

# ACORNS

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL | KISAASI

## Student Scholarship Programme

Scholarships and awards at Acorns International School are granted based on both financial need and merit in the following parameters: Academics, Arts, Athletics and Contribution to the Acorns and the broader community. The School is dedicated to recognising students who exhibit outstanding academic performance, uphold high behavioural standards, actively contribute to their school and community, excel in creativity and critical thinking, and demonstrate strong leadership skills and team spirit.

### Inspiring & Empowering

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## Acorns Vision

To inspire and empower each other to achieve our personal best.

## Acorns Mission

To build an accessible, inclusive learning community of global citizens that pursues academic excellence in a holistic, inquiry-based environment that develops lifelong learners with the attributes to shape a better and more peaceful world.

## Acorns Core Values



### Lifelong Learner

Discovers the joy of learning, acquires the skills to 'learn how to learn', and promotes intellectual endeavours and academic potential through inquiry, critical thinking, and problem-solving.



### Innovative

Embraces creativity, resourcefulness and a willingness to explore new ideas, through technology and high-quality teaching and learning to be problem solvers and agents of change in an ever-evolving world.

## Core Values

### Environmentalist

Participates in environmentally friendly practices through an understanding of the importance of conserving and preserving our shared, finite, and natural resources.



### Global Citizen

Plays an active role in local and global contexts, with strong ethical and moral understanding, through shared accountability and acts of service to create an equitable and inclusive world.



### Wellbeing

Promotes and recognises the importance of physical, emotional, and mental health by creating a supportive environment that cultivates resilience where everyone is valued, respected, and empowered to seek assistance and prioritise self-care in order to thrive.



### Responsible

Actively strives to inspire and ensure discipline and excellence in all pursuits based on a personal commitment to integrity, equity, justice, mutual respect, and compassion.




### Pluralist

Genuinely embraces an international mindset by showing respect and tolerance towards all cultures, languages, and traditions, through engagement in the world's rich diversity, while valuing our own identity, languages and beliefs.



## IB Learner Profile




# IB learner profile

The aim of all IB programmes is to develop internationally minded people who, recognizing their common humanity and shared guardianship of the planet, help to create a better and more peaceful world.

As IB learners we strive to be:

<p><b>INQUIRERS</b> We nurture our curiosity, developing skills for inquiry and research. We know how to learn independently and with others. We learn with enthusiasm and sustain our love of learning throughout life.</p> <p><b>KNOWLEDGEABLE</b> We develop and use conceptual understanding, exploring knowledge across a range of disciplines. We engage with issues and ideas that have local and global significance.</p> <p><b>THINKERS</b> We use critical and creative thinking skills to analyse and take responsible action on complex problems. We exercise initiative in making reasoned, ethical decisions.</p> <p><b>COMMUNICATORS</b> We express ourselves confidently and creatively in more than one language and in many ways. We collaborate effectively, listening carefully to the perspectives of other individuals and groups.</p> <p><b>PRINCIPLED</b> We act with integrity and honesty, with a strong sense of fairness and justice, and with respect for the dignity and rights of people everywhere. We take responsibility for our actions and their consequences.</p>	<p><b>OPEN-MINDED</b> We critically appreciate our own cultures and personal histories, as well as the values and traditions of others. We seek and evaluate a range of points of view, and we are willing to grow from the experience.</p> <p><b>CARING</b> We show empathy, compassion and respect. We have a commitment to service, and we act to make a positive difference in the lives of others and in the world around us.</p> <p><b>RISK-TAKERS</b> We approach uncertainty with forethought and determination; we work independently and cooperatively to explore new ideas and innovative strategies. We are resourceful and resilient in the face of challenges and change.</p> <p><b>BALANCED</b> We understand the importance of balancing different aspects of our lives—intellectual, physical, and emotional—to achieve well-being for ourselves and others. We recognize our interdependence with other people and with the world in which we live.</p> <p><b>REFLECTIVE</b> We thoughtfully consider the world and our own ideas and experience. We work to understand our strengths and weaknesses in order to support our learning and personal development.</p>
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The IB learner profile represents 10 attributes valued by IB World Schools. We believe these attributes, and others like them, can help individuals and groups become responsible members of local, national and global communities.

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“IB learner profile”

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# Student Scholarship Programme

## 1 Purpose

Acorns International School has committed itself to grant scholarships and awards to need-based students who demonstrate excellent academic achievement, high behavioural standards, a commitment to serve their school and community, excel in creativity, and critical thinking skills, and demonstrate leadership skills and team spirit.

