EU Scholarship Programme for Cypriot Youth at UWC

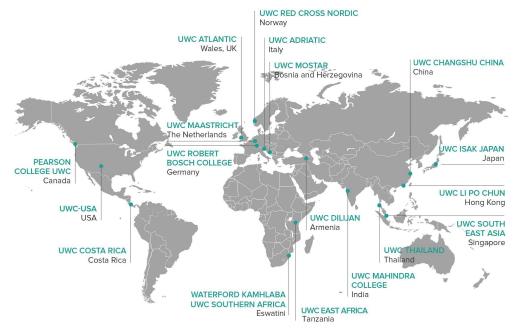
Briefing note for Heads of schools and teachers

UWC (United World Colleges) is a global education movement with the mission to build a more peaceful and sustainable future. Its values are aligned with those of the European Union, which include respect for human dignity and human rights, freedom, democracy and equality. The EU will fund scholarships for Cypriot students to benefit from a UWC education, with a focus on peace.

UWC invites schools in the Turkish Cypriot and Greek Cypriot communities to encourage pupils born between 2005 to 2006, to apply for one of ten full UWC scholarships funded by the European Union for their final two years of high school. The scholarships will allow motivated students to complete their high school education and obtain the International Baccalaureate Diploma at one of four UWC schools, UWC Adriatic (in Italy), UWC Maastricht (in the Netherlands), UWC Mostar (In Bosnia) and UWC Robert Bosch College (in Germany). Scholarships will be awarded by UWC's expert volunteer selection body, the UWC Cyprus Committee, following an independent selection process where candidates will be assessed along UWC's core selection criteria.

What is UWC?





What began in 1962 as one school, founded by a group of idealistic educators, has grown into a powerful global educational movement known as UWC (United World Colleges). UWC educates its students and engages its 60,000 strong alumni community with the conviction that the world needs bridge builders rather than wall builders. UWC equips young people with the skills, courage and compassion to become a force for peace.

UWC offers the globally-recognised two-year International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Programme, as well as short courses and summer programmes, that help students develop their leadership skills and understanding of the world.

UWC students become part of a global community, and learn values that can transform their communities. Values such as:

- · Responsibility and integrity
- · Compassion and service
- · Intercultural understanding and idealism
- · Respect for the environment
- Celebration of diversity

Global educational presence

UWC is a network of 18 schools and multiple short educational programmes, and is present on four continents reaching over eleven thousand students. Nearly five thousand of these students are in their final two years of high school, studying the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP): the most highly-regarded, internationally-recognised pre-university curriculum.

Diversity at its core

UWC students in the IBDP are locally selected through our unique network of volunteers around the world. Students are selected on the basis of their motivation and potential and come from deliberately diverse backgrounds, regardless of their socioeconomic or cultural background.

Why UWC scholarships for Cyprus?

At UWC, we believe that education has the power to transform a person's life. But it can do so much more. It can help young people embrace new perspectives. It can help them see the world with more compassion. It can give courageous people the tools to promote freedom and protect human rights. We give our students an education that is based on values, as well as knowledge. We encourage them to give back to their communities, and stand up for people who need it.

A UWC education prepares our students to go on to stimulating universities, and then to fulfilling careers in whatever field they choose. But more importantly, it helps them discover their power to make the world a more sustainable and peaceful place for everyone.

The EU Scholarship Programme for Cypriot Youth at UWC aspires to educate young Cypriot students together and contribute to building a bridge of mutual understanding between communities.

UWC Mostar

The United World College in Mostar was launched in 2006 and inaugurated by Queen Noor of Jordan as a joint initiative between the UWC movement and the International Baccalaureate Organisation. It brings together students belonging to all communities in Bosnia and Herzegovina,

as well as students from the wider Balkan region and from over 50 cultures around the world, all of whom live, study and serve the community together. UWC Mostar offers the same excellent education standards as the other 17 UWC schools.

See http://uwcmostar.ba/ for more information.

UWC Adriatic (in Italy)

Three Unique Features

- Immersive Italian Experience Students experience a UWC education while being
 continuously exposed to the richness and diversity of Italy's cultural heritage. The
 College capitalizes on its setting at a political, cultural a geographical crossroads in
 the heart of Europe.
- Music Music plays a major role at UWC Adriatic thanks to the presence of a music academy (ICMA) that aims to explore the full range of musical genres and styles from around the world.
- A Village, not a Campus UWC Adriatic is not enclosed in its own campus, rather
 its residences, academic building, laboratories, etc. are scattered throughout the
 village. Students are integrated into the lives of the local and surrounding
 communities through their daily life and weekly social services.

See https://www.uwcad.it/ for more information.

UWC Maastricht (in the Netherlands)

In addition to the highly recognised International Baccalaureate curriculum, UWC Maastricht is a multicultural school that hosts students from more than 100 different nationalities. The school operates within the Dutch public educational system and is subsidised by the Dutch government. It is formed to serve both the needs of the Maastricht international community and the students chosen by UWC national committees all over the world.

See https://www.uwcmaastricht.nl/ for more information.

