

COMMUNIQUE

OFFER OF POSTGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA UNDER THE "AFRICA SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME" 2017-2018

Applications are invited from suitably qualified Mauritian nationals for the award of **22 scholarships** at **postgraduate** levels in India for **Academic Year 2017/2018** as follows:

SN	Course	No. of Slots Postgraduate
1	Science & Engineering	8
2	Economics/Commerce	3
3	Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences	4
4	Indian Languages	4
5	Indian Philosophy	1
6	Performing Arts	2
	TOTAL	22

Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) and Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs) are not covered under the Scheme.

Scholarships for MBBS/MD/MS/BDS and related fields are not offered under the scheme.

The scholarships are tenable **only** in **public universities** in India.

2. Fields of Study

2.1 Candidates should consult the List of Indicative Priority Fields of Study made available on the Notice Board of the Ministry of Education and Human Resources, Tertiary Education and Scientific Research, Ground Floor, MITD House, Phoenix, or visit the following website:

<http://ministry-education.govmu.org>

However, candidates must ensure that the course of study applied for is available in the Public Universities/Institutions of their choice. Candidates should also clearly mention the course and university where they intend to seek admission.

In this respect, the "Universities Handbook" available at the High Commission of India, the University Grants Commission's website at <http://www.ugc.ac.in> and the concerned Institute's website may be consulted for eligibility criteria and other relevant information. In addition, the list of universities where Indian Council Cultural Relations (ICCR) scholars are usually studying is also available on the ICCR website at <http://www.iccrindia.net>

Note 1: Candidates are strongly advised to ascertain course availability in Indian Universities of their choice & indicate same in the application documentation.

Note 2: Candidates are advised to submit applications for studies tenable in universities listed with the ICCR as available on the ICCR website.

Note 3: Candidates making application for courses not available in Indian Universities will find their applications rejected.

3. Eligibility Requirements

A. For Master's Degree

- (i) SC/GCE 'O' level with credits in at least five subjects including English Language at one and the same sitting;
- (ii) HSC with three subjects at Principal level obtained at one and the same sitting and a **pass in General Paper**; and
- (iii) A minimum standard of Second Class Honours Bachelor's degree in the relevant field.

B. M.Phil/PhD

- (i) SC/GCE 'O' level with credits in at least five subjects including English Language at one and the same sitting;
- (ii) HSC with three subjects at Principal level obtained at one and the same sitting and a **pass in GP**;
- (iii) A Bachelor's Degree or equivalent in the relevant field; and
- (iv) A Master's degree.

C. For Postdoctoral Studies

- (i) SC/GCE 'O' level with credits in at least five subjects including English Language at one and the same sitting;
- (ii) HSC with three subjects at Principal level obtained at one and the same sitting and a **pass in GP**;
- (iii) A Bachelor's Degree or equivalent in the relevant field;
- (iv) A Master's degree; and
- (v) A PhD.

Or

D. An alternative/equivalent qualification to A, B, and C acceptable by the relevant Indian Authorities. The onus for the provision of equivalence of qualifications rests upon the applicants.

Note 1 Candidates willing to follow Science Courses will have to bear the expenditure on Laboratory costs, Chemicals and other related incidental charges.

Note 2 Students wishing to study Performing Arts should enclose evidence of their recorded performances wherever possible, along with a few sample photographs while performing and testimonials of two experts in their specific fields.

Note 3 Candidates for Master's programme should submit a motivation letter of 100 to 150 words justifying their interest in the course chosen.

Note 4 Applicants for the field of **Architecture** should submit a Synopsis of **not less than** 500 words along with their application form.

Note 5 **Applicants for doctoral/post-doctoral Programmes should submit a Research Proposal/Synopsis of not less than 1500 words of the proposed area of study together with their Application Form.** Research Visa is required for M.Phil and higher courses. It is to be noted that once in India conversion of a Student Visa into a Research Visa is **not** possible.

Note 6 Applicants should indicate any list of research publications in academic journals/proceedings.

Note 7 Priority will be given to students who have never studied in India under ICCR scholarships before. Students who have formerly studied on ICCR scholarships would be given second preference.

Note 8 In case suitable numbers of candidates are not available in any of the subject-categories (and their levels) mentioned above, **slots could be passed on to other categories.**

3.1 **Age Limit**

Candidates should not be more than **35 years of age** for Masters and **40 years of age** for Doctoral and Postdoctoral Studies by the closing date of submission of applications.

