

Indian Council for Cultural Relations Scholarship FAQ's

Is it required that a proficiency level in English is mandatory for studying in Indian Universities

Yes, Since the medium of studying in Indian Universities is English, Students from abroad are required to be sufficiently proficient in English Language to properly clear the academic lecture etc.

What challenges should I expect to face?

Many students who leave their country, especially those leaving the country for the first time and those who are leaving at younger ages (coming straight from school for undergraduate courses) may encounter homesickness or loneliness and language barriers. Indians believe in "Athiti Devo Bhava" philosophy which means "Guests are like God" and treat foreigners with respect. However, of the many initial experiences, when one is dealing with a new culture for the first time, culture shock could be also one of experiences that foreign students might face. India and Indians have a lot to offer to you. Wish you the best. Good luck!

What should I pack?

The applicant should decide on his/her own, according to your requirements and weather conditions of city in India where your admission is confirmed.

Where can I exchange money on arrival in India?

On arrival in India, you can exchange money at the airports, where you have landed.

Will I require to carry some money with me on arrival in India?

Yes, you are advised to carry some money on arrival in India, which should be in currency that can be exchanged into Indian Rupees. This will be of help till you receive advance stipend to meet any incidental expenses and join the University.

Am I entitled for an air-ticket in this scholarship?

There are schemes, which have provision for to and fro air-ticket. However, all schemes do not have this provision. In such cases students have to pay for their own air passage. Schemes are based on the countries and type of course.

Can I take a print-out of my application at any stage?

Yes, you can.

Is the degree awarded by Indian University/Institution recognized?

The degree is awarded by the University. Before applying for a particular University, you are advised to check with the Qualifications Assessment Department in your country for equivalence of degree awarded in India vis-à-vis your country.

What are the academic requirements at the time of joining an Under-Graduate course?

Student should have passed the 12th standard for joining the Under-Graduate course

Can I study double courses during my stay in India?

Under ICCR Scholarship programme you can pursue only one course to which you are admitted.

Can I come 2/3 months before my study?

Students wishing to come 2/3 months in advance to India can come on their expense, as ICCR begins incurring expenditure on the students only on their joining the University.

Do I need Immunization?

Immunization requirements vary from country to country? Please check with your local authorities or Indian Mission for information on this subject.

Do I need a Passport?

Yes, you must have a valid passport, issued by the relevant authorities of your government

I am a student with disability, Can I apply for scholarship?

Yes. In case of minor disability you can apply. In case of major disability when presence of care taker/family member is required, applicant/care-taker should finance their stay in India as ICCR has no provision for any payment for the stay of Care-taker/family member under this scholarship.

Can I work in India during my study?

No, you are not allowed to work in India while studying under ICCR scholarship.

Can I stay in India after my course is finished?

No, you have to leave India after receiving your provisional marksheets /certificates before expiry of your Residential Permit.

Can I apply for a programme other than listed?

No, only enlisted programmes are on offer.

Whom should I contact in case of emergency?

You can contact the College authorities, International Students' Advisor if there is one in your University and ICCR's Regional Office. Depending on the nature of emergency if required you can contact the local police in the city where you are studying and Scholarship Officer at ICCR HQs at Delhi.

What if I fail in exams?

Your scholarship will be discontinued and you shall have to study as self-financed student. Scholarship will be revived if you clear all your backlog examination papers in time. ICCR also has the right to cancel a scholarship if any student is found indulging in any malpractice/ anti-social/ criminal activities on or off the campus.

Where should I reside, in hostel or some other type of accommodation?

It is mandatory to stay in hostel. Students will be admitted only in the colleges/ institutes offering residential facilities.

Is Medical Treatment covered under this scholarship?

Yes. ICCR provides for medical treatment as per the Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS) Rules of the Government of India. Reimbursement are made only to the extent possible within CGHS rules even if the treatment is taken in private hospitals.

What is the detail of scholarship amount?

Please refer the list on the Portal for scholarship details.

How do I get my scholarship dues?

You will get three months' advance stipend on arrival. You have to open your Bank account in the nearest branch of the State Bank of India for receiving further scholarship dues, as after the first three months all payments would be transferred only to the bank account.

What formalities are required on arrival in India?

After completing his/her admission formalities, the student should ensure registration with local Foreign Regional Registration Office (FRRO) within two weeks of arrival in India. After the registration with FRRO he/she should obtain the Residential Permit within 90 days. The student should also open his/her bank account within one month of arrival, so that his/her stipend could be deposited in his/her bank only.

