



ANNOUNCEMENT OF ICCR AFRICA SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME FOR 2021-22

The Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR), Government of India is offering 70 scholarships (including 5 for Rodrigues) to meritorious Mauritian students for the academic session of 2021-22 for pursuing studies in Undergraduate/Postgraduate/PhD courses. In case the 5 slots are not utilized by students from Rodrigues, students from Mauritius would be open to apply for them.

The fields for which scholarships are being offered under Africa Scholarship Scheme are as under:-

S. No.	Course
1.	Engineering
2.	Science
3.	Commerce and Economics
4.	Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences
5.	Indian Languages (i) For Laureate Scholars (ii) For others
6.	Agriculture
7.	Applied Courses like:- <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pharma• Design• Fashion technology• Fine Arts• Journalism & Mass Communication• Performing Arts• Visual Arts• Computer Applications• Tourism Management• and others

Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) and Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs) are not covered under the Scheme. The Scheme is tenable only in public Universities in India and not in private institutions. Scholarships for Medical/ Paramedical/ Nursing/ Physiotherapy/ Anesthesia and related fields are not offered under the scheme.

The scholarships include a monthly stipend starting at INR 18,000 and a contingent grant (per annum) starting at INR 5500. Tuition Fee (TF), Other Compulsory Fees (OCF) (excluding security/refundable deposit) and hostel fee are directly paid as per actual to the institutions by the Council. It also includes Return Economy Class Airfares to the nearest International Airport and 3rd class AC Train fare to the place of study, if so required. The Mission will

purchase and provide the air ticket to India to the selected students. No student would be permitted to claim reimbursement of airfares in India. It may be noted that ICCR has introduced the online method of disbursement of all scholarship payments, under the Government of India guidelines on direct payment to beneficiaries.

Compared to earlier years, this year ICCR has made some **important procedural changes** for applying for the ICCR Scholarships as under:

- a. According to new admission policy, **applications will be directly sent by students to respective Universities** in the a2a portal. A large number of Universities / Institutes (except ICAR and Ayush) are linked on A2A Portal for receiving applications directly from foreign students.
- b. Applicants will now have the option to **apply to 5 Universities / Institutes** in the order of their preference of study. The admission, as far as possible, shall be given as per applicant's preference. However, Students should be prepared to receive admission from any of their five preferences.
- c. A 500-word essay in English has been introduced to ascertain English Proficiency. Universities/ Institutes may also conduct interview of the applicants online, if so required.
- d. Rejected candidates will be intimated by Universities as against earlier years where universities did not communicate rejection.

Interested Candidates should apply only through the **Admission to Alumni (A2A) portal of ICCR** <http://a2ascholarships.iccr.gov.in>. The last date for receiving the applications through A2A portal is **30th April 2021**. *Instructions for the applicants while applying for Africa Scholarship Scheme are available under the 'Guidelines' link in the a2a portal.*

In order to ensure security of the foreign students, ICCR advises students to stay in hostel, if available. However, students are allowed to stay in private accommodation if the concerned institute does not insist on staying in their hostel.

The following may please be noted:

- i.** All entries (except the signature) in the online application form should be filled in correctly.
- ii.** Application should be complete in all aspects, with all the required information and all necessary supporting documents, as listed below:
 - A recent size photograph not more than 3.5*4.5 cm (25kb) should be uploaded on the application form in the space provided.
 - Copies of all academic qualifications certificates and mark sheets, including those relating to school leaving examination must be uploaded in a **single pdf file** .
 - A certificate of physical fitness in the prescribed form.

- Recommendations/Character certificates from existing school.
 - Certified copies of relevant pages of candidate's valid passport showing photograph, name, date of issue, date of expiry and place of issue. Please ensure your passport is valid for the duration of the course.
- iii.** It is advised that the student must ascertain the **availability, exact title, curriculum covered and specialization** of the course (honors or not) before choosing a university as their options on the a2a portal (For example Savitri Bai Phule University, Pune does not offer any course with Honors). The High Commission of India or the ICCR will not be able to change the course/ University once the offer has been communicated.
- iv.** Students are strongly advised to visit the website of the Universities of their choice to obtain all relevant information before applying.
- v.** Students should be prepared to accept offer from any of the five universities. Please also note that once you accept admission to a particular discipline in a particular institution, subsequent changes either in the Institution or discipline would not be possible.
- vi.** For applying for B.E. course, the students **must have studied Physics, Chemistry and Mathematics (PCM) in his/her school leaving examination.**
- vii.** Students **Not** holding an **Honors degree** may also apply for a Post graduate Master's Degree. The subsequent selection will be at the discretion of the University.
- viii.** Students who are waiting for their degrees from Indian Universities may apply, subject to the University's approval that they are applying for.
- ix.** Students applying for doctoral/post-doctoral courses or Architecture should enclose a synopsis of the proposed area of study along with their application forms.
- x.** Students wishing to study **Performing Arts should upload video/audio/youtube link, preferably of solo performances**, for assessment by the University.
- xi.** Candidates are informed that Indian Universities/educational institutions are autonomous and independent and hence they have their own eligibility criteria. A scholarship is awarded only when **admission is confirmed by ICCR. Direct communication with the university is not a confirmation of Scholarship.**
- xii.** Should an application for admission be unsuccessful, the concerned university/ universities will communicate its / their decision to the students directly.

- xiii.** Any request for a subsequent change in course of study or University will not be entertained once admission of a student is confirmed and the student has arrived to join the course in India.
- xiv.** In case of selection of a candidate for the scholarship, an **undertaking** would be taken from him/her to the effect that in case of **failure to complete** the course after joining the relevant course in India, he/she would **refund** to the Government of India the full expenditure of scholarship amount and other expenses (including airfare) paid by the Government of India or its agencies incurred on his/her behalf, within a period of 30 days after his/her return to Mauritius.
- xv.** The physical fitness form and further information regarding the Scholarships can be found under the link 'Guidelines' at the above A2A portal.
- xvi.** Applicants should be above 18 years age at the time of admission in Indian Universities / Institutes and not more than 30 years of age. For PhD courses age limit is 45 years.
- xvii.** The applications will be scrutinized and forwarded by the High Commission of India.
- xviii.** ***It is mandatory for students to avail of a personal medical insurance policy of INR 500,000 (equivalent to USD 6,800) per annum from the company of their choice. The students must have medical insurance coverage on their own either before travel or immediately after reaching India, whatever is convenient to students. However to facilitate students, A2A Portal has two insurance companies for referral purpose.***
- xix.** At its own discretion, ICCR may amend certain clauses of the scholarships from time to time and it is incumbent on the students to accept the revised terms.

The last date for filling the application form is 30 April 2021.

For any assistance/information please contact

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