The Scholarship Programme will offer a partial tuition fee exemption annually all at the school's discretion. Every year, the number of scholarships is approved by the Board of Directors and will be communicated to families when the application period opens.

To qualify for the scholarship award, members of the Acorns Family are expected to uphold the standards, beliefs and values of Acorns.

## 2 Scope and Eligibility

Scholarships and awards will be awarded basis of need and must merit at least one of the following parameters:

- Academics
- Arts
- Athletics
- Contribution to the Acorns and broader community

At the time of application, the student must be enrolled in the Secondary Department. Families residing in Uganda for a minimum period of 3 years. Each student can receive no more than one type of scholarship per academic year at a time.

## 3 Definitions

Secondary Programme/Secondary Students

- Students in MYP1 - MYP5 and DP yearbands. To apply for a scholarship, a student must be currently in one of these year bands.

Scholarship Committee

- A selected panel to review all scholarship applications. Comprises either the Head of School or Deputy Head of School, the Head of Secondary, and the Head of Admissions and Advancement. Additional members may be selected from Acorns staff or the Parent Teacher Organisation.

## 4 Application Process

Scholarship application forms will be made available online and communication will go out when the applications open and a deadline is given. Family/students are requested to complete application forms and submit them before the communicated deadline.

Each application form will be valid for one academic year ONLY. To qualify for the following year, a new application form needs to be submitted and will be subject to review by the Scholarship Committee.

Please note that each application will be carefully assessed, and the weight given to each application will depend on the thoroughness and quality of the documentation submitted. Strong documentation will significantly strengthen the case for your application.

Once submitted, the Scholarship Committee will rate the quality of the application to shortlist candidates.

## **Recommendation Letters**

Applications may include the submission of recommendations from community members; ie mentors, coaches, spiritual leaders, family members, etc. Acorns staff CAN NOT make these recommendations.

Recommendation Letter formats can be found in the application Google Form, [via this link](#) or at the QR code right.



Recommendation letters must be submitted to the Head of Admissions and Advancement directly emailed from the referee at [admissions@acornskisaasi.com](mailto:admissions@acornskisaasi.com) or hand-delivered via a sealed envelope addressed to the Head of Admissions and Advancement.

The Scholarship Committee may reach out to the referee while reviewing applications for further details.

## **Shortlisted Candidate Interviews**

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for an interview with the Scholarship Committee. The student applying must attend their interview to be considered further. They are encouraged to be supported by a parent or family member. In the email inviting the applicant to the interview, there will be guidelines on the interview expectations.

## **Awarding**

Before awarding any scholarship, the Scholarship Committee may also conduct internal investigations into students' academic achievements, behaviour and participation in school activities.

Upon concluding the process, the Scholarship Committee will let the awardees know via email of their success. No public statements will be made as to who received a scholarship will be made.

## **5 Scholarship Committee Responsibilities**

It is the responsibility of the Scholarship Committee to maintain the integrity of the application and awarding process. All applications submitted on time must be given equal consideration.

The Scholarship Committee is also responsible for the following:

- Maintaining and updating the online application form.
- Setting all deadlines; when the application form opens/closes, interviews are scheduled, and awardees are notified.
- Maintaining all communication with the Acorns Community and applicants.
- Developing a fair rubric in line with application expectations.

## **6 Awardee Conduct Expectations**

Scholarship recipients must adhere to the school's values. Actions contrary to these may lead to scholarship revocation mid-year. This encompasses academic dishonesty, misconduct, or behaviours detrimental to the school community, by the student or their family.

## **7 Relevant International Baccalaureate (IB) Standards and Practices**

Culture 1: The school secures access to an IB education for the broadest possible range of students. (0301-01)

Culture 1.3: The school provides opportunities to access the programme(s) for the broadest possible range of students. (0301-01-0300)

## **8 Relevant Council of International Schools (CIS) Standards and Criteria**

B6. There are clearly formulated written policies and practices that are implemented consistently and bring clarity to school operations.

## 9 Citation

- “IB learner profile” *Sso.ibo.org*, [resources.ibo.org/data/g\\_0\\_iboxx\\_amo\\_1702\\_2\\_e.pdf](https://resources.ibo.org/data/g_0_iboxx_amo_1702_2_e.pdf).

### Review Committee:

Nina Benedict Mashimba, Head of Admissions and Advancement

Rachelle Hale-Molo, Head of School

**Last Reviewed Date:** January 2025

**Next Review Date:** January 2027