

External Scholarship Opportunities

National Agencies

- **Indian Council For Cultural Relations**

- The Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) is an autonomous organization under the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India. It was established with the following objectives:
 1. *To establish, revive, and strengthen cultural relations and mutual understanding between India and other countries;*
 2. *To promote cultural exchange with other nations; and*
 3. *To undertake all necessary measures to further these objectives.*
- To achieve this, ICCR sponsors Indian citizens for its outgoing cultural delegation programme. These cultural delegations travel both within the framework of India's Cultural Exchange Programmes and beyond, ensuring a widespread global reach. an enduring testament to India's civilisational belief in “**Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam**” (The world is one family).
- <https://iccr.gov.in/>

- **Indian Council of Social Science Research**

- The Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) is the apex body of the Government of India for research in the social and human sciences. Founded in 1969, ICSSR operates under the aegis of the Ministry of Education, Government of India. ICSSR offers a range of scholarship and fellowship programs to support Indian students and researchers in the field of social sciences. These include: Doctoral Fellowships, Post-Doctoral Fellowships, Senior Fellowships, Short-term and Contingency Grants etc. ICSSR's mission is to shape the agenda of social science research across the nation and contribute to informed policymaking and societal development by promoting research excellence.
- <https://icssr.org/>

- **Department of Science & Technology (DST)**

- The Department of Science & Technology (DST) was established in May 1971, with the objective of promoting new areas of Science & Technology and to play the role of a nodal department for organising, coordinating and promoting S&T activities in the country. It provides several funding opportunities specifically for college students pursuing science-related courses. One of the most prominent is the INSPIRE

Scholarship for Higher Education (SHE), which offers ₹80,000 per year to undergraduate students in natural and basic sciences, along with opportunities for internships under leading scientists. For female students, the Women Scientist Scheme offers funding for research and skill development. These initiatives aim to encourage scientific research and innovation among college students and support their transition into research careers.

- <https://dst.gov.in/>

- **University Grants Commission**

- University Grants Commission is a statutory body under the Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Education, Government of India. It was set up in accordance with the UGC Act 1956 and is charged with coordination, determination and maintenance of standards of higher education in India. The UGC (University Grants Commission) offers a wide range of fellowships and scholarships to support Indian students at undergraduate, postgraduate, doctoral, and postdoctoral levels. It provides monthly fellowships to students pursuing MPhil/PhD after qualifying NET and the Indira Gandhi Scholarship supports single girl children with ₹3,100/month during postgraduate studies. UGC's key objective is to promote higher education, especially among underprivileged, minority, and meritorious students.

- <https://www.ugc.gov.in>

- **Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR)**

- The Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR), known for its cutting edge Research & Development knowledge base in diverse Science & Tech. areas, is a contemporary R&D organization. CSIR has a dynamic network of 37 national laboratories, 39 outreach centres, 1 Innovation Complexes, and three units with a pan-India presence. CSIR has a vision to enhance the quality of life of the citizens of India through innovative Science and Technology, globally competitive R&D, by developing sustainable solutions and capacity building to fulfil the dream of “**Atmanirbhar Bharat**”. This vision of CSIR is aligned to the Government of India's vision for the next 25 years ‘Amrit Kal’ when independent India becomes 100 years old. The CSIR-NET JRF offers fellowships to students pursuing research in science and technology, with ₹31,000/month stipend. The CSIR-RA (Research Associateship) supports PhD holders in postdoctoral research with up to ₹47,000/month.

- <https://www.csir.res.in/>

- **Ministry of Education**

- India's greatest strength lies in its people, and to uplift our billion-strong population, ensuring access to basic education is essential for achieving a better quality of life. This requires holistic development of our citizens, which can be achieved by building a strong foundation in education. In pursuance of this mission, the Ministry of

Education was created on 26 September 1985 through the 174th Amendment of the Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules, 1961, which functions through two departments:

Department of School Education and Literacy

Department of Higher Education

- The Department of School Education and Literacy is responsible for the development of school education and literacy in the country and the Department of Higher Education manages the largest higher education system in the world after the United States of America and China. The Ministry of Education offers key schemes like the PMRF, which provides ₹70,000–80,000 monthly to PhD scholars at top institutes, and the Central Sector Scholarship, which supports UG/PG students from low-income families with tuition and maintenance aid.
- <https://www.education.gov.in/>

