

Al-Ummah Canada 2020 Participant Selection Policy

As part of the participant selection process for the Al-Ummah 2020 program, guidelines have been set out to ensure that the program standards are maintained, including specific consideration for the best interest of the program.

In the event that the number of applications exceeds the maximum, an ethical and equitable process will be undertaken when selecting participants. As a foundational criterion, candidates must be the age of at least 15 years of age before the start of the program, and must not be older than 18 years of age.

Participants will be considered for selection based on the following criteria:

- ☑ **Age** – 17/18 year olds who are still in or will have completed secondary education will receive priority as this will be their last opportunity to attend Al-Ummah Canada.
- ☑ **Wait List Status** – Youth who previously applied to the program and were waitlisted will receive priority.
- ☑ **Diversity** – We want to ensure representation from across a diverse array of segments, including youth from marginalized and minority populations in our Jamat.
- ☑ **Institutional Commitments** – Youth who are recommended by relevant Jamati institutions based on their circumstance will be given priority (ie. QLIP).
- ☑ **Gender** – Having a balanced number of females and males
- ☑ **Geographical Location** – Ensuring there is fair representation from all Canadian regions
- ☑ **First-Time Participants** – Priority will be given to those who have not attended the Horizons al-Ummah program in the past

Once the above criteria is taken into consideration, the remainder of the participants will be selected based on their responses to the questions on the application. The responses should in some way articulate their interest in the program and what they hope to gain from the experience. This will be a merit-based process. Once selections are made, the remainder of the participants will be placed on a wait list. If spots open up, they will be contacted.