possession of the paper copy of the
  official and original secondary diploma and transcripts (if applicable) at the time of
  application (see table below for minimum academic grades);
- Be competent in English or French (oral and written competence);
- Be single (unmarried) with no children;
- Be facing barriers to accessing or completing undergraduate post-secondary education;
- Be self-reliant, mature and suitable for integration in Canada as an individual.

### MINIMUM ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS BY COUNTRY OF STUDY:

\*Please note that this is not an exhaustive list. If you have completed secondary education in a country other than the ones listed below, and meet all of the other criteria above, you are eligible to apply. The equivalency of your grades will be reviewed against the grades listed below. The grades listed are the minimum eligibility requirement for academics and do not quarantee selection.\*

COUNTRY	EXAM CERTIFICATE	MINIMUM GRADE / SCORE
Burundi	Diplôme d'Etat	50 Bulletin scolaire / Relevé des notes
DRC	Diplôme d'Etat or Attestation de Réussite	*Note that attestations issued by a secondary school are not accepted.*
Eritrea	ESECE	5 subjects. GPA of 2.50
Ethiopia	ESLC	5 subjects. GPA of 2.50
Kenya	KCSE	B+
Rwanda	REB Advanced Certificate of Secondary Education	A minimum of 4 principal passes and C average.
Somalia	SSLC	65%
Sudan	SSC	65%
South Sudan	Certificate of Secondary Education (CSE)	65%
Uganda	UACE	10 points



#### **HOW TO APPLY:**

Complete the online **SRP Application Form** available here: (<a href="https://forms.gle/ufU76qD7eotq2Xn96">https://forms.gle/ufU76qD7eotq2Xn96</a>). Please ensure that all of your documents are electronic files (images or PDFs).

We have provided a list of questions that are included below on the last page of the SRP Call for Applications. We encourage you to review these questions and prepare your answers offline, in advance of applying online.

#### **FURTHER CONSIDERATIONS FOR THE APPLICATION PROCESS:**

- The SRP values gender equality. Qualified female candidates are encouraged to apply. WUSC
  applies principles of gender equity when reviewing applications from female applicants which
  may include using different academic standards for female candidates as well as other equity
  measures.
- You may apply in English <u>or</u> in French. Candidates who are competent in <u>both</u> French and English
  can indicate this in their application form and may express their language of preference to
  WUSC.
- Ensure you answer all questions fully and honestly and submit documents which are clearly legible. Incomplete applications will not be shortlisted. Please closely verify the eligibility requirements and the required documentation requested in the application form.
- The SRP is open to brothers and sisters from the same family to apply and qualify for the SRP. There is no limit on the number of family members that can be sponsored through the SRP.
- WUSC is unable to add documents or change details in your online application should you make a typing error. If you make a mistake in your online application, it is your responsibility to submit a new application before the application deadline. In cases where applicants submit multiple applications, we will only consider the details in your most recent application.
- Applicants are encouraged to attach additional documentation (training certificates, reference letters, etc.) to their application to support the review of their candidacy in addition to the required documents.
- Candidates must be eligible for resettlement to Canada. Your eligibility is based on your individual circumstances and refugee claim. The SRP is open to refugees from all nationalities. There are no quotas or targets by country of origin.
- The sponsorship process can take up to two years or more. Final decisions are made by Canadian immigration officials before SRP students are cleared for travel to Canada.
- WUSC thanks all candidates for their interest. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.





• <u>Please note</u>: SRP applicants are expected to present WUSC with honest and consistent information and documentation during the application and interview process. WUSC has a zero-tolerance policy regarding the submission of false identification or academic documents. Applicants who misrepresent any information or falsify their documentation, will be permanently banned from future consideration for the SRP.

# **APPLICATION DEADLINE**

The online application form will open on January 18, 2023. We will accept applications until <u>the</u> <u>deadline of February 8th at 5pm Kampala time</u>.

For further details and inquiries, please contact WIU scholarship's team. Email: <a href="wiu.scholarship@windle.org">wiu.scholarship@windle.org</a>, Phone: 0761308499.

Thank you for your interest in the SRP!





### **INFORMATION SHEET ABOUT THE STUDENT REFUGEE PROGRAM**

# **About WUSC**

World University Service of Canada (WUSC) is a Canadian non-governmental organization. Our head office is in Ottawa, Canada. WUSC is dedicated to providing **education**, **employment** and **empowerment** opportunities for youth around the world, especially for women and refugee youth.

Since 2018, WUSC has been collaborating with Windle International Uganda to implement Student Refugee Program activities throughout Uganda.

