Establishing and maintaining a set of selection criteria is fundamental to each national committee’s selection process. Selection criteria are the attributes that we seek to identify in candidates through the selection process.

UWC International has developed a set of core selection criteria for use by national committees in order to:

- Ensure a common understanding of the attributes UWC seeks in its students
- Support consistent and transparent selection processes
- Reference when talking to parents, donors and others

The core criteria have not been developed as a checklist of attributes that every candidate has to meet but rather as a touchstone in evaluating students throughout the selection process.

The selection process should be designed to support you in understanding how each candidate demonstrates promise and potential as much as proven merit in the core criteria.

It is important to avoid unintentionally weighting the selection process in favour of those who have already been lucky enough to have accessed lots of opportunities. Considering the candidate’s context throughout the process is important because candidates who have had different life experiences will demonstrate these attributes in different ways. By asking “Has the candidate made the most of the opportunities available to them”? the selection panel will be able to consider the candidate in the context of their access to opportunities.

The core criteria provide a foundation that can be adapted to your local context.

There are five core selection criteria:

- Intellectual curiosity and motivation
- Active commitment
- Social competence
- Resilience, personal responsibility and integrity
- Motivation for UWC

**Intellectual curiosity and motivation**

- A genuine urge to learn about the world around oneself and the ability to recognise the details and grasp the breadth of issues (for example global and local concerns) involved in any given topic and to analyse them thoroughly

**Active commitment**

- The ability to develop and readiness to reflect, question and confront one’s own values, to measure one’s behaviour within family and community against one’s values, and to act on one’s own beliefs accordingly and responsibly
**Social competence**
- The ability and readiness to make contact with other people, to interact respectfully with them, to work together with them in a team and to achieve solutions; the ability to express oneself adequately in different situations and to different people

**Resilience, personal responsibility and integrity**
- The ability to look after oneself physically and emotionally during the challenging and transforming experience that a UWC offers; the personal motivation to adhere to UWC’s common moral and ethical principles, a sense of humility and an ability to listen and value another person’s opinion and experience

**Motivation for UWC**
- Passion, ability and serious incentive to contribute to and actively promote UWC’s values