

FORD FOUNDATION  
INTERNATIONAL  
FELLOWSHIPS PROGRAM

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**November 20, 2009**

To  
Dr. R K Chauhan  
Secretary, University Grants Commission  
New Delhi

Dear Sir,

**IFP: INVITING PRE APPLICATIONS FOR 2010**

The Ford Foundation International Fellowships Program (IFP) seeks to build a new generation of social justice leaders in India by offering access to quality higher education. IFP especially supports candidates from groups that have historically lacked access to higher education.

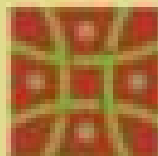
In the last eight years, IFP India has selected 280 Fellows for Masters and PhD degrees. Of these, 200 Fellows have already completed their studies. Over seventy five percent have returned to India to begin careers in the social sector creating value for their regions and communities. IFP India helps returned fellows (alumni) raise their capacities through knowledge, skills and networks to become effective leaders working to improve lives in their communities.

Applications for 2010 are now open. Applicants should :

- Be Indians currently residing and working in the states of Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Jammu & Kashmir, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh or Uttarakhand. They should have faced some socio-economic disadvantage in their access to quality education.
- Hold a Bachelor's or a Master's degree from a recognized Indian university with at least 55% marks.
- Have at least three years' full-time work experience relevant to their proposed area of study. They should also have experience in leadership and community service or development related activities.

Forty candidates will be selected following an intensive search and selection process. The Pre Application and Final Application Forms will be reviewed and evaluated by panels of experts from academia, the social development sector and other related disciplines. Shortlisted candidates will be further screened through regional and national interviews.

The IFP India Program will assist selected fellows in university admission process, paying for travel, tuition fees, living costs and logistical arrangements related to their study programs. The



## FORD FOUNDATION INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIPS PROGRAM 2010

learning + leadership + commitment

### Interested in higher education for social change?

Apply for one of the 40 Ford Fellowships to study for a Master's degree at a university abroad or in India. You must:

- Be an Indian national currently residing and working in Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Jammu & Kashmir, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh or Uttarakhand.
- Be a graduate with 55% marks and at least three years' work experience relevant to your proposed field of study. Eligible fields of study include social sciences, arts and humanities.
- Have demonstrated leadership and community service experience.
- Have lacked opportunities for higher education. Graduates belonging to scheduled castes, scheduled tribes, other backward classes, religious minorities as well as women and those with physical challenges, are encouraged to apply.

**Completed Pre-Application Forms must be submitted in hard copy by 15 December 2009**

For information sheets and Pre-Application Forms (all in one) email or for your complete postal address to:

**FORD FOUNDATION INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIPS PROGRAM**  
12 Trinity Road, New Delhi 110001, India | Tel: +91 11 23088004 | Email: [india@ffps.org](mailto:india@ffps.org)  
Or download from [www.iffps.org](http://www.iffps.org)



# FORD FOUNDATION INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIPS PROGRAM 2010

(for academic programs beginning 2011)

## INFORMATION SHEET

### Aims

The Ford Foundation International Fellowships Program (IFP) seeks to build a new generation of social justice leaders worldwide. Ford Fellows come from groups and communities that have little access to higher education, and are selected on the strength of their academic achievement, leadership skills and social commitment. By building on Fellows' familiarity with grass roots problems, IFP seeks to raise the Fellows' capacity — through knowledge, skills and networks — to become effective leaders in the struggle to improve lives in their communities, countries and regions.

### General Guidelines

- The India Program supports candidates from groups that have historically lacked access to higher education. Eligible candidates who belong to marginalized and excluded groups and communities such as **scheduled castes, scheduled tribes, other backward classes, religious minorities, women, physically challenged and those with other kinds of socio-economic deprivation** are encouraged to apply.
- Fellows will be chosen on the basis of their **academic achievement** as well as for their **leadership potential and commitment to community service**.
- Fellows may enrol in a **Master's** level program and may pursue any academic discipline or **field of study** consistent with the interests and goals of the Ford Foundation (see IFP Eligible Fields of Study).
- IFP will provide support for a maximum of **two years** of formal Master's degree. 40 fellowships are available.
- Once selected, Fellows may enrol in **universities abroad or in India**. IFP will provide university placement assistance.
- IFP will support Fellows to undertake appropriate short-term **language study** and training in **research and computer skills** prior to enrolment. Fellows who wish to study overseas will have to take TOEFL or IELTS language proficiency tests.

### Eligibility Criteria

Applicants should:

- Be Indian nationals currently residing and working in the states of **Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Jammu & Kashmir, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh or Uttarakhand**.
- Hold a Bachelor's or a Master's degree from a recognized Indian university with at least 55% marks. Applicants who already have two post-graduate degrees or equivalent will be given lower preference.
- Have at least **three years' full-time work experience** relevant to their proposed area of study.
- Have experience in **leadership and community service or development related activities**.