4. Scholarship Related Information

- 4.1 **Economy class return airfares are provided under this Scheme.**
- 4.2 **Students are mandatorily required to stay in the hostel facilities, provided by the colleges throughout the duration of their course.** Private accommodation may be allowed only when hostel facility is not available with a college recommended by the University, but has good educational facilities, and Applications for shifting from hostel to private accommodation would be considered only on case to case and exceptional cases where the students has compelling reason (supported by documentary proof) to stay out of hostel. No Objection and No Dues certificate from Hostel/Institute authority should have to be obtained.
- 4.3 **Nominated candidates will not have the possibility of changing either the selected Programme of study or the University once admission has been finalized.**
- 4.4 **The Universities and Programmes identified must be indicated in the applicant's motivation letter.** Relevant information about the courses may also be secured from the website of the University concerned or from the "**Universities handbook**" available for consultation at the Indian High Commission in Mauritius.
- 4.5 Prospective applicants should **exercise due diligence and research on the specific admission criteria** laid down by the various universities of India for each subject.
- 4.6 Students will not be allowed to **shift or change** campuses of allotted institutions without **prior** permission of the ICCR. **The Scholars will also have to inform/take permission from ICCR before they leave India. Stipend will not be provided for period spent outside India.**
- 4.7 Applications from nominees whose admissions were finalised in earlier years but had left without completing the courses will not be considered. Similarly, as per ICCR norms, **self-financing students already studying in India will not be converted to ICCR scholars.**
- 4.8 Nominated candidates will be requested to sign an undertaking at the High Commission for India to the effect that, in case of failure to complete the course they would refund to the Government of India or its agencies the full expenditure (including airfare) incurred by the Government of India within a period of 30 days after their return to Mauritius.

- 4.9 All candidates should ensure that **certified** copies of certificates, transcripts of final university results/mark sheets and all other relevant documents relating to their qualifications are submitted to the Scholarships Section, along with their applications. Wrongly filled, incomplete application forms **or/and** non-submission of certified copies of relevant documents will result in their elimination from the selection exercise. Certification of documents can be done at the Scholarships Section of the Ministry of Education and Human Resources, Tertiary Education and Scientific Research or at the Careers Guidance Service in Rose Hill. The certified copies of **all** documents **(if not in English) should be accompanied with their corresponding English translation**.
- 4.10 Applicants nominated in previous years but whose admissions could not be finalized due to administrative reasons may reapply. However, nominees whose admissions were finalized in earlier years but did not complete their courses will not be considered.
- 4.11 In case they are selected, candidates will need to submit the **Certificate of Fitness** endorsed by a Registered Medical Practitioner to the Scholarships Section. In this respect, **candidates are advised to make prior arrangements so that this certificate is submitted at the time of notification of selection**. The template for the Certificate of Fitness can be downloaded from the Ministry's website at:
- <http://ministry-education.govmu.org>
- 4.12 Beneficiaries of scholarships will be required to sign an undertaking at the Ministry of Education and Human Resources, Tertiary Education and Scientific Research (Scholarships Section), thereby committing themselves to return to Mauritius immediately after completion of their studies and work for at least two years in the public or private sector.
- 4.13 Candidates who have not been informed of their short listing within six weeks as from the closing date for application should consider that they have not been short listed.

5. Mode of Application

- 5.1 Applications must be made on the prescribed form available at the Scholarships Section, Ministry of Education and Human Resources, Tertiary Education and Scientific Research, 1st Floor, MITD House, Phoenix, or which may be downloaded from the Ministry's website:

<http://ministry-education.govmu.org>

- Applicants should submit certified copies of all supporting documents after application for the scholarship on line, which should not be later than the closing date specified below.
- 5.2 The completed forms along with all supporting documents should be submitted to the Scholarships Section of the Ministry by **Monday 16 January 2017 at 14.00 hours at latest.**
 - 5.3 Responsible parties of applicants not in Mauritius may apply on behalf of their wards.
 - 5.4 Applicants already in employment, whether public or private, must fill in the application forms in duplicate. One copy thereof along with the relevant supporting documents should be submitted to the Scholarships Section, and one copy to the applicant's employer to enable the latter to decide on the release of applicant for the course, and if so, on what terms and conditions. **Such information should be made available together with the applications.**
 - 5.5 A Communiqué will be placed on the website in due course to inform applicants that the selection exercise has been completed.
 - 5.6 Applicants are reminded that being nominated by the Ministry does not automatically guarantee final selection for an award. Indian Universities/Educational Institutions are autonomous and independent and hence, have their own eligibility criteria. **A scholarship is awarded only when admission is confirmed by ICCR.**
 - 5.7 The Indian Authorities will not entertain applications which are sent directly by the potential students to the High Commission of Mauritius in India.

3 January 2017

**Scholarships Section
Ministry of Education and Human Resources,
Tertiary Education and Scientific Research
MITD House, Phoenix
Postal Code 73544**