- **Indian Council for Medical Research**

- The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), the apex body for biomedical research in India, plays a pivotal role in advancing health science to meet national priorities. With a strong emphasis on generating, managing, and disseminating new knowledge, ICMR focuses on addressing the health challenges of vulnerable and marginalized populations. It actively promotes the use of modern biological tools, encourages innovation in diagnostics, treatment, and prevention, and works to cultivate a robust research culture in medical institutions by strengthening infrastructure and human resources across the country. The most important fellowships offered by ICMR are the Junior Research Fellowship (JRF), which supports postgraduate students pursuing PhD in biomedical sciences, and the Postdoctoral Fellowship, which enables PhD/MD holders to conduct advanced health research in ICMR institutes.
- <https://www.icmr.gov.in/>

- **All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE)**

- The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), established in November 1945, serves as the national-level apex advisory body for technical education in India. Its primary role is to assess the existing facilities and promote the coordinated development of technical education across the country. The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) offers several fellowships and opportunities to support students and researchers in technical fields. Key among them is the AICTE Doctoral Fellowship (ADF), which provides financial assistance to full-time PhD scholars in AICTE-approved institutions, encouraging quality research in emerging areas. AICTE also offers the PG Scholarship for GATE/GPAT qualified students pursuing post-graduate programs in engineering, technology, and pharmacy. Additionally,

AICTE promotes innovation and entrepreneurship through schemes like SPICES, MODROB, and IDEA Lab, aimed at enhancing research infrastructure and fostering a culture of innovation among students.

- <https://www.aicte-india.org/>

- **National Scholarship Portal**

- The National Scholarship Portal (NSP) is a centralized online platform launched by the Government of India to streamline the application, verification, and disbursement of various government scholarships. Designed to ensure transparency, efficiency, and minimal discrepancies, the portal serves as a "one-stop" solution for Indian students seeking scholarships offered by both central and state governments. As part of the Digital India initiative and the National e-Governance Plan, NSP hosts numerous schemes such as the Post Matric Scholarship for SC/ST/OBC students, Pre-Matric Scholarship for Minorities, Merit-cum-Means Scholarship for Professional and Technical Courses, and Top Class Education Scheme for SC students, among others.
- <https://nsp.gov.in>

- **Department for Biotechnology**

- India's journey into biosciences and biotechnology gained momentum in 1986 when Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi established a dedicated Department of Biotechnology under the Ministry of Science and Technology. Initiated in 1982 through the National Biotechnology Board, the move positioned India among the first nations to prioritize biotechnology for economic and scientific growth. The Department of Biotechnology offers prestigious fellowships like the Ramalingaswami Re-entry Fellowship and the DBT–Tata Innovation Fellowship to promote advanced research in biotechnology. The Ramalingaswami Fellowship supports Indian scientists returning from abroad with ₹1,00,000/month and a research grant for five years. The Tata Innovation Fellowship encourages mid-career scientists engaged in translational research by providing ₹25,000/month along with a ₹6 lakh annual research grant, aiming to drive impactful innovations in the field.
- <https://dbtindia.gov.in/#>

International Opportunities

- **Association of Commonwealth Universities**

- ACU is a global network of universities with a shared commitment to build a better world through international collaboration in higher education. As the world's first and oldest international university network, ACU has been bringing universities together from across the Commonwealth for more than 100 years. Its mission is to promote and support excellence in higher education for the benefit of individuals and societies throughout the Commonwealth and beyond. The ACU has over 400 member universities in more than 40 countries across the Commonwealth. It is represented in more than 50% of Commonwealth large ocean states. ACU's network covers over 10 million students and more than 1 million academic and professional staff.
- <https://www.acu.ac.uk/>

- **Rhodes Scholarship**

- The Rhodes Trust is a globally recognized organization dedicated to identifying and supporting exceptional students who demonstrate outstanding academic achievements, leadership potential, and a commitment to making a positive impact in the world. Through the prestigious Rhodes Scholarship, the Trust enables talented individuals from various countries, including India, to pursue postgraduate studies at the **University of Oxford**. The mission of the Rhodes Trust is to nurture leaders who are driven by a sense of public service, intellectual excellence, and a commitment to advancing global understanding and social justice. By fostering a diverse and vibrant community of scholars, the Trust aims to empower future change-makers to address some of the world's most pressing challenges.
- <https://www.rhodeshouse.ox.ac.uk/>