Applicants are required to:

- Meet necessary **admission requirements** and **language proficiency** standards of the foreign or Indian university. Selected candidates who need training in English language skills should be able to devote up to 6 months in New Delhi, if required, to pursue a residential language training program. This will take place after the announcement of the fellowship and prior to the commencement of the academic program.
- Pursue a **Master's degree** that will directly enhance their capacity to excel in an academic, policy-making, practical or artistic field corresponding to the Ford Foundation's grant-making areas.
- Present a **plan** specifying how they will apply their studies to social problems or issues in their own countries.
- Demonstrate their **commitment** to working for these issues following the Fellowship period.

## IFP Eligible Fields of Study

The Ford Foundation works in 12 grant-making areas to **strengthen democratic values, reduce poverty and injustice, promote international co-operation and advance human achievement. These areas are not to be confused with subjects for post-graduate study.** Candidates' proposed subject must relate to one of the 12 grant-making areas listed below. Further information is available on the Ford Foundation website <http://www.fordfound.org>

- |                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| 1. Arts & Culture          | 2. Civil Society                           |
| 3. Community Development   | 4. Development Finance & Economic Security |
| 5. Education & Scholarship | 6. Environment & Development               |
| 7. Governance              | 8. Human Rights                            |
| 9. Media                   | 10. Religion, Society & Culture            |
| 11. Public Health          | 12. Workforce Development                  |

## The Application Process

- Stage 1: Interested candidates should complete an **IFP Pre-Application Form** to reach the IFP office in New Delhi **not later than 15 December 2009**. Submit your completed Pre Application Form as early as **possible, preferably within a week** of receiving the Form.
- Stage 2: Only eligible candidates will be sent an **IFP Final Application Form**. Candidates should complete the Final Application Form and return to the IFP office in New Delhi not later than 15 February 2010.
- Stage 3: Final Application Forms will be reviewed and evaluated by a panel of experts from academia, the social development sector and other related disciplines. Shortlisted candidates will be invited to attend **regional interviews during April and May 2010**.
- Stage 4: A **National Selection Committee** will make the final selections and results will be declared by **August 2010. The fellowships (for academic programs beginning in 2011) will be subject to the candidates being accepted by the foreign or Indian university.**

## Notes

- The Pre Application Form must be complete in all respects. Incomplete forms are ineligible, and will not be considered. All applications must be completed on original IFP Forms or on Forms downloaded from [www.ifpsa.org](http://www.ifpsa.org). These must be submitted only to the **IFP New Delhi office** in hard copy. **Email versions will not be accepted.**
- Applicants must furnish **complete and correct information**. While care is taken to ensure timely despatch of Final Application Forms to the qualifying candidates, IFP will not be liable for any delay or loss of documents in transit. **Please fill correct address and contact details.**
- All **decisions** of the Selection Committees will be final and will not be open to review. Any effort to influence the decision will be deemed as a ground for disqualification.
- Ford Foundation staff and their family members may not serve on selection panels and are **not eligible** to apply for IFP awards. Members of selection committees, and their family members are also ineligible for IFP awards.
- Please note that this fellowship is offered for a Master's degree only. It cannot be used for short-term courses, study visits or post-doctoral programs.
- IFP selects Fellows on the strength of their **clearly-stated intention to serve their community and country of origin**, and expects that they will honor this obligation.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### **What is the International Fellowships Program?**

The International Fellowships Program (IFP) is a Ford Foundation-supported program of the New York City-based International Fellowships Fund. IFP provides fellowships for postgraduate study to individuals from groups or communities that have little access to higher education. Through IFP, the Ford Foundation supports Fellows from twenty-two countries in Asia, Africa, the Middle East, and Latin America, as well as in Russia.

### **What is the program's principal goal?**

The program's goal is to enable a diverse group of exceptional men and women from many parts of the world, who would otherwise lack opportunities for advanced study, to pursue post-graduate degrees. This education will help prepare the Fellows to become leaders in fields that further the Ford Foundation's goals of strengthening democratic values, reducing poverty and injustice, promoting international cooperation, and advancing human achievement. IFP aims to build an enduring cohort of IFP Fellows who can gain from each other's learning and experience.

