

EPI Selection Process

The following **selection criteria** are used when considering candidates for the Educational Pathways International Program:

- Academic achievement and intelligence (including grades and achievement tests, academic awards and honors, substantive assessments by teachers, including letters of recommendation, as well as possession of a high number of characteristics outlined in the *Educational Pathways International/Gifted Children* definition).
- Unmet financial need (limited family income and/or insufficient funds to cover most or all educational-related expenses)
- The will to succeed (determination, perseverance, and success in other pursuits)
- Submission of three essay describing why this individual feels he/she should be considered for the program and how upon graduation he/she will make a difference within his or her country of residence
- Acceptance in an accredited, approved institution of higher learning

Who is a Gifted Child?

The gifted child is defined as one with exceptional promise, application, deportment, and character that exhibits high intellectual capacity, curiosity, academic aptitude, and creative ability. Some general characteristics include:

- Shows superior reasoning powers and marked ability to handle ideas; can generalize readily from specific facts and can see subtle relationships; has outstanding problem-solving ability.
- Shows persistent intellectual curiosity; asks searching questions; shows exceptional interest in the nature of man and the universe.
- Has a wide range of interests, often of an intellectual kind; develops one or more interests to a considerable depth.
- Is markedly superior in quality and quantity of written and/or spoken vocabulary; is interested in the subtleties of words and their uses.
- Reads and absorbs books well beyond his or her years.
- Learns quickly and easily and retains what is learned; recalls important details, concepts and principles.
- Shows insight into arithmetical problems that require careful reasoning and is able grasps mathematical concepts readily.
- Shows creative or imaginative ability
- Sustains concentration for lengthy periods and shows outstanding responsibility and independence in classroom work.
- Sets realistically high standards for self; is self-critical in evaluating and correcting his or her own efforts.

- Shows initiative and originality in intellectual work; shows flexibility in thinking and considers problems from a number of viewpoints.
- Observes keenly and is responsive to new ideas.
- Shows social poise and an ability to communicate with adults in a mature way.
- Gets excitement and pleasure from intellectual challenge; shows an alert and subtle sense of humor