

**Announcement of 100 ICCR Scholarships Slots globally under the "ICCR Scholarship Scheme for Indian Culture" (A72O9) for pursuing study of Indian Culture such as dance, music, theatre, performing art, sculpture, Indian languages, Indian cuisine, etc, for the academic year 2022-23**

ICCR is pleased to announce 100 Scholarships slots under ICCR Scholarship Scheme for Indian Culture at Indian Universities / Institutes for the academic year 2022-23.

The applications from interested international students for academic year 2022-23 are invited online through ICCR's A2A Scholarship Portal <http://a2ascholarships.iccr.gov.in>, which will be operational from 25th January 2022. 'Timeline for the admission process' has been set which is given below for reference.

25-January-2022	Opening of ICCR A2A Portal for admissions.
30-April-2022	Last date of application to be submitted by students.
31-May-2022	Last date of Universities to inform the decision (if confirmed, intimation to Missions; if rejected, intimation to students).
30-June-2022	Last date for allocating scholarship and generating Offer Letters by Indian Mission abroad.
75-July-2022	Last date of acceptance by students.
22-July-2022	Based on the number of acceptances in the first round (if acceptances are less than the scholarship seats allocated) Indian Mission to offer scholarship to other students who were not considered in the first round.
30-July-2022	Second-round students to convey their acceptances.

**Highlights of admission process for the Academic year 2022-23 under "ICCR Scholarship Scheme for Indian Culture (A1209) for pursuing study of Indian Culture such as dance, music, theatre, performing art, sculpture, Indian languages, Indian cuisine, etc.**

- i) To ensure high standard, University / institutes with accreditation of NAAC (A and above) rating / NIRF (rank between 1 - 150) are listed on A2A Scholarship Portal for admission of foreign students through ICCR.
- ii) According to A2A process, applications will be directly sent by students to respective universities instead of processing at Mission-level. This will automate the process and Universities will be able to see the applications received directly from the students.
- iii) Applicants 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, there may be a scenario when students do not get admission in their preferred Universities / institutes due to limited number of seats on offer. Students should therefore be prepared to receive admission from any of their five preferences. Missions may consult ICCR HQ in certain cases where some particular universities / institutes are oversubscribed and the next preference will have to be exercised.
- iv) For AY 2022-23, a 500-word essay in English has been introduced to ascertain English proficiency. Besides, students can also submit their TOFEL / IELTS etc. Standardised Test scores, if available. ICCR is also requesting universities / institutes to conduct interview of the applicants online, if so required. There will be no separate English test by Missions, as was earlier.
- v) Rejected candidates will be intimated by Universities. ICCR has requested universities to inform students if their application is rejected.
- vi) ICCR has introduced disbursement of all scholarship payment to students through PFMS w.e.f. February, 2021. This is as per GOI guidelines on direct payment to beneficiaries.
- vii) These scholarship slots include return economy class air-fares to the nearest airport and 3rd AC Train fare to the place of study, if so required. Mission is requested to provide one way air-ticket to the selected scholars. Mission may please ensure booking the air ticket so that no student claims reimbursement of airfares in India.
- viii) Interested students are advised to visit respective University / institute website regularly courses offered, eligibility criteria and general information about the University / institute before applying for admission. The students should ensure that they are eligible for the course and meet the eligibility criteria and should submit relevant documentation as required by the Universities, in addition to the basic certificates mentioned in the application form. They would be also advised to refer to the University's Handbook / University Grants Commission's website etc.

- ix) It is compulsory for all ICCR scholarship students to procure Medical Insurance policy with minimum sum assured for Indian Rupees Five Lakhs per annum. Mission is requested to inform applicants that when they travel to India, they must have medical insurance coverage on their own either before travel or immediately after reaching India, whichever is convenient. Students can purchase medical insurance from any of the insurance companies of their choice. However to facilitate students, A2A Portal has two insurance companies for referral purpose. Missions should also make appropriate changes in their website / social media handles so that students who would be applying for ICCR scholarship for upcoming academic year are aware of the change in medical insurance policy. ICCR has uploaded the revised norms on its A2A Portal,
- x) In order to ensure security of the foreign students, ICCR advises students to stay in the campus hostel, if available. However, students are allowed to stay in private accommodation if the concerned institute does not insist on staying in their hostel.
- xi) Detailed guidelines on the process of applying for ICCR Scholarships are available on the A2A Portal.