UWC Robert Bosch College (in Germany)

UWC Robert Bosch College is a joint project of the Deutsche Stiftung UWC as well as the Robert Bosch Stiftung. Located in Freiburg, Germany's "green city", the College has a special focus on sustainability, which is embedded in academics, student life and the architecture of the buildings. The proximity to the Black Forest National Park further allows for a well-rounded outdoor programme. Deliberate diversity is the College's main goal. For this purpose, it currently provides 70% of its student body with full scholarships, thanks to funding from the state ministry, the Robert Bosch Stiftung, B.Braun Melsungen AG as well as many other foundations and individuals.

See https://www.uwcrobertboschcollege.de/ for more information.

UWC student selections

UWC students come from many different cultures and backgrounds. But they are all compassionate, courageous, and motivated to use their education to improve lives and solve issues around them.

We're looking for students who are:

- · Curious to learn more about the world
- Committed to acting responsibly
- Willing to engage with different perspectives
- Resilient, and full of integrity
- Prepared to become leaders
- Passionate about making the world a better place

UWC's application process follows three steps, starting with a written application and including group activities and an interview panel.

Prior knowledge of English is not a prerequisite but may be an advantage. Candidates' prior study results and academic aptitude will be taken into consideration but is only one of the selection criteria.

The role of schools in supporting their student applicants

When a student decides to apply to UWC, they will require support from their current school, to help them prepare their application forms and submit objective assessments from their teachers, such as an academic recommendation letter and copy of transcripts. The applicant's current teachers and tutors will have a good insight into their aptitude and motivation to apply for a UWC scholarship, based not only on their academic results but also on their maturity, their contribution to the school community and their extra-curricular activities.

The IB Diploma

UWC helped to develop the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Programme in the 1960s. Today, it is taught in more than 5,000 schools worldwide, and is recognised by global universities.

So what makes the IB Diploma special?

Academic excellence – the IB Diploma offers a broad, holistic range of subjects across language and literature, sciences, mathematics and the arts. It provides a solid academic foundation, and opens up many university and career choices.

Flexibility - The IB Diploma allows students to choose from a wide range of subjects across different disciplines.

Critical skills - The IB encourages students to explore and debate what they know and consider different perspectives. It helps develop their ability to write clearly, form compelling arguments, and master the critical skills that are vital in today's careers.

Taking action - The IB isn't just about tests and essays. It's about experiences. Students are encouraged to get involved in community service, and to work as a team on projects that benefit others.

What's next after UWC?

UWC graduates go on amazing journeys; many attend respected universities across the world. Some become doctors, artists, public administrators, politicians, lawyers, educators, entrepreneurs or scientists. Others work with aid organisations or charities.

Above all, they're taught to follow their own path, and that even the smallest act can have a much wider positive impact on the world.

University scholarships

UWC alumni are keenly sought by many of the world's leading universities. They are recognised and celebrated for their roles as community leaders on university campuses, champions of social engagement and social entrepreneurs.

International Appreciation

The International Baccalaureate (IB) Programme is internationally recognised, in part due to the existence of over 156 IB World Schools globally. This means that students not only have access to prestigious scholarships, but that this qualification opens up opportunities for study around the world. For more information please consult the <u>IB website</u>.

UWC in Cyprus

UWC has a network of volunteers in Cyprus, which is responsible for the promotion of UWC programmes across the island and for organising the annual selection process of Cypriot students.

How to apply for the EU-funded scholarships

UWC volunteer groups promote UWC to prospective students and their parents, and help us find and select the next generation of UWC students. They are located around the world, and are made up of more than 3,000 volunteers, from UWC graduates and their parents, to education professionals and community leaders.

UWC Cyprus will organise the student selections for Cypriot applicants. Interested Cypriot youth born between 2005 to 2006 can apply to complete their final two years of high school (years 11 and 12).

Candidates are required to submit a written application, preferably online, using the <u>application</u> form in their preferred language. Shortlisted candidates will be invited to participate in person in selection activities and interviews.

For more information, visit www.facebook.com/UWCCy

EU Scholarship Requirements for entry in 2022

To qualify for an EU Scholarship Programme, applicants must meet the (i) candidate description and provide the (ii) relevant documentation as proof, both provided below.

i. Candidate Description:

The candidate:

- 1. Must be born in Cyprus or one of the parents must be born in Cyprus (birth certificate is required);
- 2. Must be a resident in Cyprus;
- 3. Must have 5 cumulative years of education in Cyprus;
- 4. Must have at least a year 10 level of secondary school education;
- 5. Must have been born between 1st January 2005 to 31st December 2006, i.e. will be between 15-17 years old during 2022.

ii. Relevant Documentation:

- 1. Birth certificate.
 - a. <u>Note</u>: If the applicant was not born in Cyprus, the birth certificate of one of the parents showing that (s) he was born in Cyprus should be submitted along with the applicant's birth certificate.
 - b. Copies of ID/passport not accepted.
- 2. Certificate of Residence.
- 3. **Proof of 5 years cumulative education in Cyprus:** Official document from school/educational authorities in Cyprus.
 - Note: Enrolment in the current academic year counts towards the 5 years.
- **4. Proof of enrolment for the current academic year**: Copy of transcript/official documentation obtained from school/educational authorities in Cyprus.

The application deadline is on 31 January 2022.

For more information please feel free to contact us at <u>info@cy.uwc.org</u> or visit our local or <u>international websites at www.cy.uwc.org</u> or <u>www.uwc.org</u>

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