- **DAAD**

- The German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) is one of the world's largest funding organisations, dedicated to promoting international academic exchange. Headquartered in Bonn, Germany, DAAD supports students, researchers, and academics worldwide through a wide range of scholarships and funding programs. For Indian students, DAAD offers numerous opportunities for Master's, PhD, and research studies at leading German universities and institutions. The organization is committed to fostering global collaboration in education and research, enhancing academic cooperation.
- <https://www.daad.de/en/>

- **United States - India Educational Foundation (USIEF)**

- The United States – India Educational Foundation (USIEF) is dedicated to fostering mutual understanding between the people of India and the United States through educational exchanges involving outstanding scholars, professionals, and students.
- The Fulbright-Nehru grants provide exceptional opportunities for Indian students and scholars. Indian students can pursue master's degrees at U.S. institutions with funding support that covers tuition, living expenses, and other essentials. Ph.D. candidates enrolled at Indian universities can conduct a portion of their research in the U.S., benefiting from advanced resources and mentorship.
- <https://www.usief.org.in/>

- **Chevening Scholarships**

- Chevening is the UK government's international scholarships and fellowships programme. Chevening Scholarships enable outstanding emerging leaders from all over the world to pursue one-year master's degrees in the United Kingdom. It is funded by the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) and partner organisations and offers subjects in a diverse range of fields. Chevening Fellowships offer mid-senior level professionals the opportunity to undertake specialised short courses or research placements at UK universities and institutions.
- <https://www.chevening.org/>

- **Canada Research Scholarships**

- The Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada funds visionaries, explorers and innovators who are searching for scientific and technical breakthroughs. They are Canada's largest supporter of discovery and innovation and work with universities, colleges, businesses and not-for-profits to remove barriers, develop opportunities and attract new expertise to make Canada's research community thrive.
- https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Index_eng.asp

- **Swedish Institute Scholarships**

- The Swedish Institute is a public agency that promotes interest and trust in Sweden around the world. SI seeks to establish cooperation and lasting relations with other countries through strategic communication and exchange in the fields of culture, education, science and business.
- The Swedish Institute (SI) offers fully funded scholarships for studies on master's level in Sweden. SI is looking for ambitious professionals who want to make a difference. These scholarships offer a unique opportunity to develop professionally,

academically and build long-lasting relations with Sweden and other global professionals.

- <https://si.se/en/>

- **SINGA (Singapore International Graduate Award)**

- The Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A*STAR) is Singapore's lead public sector R&D agency. Through open innovation, they collaborate with various partners to benefit the economy and society. As a Science and Technology Organisation, A*STAR bridges the gap between academia and industry. A*STAR plays a key role in nurturing scientific talent and leaders for the wider research community and industry. Their R&D activities span from biomedical sciences to physical sciences and engineering, with research entities primarily located in Biopolis and Fusionopolis.
- The A*STAR Graduate Academy provides scholarships and fellowships to enable young aspiring scientific talent to pursue their passion in science, and prepare them for a rewarding career in R&D. In addition to offering scholarships and awards for undergraduate, PhD and postdoctoral studies at top universities and laboratories locally and overseas, they offer awards and attachment opportunities for pre-university students.
- <https://www.a-star.edu.sg/>

- **Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT); Australia**

- The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) of Australia plays a vital role in advancing and safeguarding the nation's international interests to ensure security and prosperity. It collaborates with global partners to address international challenges, expand trade and investment, uphold international law, promote regional stability, and support Australians abroad. Some of the scholarships and fellowships provided by DFAT are: Australia Awards Scholarships; these are long-term awards administered by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. It provides opportunities for people from developing countries, particularly those countries located in the Indo-Pacific region, to undertake full time undergraduate or postgraduate study at participating Australian universities and Technical and Further Education (TAFE) institutions. Australia Awards Fellowships are another type of opportunities, that provide short-term opportunities for in-Australia study, research and professional development activities, hosted by Australian organisations – and do not lead to academic qualifications. Application rounds are held through a competitive selection process.
- <https://www.dfat.gov.au/>

- **Charpak Scholarships, France**

- Campus France is a government agency operating under the French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Higher Education and Research, responsible for promoting French higher education worldwide.
- In India, Campus France functions under the cooperation service of the French Embassy, supporting and guiding Indian students who are interested in pursuing higher education in France. The network provides comprehensive and personalized assistance, including detailed information on academic programs, admission procedures, scholarships, and visa processes.
- It also offers a curated directory featuring over 1,700 English-taught programs across various disciplines, making French higher education more accessible to international students.
- <https://www.inde.campusfrance.org/>