I want to apply for Ph.D. course. Is an interview required for admission?

It depends on the concerned University. Some Universities may take an interview before finally selecting the candidate, hence the applicant should be prepared for the same.

Can I join after the last date/deadline of joining my course?

Applicants may join his/her course preferably one or two days before the final date of joining. If the student is not able to join in a one month's time, his/her admission would be considered cancelled.

Can I change my course/university if I am not able to cope up with studies?

Students are encouraged to complete their course once admitted. In case of any mid-term discontinuation of the course, student will have to reimburse the entire sum spent on him/her by ICCR till the expenditure was incurred on the student by ICCR.

Can I discontinue the course midway?

Students are encouraged to complete their course once admitted. In case of any mid-term discontinuation of the course, student will have to reimburse the entire sum spent on him/her by ICCR till the expenditure was incurred on the student by ICCR.

What kind of programmes are available?

Indian Universities offer courses at Under Graduate (UG), Post Graduate (PG), M. Phil (Master of Philosophy) and Ph.D. (Doctorate of Philosophy) level. You can apply for UG, PG, M. Phil. Ph.D. according to your previous course. The list of courses offered in Indian State and Central Universities is available with the application form.

Can I apply in any Universities/Institutions in India?

ICCR scholarships are offered only for studies in the Indian State and Central Universities. ICCR scholarships are not offered for studying in the Private Indian or Deemed Universities. Applicant, therefore are advised to not to apply for any University in India.

ICCR forwards the applications forwarded by Indian Missions to the Central and State Universities of India in various states, list of which is available on the A2A ICCR Scholarship Portal/ in the Application Form. ICCR does not forward applications to any Private and deemed Universities in India.

What kind of Certificates/Testimonials are required to be carried along with at the time of admission?

The applicant has to carry following documents in English and in Original for verification by the concerned University authorities.

- i. Mark Sheets
- ii. Birth certificate

- iii. School leaving Certificate
- iv. Nationality certificate
- v. ID card provided by your Government
- vi. Passport

What kind of Visa is required for studying in India?

The applicants seeking admission in Under Graduate and Post Graduate courses have to apply for "Student Visa". Those seeking admissions for M.Phil. and Ph.D. courses have to apply for "Research Visa". Once the applicant's admission is confirmed, applicant has to apply for right category of visa for the courses mentioned above. In case of incorrect visa endorsed, the applicant may be repatriated to his/her country to seek a correct category of visa.

Is ICCR scholarship also available for Medical courses?

No, ICCR does not offer scholarships for courses for courses in medicine stream.

How and when I will know whether my application has been accepted or rejected?

Once the University ascertains your eligibility and confirms your provisional admission, Indian Mission in your country will receive confirmation.

Can I select the University/Institution of my choices?

Yes, you can apply for three options. However, the admission is subject to meeting the criteria of the concerned university.

Is submission of application a guarantee of my admission?

No, submission of application is not a guarantee of your admission, as your admission is decided by the University concerned on the basis of your credentials and as per their own eligibility criteria. Indian Mission and ICCR have no role in admission process and confirmation of admission is also non-transferable.

Can I make changes once I have completed and submitted my application?

No it's not possible to make any changes once your application is finally submitted. However, in case of any major discrepancy, Indian Mission in that country may send a message to apply a fresh application only once again.

How can I submit my online application? Do I need the user ID and password to apply?

You have to check the option "Student's registration" on the home page of A2A ICCR Scholarship Portal. On filling the fields at the time of registration you will get a Unique User ID and Password

for applying online. This user ID and Password will be communicated to you on your email. Using the User ID and Password you can access the application form and fill the same. Kindly fill the application as per instructions and click 'Save' button after filling each page and then go to the next page. Once you complete the process you may press the 'Submit' button. On its successful submission you will get a registration number, which can be used for further reference.

I do not have access to internet, how can I apply online?

In case you are interested in applying for ICCR scholarship but do not have internet connectivity or access, you can go to the Indian Embassy and meet the Education Officer of the Embassy. Embassy officials would assist you in filling the application.

Will my application be accepted in hard copy or by Post?

No, only online applications will be accepted.

Can I apply from any other location than my country?

Since the applications are to be filled online, you can apply on the A2A ICCR Scholarship portal from any other location than your country. However, the online applications will have to be submitted on the said portal only through the Indian Embassy in your country.

Where and how should I apply for ICCR scholarships?

Interested applicant should register and apply on "A2A ICCR Scholarship portal" and submit their applications through the Indian Embassy in their country.