

WISE LEARNERS' VOICE APPLICANT GUIDE AND CRITERIA

About WISE

The World Innovation Summit for Education (WISE) was established by Qatar Foundation in 2009 under the leadership of its Chairperson, Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser. WISE is an international, multi-sectoral platform for creative thinking, debate, and purposeful action. WISE has established itself as a global reference in new approaches to education. Through a range of ongoing programs, WISE is promoting innovation and building the future of education through collaboration.

The WISE Learners' Voice Program

The WISE Learners' Voice Program brings the perspectives of young people to the challenge of rethinking education, and equips them to take on leading roles in their fields and in the world of education. The program is based on the idea that when learners are co-creators of their learning environments, they become active participants invested as stakeholders in the progress of their communities. The program focuses on building their knowledge of education and social entrepreneurship, as well as their leadership and communication skills.

The Learners' Voice Program was established in 2010 to engage the views and creative energies of young people in addressing pressing global education issues and challenges. The current Learners' Voice community comprises over 130 Learners from all over the world. They represent different backgrounds and disciplines but all share a passion for education. Together they represent a unique perspective within the WISE community.

Since 2013, Learners have followed a tailor-made year-long Executive Education Program. The Learners participate in the WISE Summit and in two intensive residential sessions delivered by expert faculty. These are supplemented by practical workshops and various online and on-site activities. In a key component of the program, the learners form teams to conceive and design grass-roots projects that address critical education challenges. The projects are developed throughout the year-long engagement with guidance from the Learners' Voice Team and experts from the WISE community. Selected projects are invited to pitch to an audience of potential donors, funders and partners.

Recruitment for the New Cohort

WISE is now looking for the next cohort of outstanding young learners aged 18 to 25 to apply, or be nominated, to join this growing global community. The successful Learners will be expected to attend the activities in Doha in November/December 2016 and will be involved in year-long activities throughout 2017. Your full attendance and participation is **mandatory** if you are to be considered for the program.

In addition to this, the WISE Learners' Voice Program requires your individual commitment, attendance and full participation in two **mandatory** residential sessions. The first will take place from **January 2-13, 2017** in Doha, Qatar, and the second from **May 28 - June 10, 2017** in Madrid, Spain.

WISE - Qatar Foundation will cover all program-related expenses, including flights and accommodation, for the selected Learners.

How to Apply

Learners can **either** apply individually or be nominated*. Both forms are evaluated through the same criteria and are considered equal.

> Individual application: apply personally to take part in the program

WISE is inviting highly motivated learners to apply for the Learners' Voice Program by submitting an application form that must be endorsed by two referees (these should be individuals who know you in a **professional capacity** such as through work or school).

> Nominate a learner to take part in the Program

WISE invites representatives of institutions, organizations, programs and networks around the world to nominate learners with outstanding academic/personal/professional experiences to participate in the WISE Learners' Voice Program. WISE is seeking to form a group of individuals from diverse educational paths and cultural backgrounds.

*Please **do not submit** more than one nomination form and/or one application form per Learner. We will not read multiple submissions for the same individual.

Completed forms should be submitted through the online portal **by March 31, 2016, 18.00 GMT.**

Learner Selection Criteria

1. **Age and status:** Participants must be between the ages of 18 and 25 on December 1, 2016. All applicants must be considered legal adults in their home country.
2. **Availability:** Participants must be able to travel to Doha, Qatar, and be able and willing to participate in the full, mandatory WISE Learners' Voice event in November/December 2016.
3. Participants must be willing to contribute to online discussions prior to the event and to work with the WISE Team to prepare for your full engagement.
4. Participants must be able to take part in two mandatory residential sessions **from January 2-13, 2017** in Doha, Qatar, and **May 28 - June 10, 2017** in Madrid, Spain.
5. **Attendance and participation in the mandatory sessions** is critical. By submitting the form you are acknowledging these terms and committing to them.
6. **Continued involvement and participation:** Participants must be able to continue their involvement with the Learners' Voice Program throughout the year. This includes no-site, on-line and group activities.
7. All participants must hold a passport that is valid for **at least 18 months** from 1 November 2016.

8. **Academic and professional competencies:** All participants should be able to demonstrate their academic and/or professional achievements and experiences to date.
9. **Professional and wider interests:** Participants should be able to demonstrate interest and/or involvement in education and other wider global development issues.
10. **Social engagement:** All participants must be able to demonstrate their engagement in wider social networks or communities broadly associated with their studies and/ or professional interests.
11. **Character:** Participants should be friendly, flexible and able to work well in multicultural, multinational teams.
12. **Communication skills:** Participants should be comfortable with presenting and speaking in public. Participants should have strong active listening skills.
13. **Language skills:** All participants should be proficient in spoken and written English.
14. All nominators and applicants must agree to respect final selection decisions made by the WISE Team. No appeal or claim will be accepted. Should your application be unsuccessful you can apply/nominate again next year.

For further information about the WISE Learners' Voice Program please visit the WISE website (www.wise-qatar.org), or contact the WISE Team at learnersvoice@wise.org.qa

The selection process will include a short-list of individuals who will be interviewed in the Spring.

The 2016/17 cohort list will be published on our website in the Summer and only the short-listed applicants will receive an email from the Learners' Voice Team on the status of their application.

Thank you and good luck!