

United World College East Africa

Moshi, Tanzania



At the foot of Kilimanjaro, Africa's first IB diploma school pairs mountain-named boarding houses with a hundred-nation community.

RANKING DIMENSIONS

Overall	70/100
Academic outcomes	71/100
University placement	69/100
Prestige & heritage	70/100
Alumni network	71/100
Facilities	73/100
Transparency	65/100

EDITOR'S VERDICT

At the foot of Kilimanjaro, UWC East Africa offers a combination few schools can match: a full IB pathway from ages 3 to 19, a genuine boarding culture, and a student body drawn from over ****100 nationalities****. Founded in 1969 as International School Moshi, it became part of the UWC movement in 2019, and that matters. The UWC badge carries a distinct moral and educational proposition: internationalism with edge, not the polished neutrality of a standard premium international school. With around ****700 students**** across its Moshi and Arusha campuses and more than ****300 boarders****, this is not a boutique school and not a generic expat compound either. It sits in a rare position: **mission-driven**, **unusually cosmopolitan** and geographically far from the over-supplied international school markets of Europe, Dubai or

Singapore.

What puts it on a shortlist is the coherence of the offer. This is an IB World School across PYP, MYP and Diploma, with CIS and AISA accreditation as well as UWC membership. That combination gives it substance. Parents looking for a school with a serious international intake, not just an international curriculum, will find one here. Residential life is central rather than decorative, and the school makes that plain. The average annual fee is **\$19,671** for day pupils and **\$42,200** for boarders across the full age range, which places it in the premium international bracket but not at the extreme end of global boarding prices. For families who value breadth of nationality mix, boarding depth and an education tied to questions of culture, service and global responsibility, that is a *compelling* proposition.

This school will suit students who want more than a strong timetable and a safe campus. It will suit internationally mobile children, third-culture students and academically capable teenagers who thrive in a community with a clear collective ethos. It will also suit adventurous boarders: children happy to live intensely with peers from many countries, and to treat school as a full social and intellectual environment rather than a day school with dormitories attached. It will not suit families who want a conventional hothouse, a narrow exam factory or a socially insulated boarding experience. UWC East Africa trades on *breadth of outlook*, *serious community life* and a setting that asks students to engage with the world beyond their own bubble. For the right child, that is the point.

STRENGTHS

- First school in Africa to offer the IB Diploma Programme, having introduced it in 1977, and played a role in developing the IB Middle Years Programme in the early 1980s.
- Joined the UWC movement in 2019 as its 18th school globally, giving access to the UWC scholarship network in which over 80% of nationally-selected students receive full or partial funding.
- Genuinely diverse community of around 700 students aged 3 to 19 drawn from more than 100 nationalities across two campuses.
- Structured residential life from age eight upward, with dedicated houses, house parents, and weekly tutor mentoring alongside day-school options.
- Location on the slopes of Mount Kilimanjaro and Mount Meru gives ready access to outdoor pursuits, safari parks, and the school's own coastal site at Pangani.

TRADE - OFFS

- Split across two campuses (Moshi and Arusha), which can complicate logistics for families and create variation in facilities and programme delivery between sites.
- Full day/boarding fees run into the tens of thousands of dollars per year once tuition, residential and capital development charges are combined, before scholarships are factored in.
- Diploma places are limited and competitive, with the school advising applicants to apply 9-12 months in advance to secure a spot.
- Remote regional location in northern Tanzania means limited surrounding infrastructure and longer international travel times compared with capital-city international schools.

ADMISSIONS

Entry is possible at any stage from age 3 through the IB Diploma, with no fixed application deadline, though Diploma places are limited and the school recommends applying 9-12 months ahead. Scholarship-seeking Diploma applicants must apply via their national UWC committee; others can use the Global Selection Programme (GSP), which requires ability to pay full fees. There is no application fee for PYP/MYP, but GSP Diploma applicants pay a processing fee. Scholarships are needs-based and allocated through national committees rather than the school directly.

WTS RATING 

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