# About the Student Refugee Program

The **Student Refugee Program (SRP)** is WUSC's flagship program. The SRP resettles between 130-150 students every year from 6 countries of asylum (Jordan, Lebanon, Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania and Malawi). The SRP is a unique youth-to-youth sponsorship model with post-secondary students in Canada playing a leadership role in the sponsorship of refugee students. WUSC "Local Committees" on Canadian campuses raise funds for the SRP and awareness about the global refugee crisis. Local Committees also offer day-to-day social support to SRP students after they arrive in Canada.

## Important things to know about the SRP:

- The SRP is not a traditional scholarship it is a one-year sponsorship that includes resettlement to Canada and access to a Canadian post-secondary academic institution.
- SRP students arrive in Canada as a Permanent Resident, able to apply for Canadian citizenship after 3-4 years.
- Successful candidates are resettled independently as a single person the SRP does not include resettlement of any family members.
- The SRP covers a student's academic and living expenses for the first year in Canada. After 1 year, SRP students are expected to become financially independent. SRP students are allowed to work during summer vacation periods, and/or during the school year, and SRP can apply for Canadian government student loans, scholarships and/or bursaries/grants to support the rest of their degree.

# About Universities, Colleges, and CEGEPs

WUSC's academic partners in Canada include more than 90 universities, colleges and CEGEPs. You will learn more about these options if you are selected for the SRP. For now, here is a brief description of these three different types of institutions where you may have an opportunity to study if you are selected for the SRP:

- University: Undergraduate students in a university are working towards a
  Bachelor's Degree. The approach to education in most universities is
  theoretical and research-oriented. Many students in Canada who graduate
  with a Bachelor's degree will need to also study at the Master's level before
  they begin their career. The tuition at a university is more expensive than at
  a college.
- College: Students in a college are working towards a Diploma or Certificate.
   Some colleges have a partnership with a university with the first 2 years at a college being transferable to the 3rd year of a Degree program. The approach to education is more practical and skills-oriented. Many students





	<ul> <li>who graduate from a college are able to enter the labour force directly, with employers finding college graduates 'job-ready'. College tuition is less expensive than university tuition.</li> <li>CEGEP: This is a unique type of college that is present only in Québec, one of Canada's provinces. Students in a CEGEP have an option of two streams: one stream is considered a bridging year to university, and the other stream is for technical diploma programs that are directly linked to labour market demands.</li> </ul>	
Selection process for the SRP	WUSC's objective is to select equal numbers of female and male students for the SRP. There are no targets or quotas by nationality - refugees from any country of origin are welcome to apply. The selection of SRP students includes a review of their refugee claim, academic strengths and personal suitability for integration in Canada.  WUSC is responsible for making the preliminary selection decision. After the interview, we conduct a final round of verifications with local organizations including UNHCR and education partners to verify refugee status and academic histories. After students are selected by WUSC, a final decision will be made by Canadian immigration officials about who is eligible for resettlement to Canada under the "Private Sponsorship of Refugees Program". WUSC recommends candidates to Canadian immigration officials but WUSC does not have the ability to influence the final decision that is made by Canadian government officials.	
Immigration process for the SRP	After students are selected by WUSC, students complete the immigration application form for resettlement to Canada under Canada's Private Sponsorship of Refugees Program. WUSC submits SRP candidates to Canadian immigration officials. WUSC does not have the ability to influence the final decision that is made by Canadian government officials. The final decision will be made by Canadian immigration officials about who is eligible for resettlement to Canada	
Safeguarding the integrity of the SRP application process	There are no fees to apply to WUSC's Student Refugee Program. At all stages of the application process, the SRP is totally free for applicants. Applicants should never be asked to pay anything or provide any other benefit to a WUSC staff member or a local partner representative. If you experience or witness any corruption or unethical behaviour during the application process, we ask that you report this incident to WUSC headquarters in Ottawa through this email address: report-to-srp@wusc.ca	
Type of questions included in the Online Application form	<ul> <li>Full Name</li> <li>Date of birth</li> <li>Gender</li> <li>Country of origin</li> <li>Location of birth</li> <li>Marital and family status</li> <li>Telephone number</li> <li>Length of time living in Uganda</li> <li>Current address in Uganda</li> </ul>	





- Language abilities in English and French
- Have you completed secondary school?
- Do you have your original secondary school diploma? (must attach)
- What country issued your secondary school diploma?
- What was your final average grade? Final grade in English or French language?
- Have you studied at the post-secondary level?
- If you had to stop studies at the post-secondary level, why?
- What is your current refugee status in Uganda?
- Do you have registration or other documents that confirm your status in Uganda (i.e. temporary visa, registration as an asylum seeker or refugee with UNHCR)? (must attach)
- Have you been referred for resettlement to any country by UNHCR? If yes, where and what was the result?
- Why and when did you leave your country of origin?
- Are you able to return to your country of origin?
- Is there anything else you'd like to add to your SRP application?