

COMMUNIQUE

OFFER OF SCHOLARSHIPS FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA UNDER THE "AFRICA SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME" 2018-2019

Applications are invited from suitably qualified Mauritian nationals for the award of **92 scholarships** at undergraduate and postgraduate levels in India for **Academic Year 2018/2019** as follows:

SN	Course	No. of Slots	
		Undergraduate	Postgraduate
1	Science & Engineering	31	6
2	Economics/Commerce	6	5
3	Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences	12	4
4	Indian Languages	20	2
5	Indian Philosophy	1	1
6	Performing Arts	2	2
	TOTAL	72	20

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

Scholarships for Medical/Paramedical/Nursing/Physiotherapy/Anesthesia and related fields as well as Fashion courses are not offered under the scheme.

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, Pont Fer, 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 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 ICCR scholars are usually studying is also available on the ICCR website at <http://a2ascholarships.iccr.gov.in>

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.

3. Eligibility Requirements

A. For Bachelor'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**.

B. 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.

C. For 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 General Paper**;
- (iii) A Bachelor's Degree or equivalent in the relevant field; and
- (iv) A Master's degree.

D. 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 General Paper**;
- (iii) A Bachelor's Degree or equivalent in the relevant field;
- (iv) A Master's degree; and
- (v) A PhD.

OR

An alternative qualification acceptable and equivalent to A, B, C and D.

OR

An Equivalent qualification acceptable by the relevant Indian Authorities as mentioned at A, B, C and D.

The onus for provision of equivalence of qualifications rests upon the applicants.

Note 1 Candidates applying for Engineering Courses must have Physics, Chemistry and Mathematics at Principal level. Those applying for Science courses must have the relevant science subjects at Principal level.

Note 2 Candidates willing to follow Science Courses will have to bear the expenditure on Laboratory costs, Chemicals and other related incidental charges.

Note 3 Candidates applying for Indian Languages at undergraduate level must have obtained a Pass at Principal level in the subject they propose to study at the University and must be eligible for a degree course in Indian Universities.

Note 4 Priority will be given to students who have never studied in India before. Students who have formerly studied on Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) scholarships would be given second preference.

Note 5 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.

Note 6 Candidates applying for doctoral/post-doctoral courses or **Architecture** should submit a Synopsis of the proposed area of study, of **not less than** 500 words along with their application forms.

Note 7 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. Those who wish to apply for BA (Fine Arts) should enclose 12 slides of their own work along with their application forms.

3.1 Age Limit

Candidates should not be more than **25 years of age** for undergraduate courses, **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 airfares to the nearest international airport and 3rd class AC Train fare to the place of study, if so required.**
- 4.2 **In order to ensure security of the foreign students, the ICCR has decided to make it compulsory for all ICCR sponsored students to stay inside hostel. No student will be allowed to stay in private accommodation as per the amended policy of the council.**
- 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 and confirmed.**
- 4.4 Prospective applicants should **exercise due diligence and research on the specific admission criteria** laid down by the various universities of India for each subject.
- 4.5 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.**
- 4.6 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.**
- 4.7 Nominated candidates will be requested to sign an undertaking at the High Commission of 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.

5. Mode of Application

- 5.1 All applicants should submit **two** applications for consideration for this scholarship as follows:
 - (i) **Application on the Local Prescribed Form; and**
 - (ii) **online application through the Admission to Alumni A2A Portal of the ICCR.**

5.2 **Application on the Local Prescribed Form**

- (a) Applications must be made on the Local Prescribed Form available at the Scholarships Section of the Ministry of Education and Human Resources, Tertiary Education and Scientific Research, Level 1, MITD House, Pont Fer, Phoenix or may be downloaded from the Ministry's website:

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

- (b) The completed form must be accompanied with **2 sets** of certified copies of all the required supporting documents.
- (c) **The deadline for submitting the completed Local Application Form to the Scholarships Section, Ministry of Education and Human Resources, Tertiary Education and Scientific Research, along with all documents, is Tuesday 20th February 2018 at 14 00 hours at latest.**
- (d) 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 application form. Non-submission of same will result in 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.**
- (e) Applicants already in employment, whether public or private, must fill in the local application form 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 to follow the course, and if so, on what terms and conditions. Such information should be made available together with the applications.

5.3 **Online application through portal of ICCR**

- (a) One application must be submitted online through the Admission to Alumni (A2A) portal of the ICCR **<http://a2ascholarships.iccr.gov.in>**
- (b) The closing date for the online application is **Wednesday 28th February 2018.**

(c) The following is to be noted for the online application:-

- (i) All entries (except the signature) in the online application form should be filled in correctly.
- (ii) Applications 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 x 4.5 cm (25kb) should be uploaded on the application form in the space provided.
 - Copies of SC, HSC, Undergraduate, Postgraduate certificates, Statement of results, marksheets must be uploaded.
 - A certificate of physical fitness on the prescribed form by a registered medical practitioner.
 - 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. Applicants must ensure that their passport is valid for the duration of the course.

Candidates are strongly advised to make early arrangements to obtain their passports, as this is a required document for the online application through the portal of the ICCR.

6. 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.

7. Important

- 7.1 **It is mandatory that applications are completed and are submitted both to the Ministry of Education and Human Resources, Tertiary Education and Scientific Research on the Local Application Form and also through the A2A Portal of ICCR website, with all supporting documents. Failure to submit application to either of the above mentioned institutions will entail elimination from the selection exercise.**

- 7.2 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.
- 7.3 The Indian Authorities will not entertain applications which are sent directly to the ICCR New Delhi/High Commission of Mauritius in India.
8. A Communiqué will be placed on the website in due course to inform applicants that the selection exercise has been completed.

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

24 January 2018