### **Why is the Ford Foundation making this investment in international higher education at this time?**

The Ford Foundation has long believed that providing educational opportunities to talented people who use their knowledge to improve their societies is one of the best possible philanthropic investments. Since the 1950s, the Foundation has granted an estimated \$365 million to enable some 30,000 individuals from more than 70 countries to pursue graduate education. Over the years, Ford fellowship recipients have helped advance knowledge in the natural and social sciences, the humanities, and the arts. Many former Ford fellows have advanced to leadership roles in institutions around the world. Now it is important to help prepare a more diverse generation of future leaders to meet the global challenges of the 21st century. IFP aims to broaden the talent pool of future leaders in selected developing countries by making a special effort to recruit men and women from social groups and communities that have been historically underrepresented in higher education.

### **Why is there a compelling need for this program in India?**

Although both governmental and private sources support different types of fellowship programs, the rapidly increasing need for higher education far exceeds available funding. Opportunities are especially limited for individuals who come from groups or communities that historically have had little access to advanced education. In the India context, these include scheduled castes, scheduled tribes, other backward classes, religious minorities, women, physically challenged and those with other forms of socio-economic deprivation. It also includes those who live outside major cities or in areas of conflict or post-conflict situations.

### **When did the India program begin ?**

The India IFP program began in 2001. To date there have been 8 selections and 283 fellows have been selected and placed in universities around the world. Several alumni have returned to India and are doing committed work in their respective fields. They have also established a society called the IFP India Alumni Network (IFPIAN).

### **How are India IFP Fellows selected?**

Pre-Applications and Final Applications are submitted to IFP New Delhi. IFP New Delhi convenes Regional and National selection panels to ensure that selected candidates meet the highest academic and professional standards, and that IFP selection criteria are applied in a consistent manner. These panels of scholars, practitioners and other experts assess written applications, interview candidates and make the final selections.

### **What are the selection criteria for India IFP fellows?**

Fellows are chosen on the basis of their leadership potential and commitment to community or national development, as well as for their academic promise and achievement. Successful candidates must hold a BA or an MA degree and have demonstrated excellence in their undergraduate studies; have experience in community service or development-related activities; intend to pursue formal training that will enhance their leadership skills in fields related to the Foundation's program interests; present a plan specifying how they will apply their studies to social problems in their own countries; and commit themselves to working on these issues following the fellowship period.

### **How does IFP assess leadership potential and social commitment?**

Many of the most promising applicants identified by IFP selection panels are individuals who have demonstrated a high level of civic engagement in their communities or countries, founded civil society organizations dedicated to social action; and have become positive role models in their societies.

### **How does the university placement process work?**

Fellows may choose to study in a relevant high-quality graduate degree program at an international university or in India. IFP will offer university placement assistance to Fellows.

### **What types of support are provided for IFP Fellows?**

In addition to financial assistance for travel, living expenses, tuition and related costs for the actual degree program, IFP will offer Fellows short-term pre-fellowship training, including language study and courses in research and computer skills. This is offered over a period of 6 months, after selection and prior to joining the academic program. The program will also facilitate informal networks through which Fellows may share information and experiences.

### **How does IFP encourage Fellows who study abroad to return to India?**

IFP selects Fellows on the strength of their commitment to serve their communities and countries of origin, among other key selection criteria, and expects that they will honor this obligation. IFP assists Fellows after they have returned home to stay connected to various IFP networks and to remain current in their respective fields. A robust IFP India Alumni Network (IFPIAN) has been established.

### **Where do I get further information?**

For more information log on the Ford Foundation's website <http://www.fordfound.org> and on the IFP exclusive global website <http://www.fordifp.org> The exclusive India IFP website is <http://www.ifpsa.org>



**Ford Foundation**

**International Fellowships Program**

12, Hailey Road, New Delhi 110 001, India

Tel: (11) 2335 8893, 2335 8894 Fax: (11) 2335 8893

E-mail: [ask@ifpsa.org](mailto:ask@ifpsa.org) Website: <http://www.ifpsa.org>



## PRE-APPLICATION FORM

(Please use **blue ink** and **block capital letters** only. **Do not attach** any documents along with this Form. Documents and certificates for verification of all information provided below will be required at a later stage. Please answer ALL questions on pages 1 to 6. Incomplete forms or sections will not be considered.)

Tick the appropriate box for each of the four statements below:

1. Are you an Indian national?  Yes  No
2. Are you presently residing and working in one of the following states:  
Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Jammu & Kashmir, Jharkhand,  
Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, or Uttarakhand?  Yes  No
3. Do you hold a Bachelor's or Master's degree with at least 55%  
marks or equivalent?  Yes  No
4. Do you have at least three years' full time work experience  
relevant to your proposed field of study?  Yes  No

If the answer to ANY of the above four statements is NO, then you are **INELIGIBLE** to apply for this program.  
If answers to ALL the above statements are YES, then you are **ELIGIBLE**; please answer the questions below.

### Section 1: PERSONAL DETAILS

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(FIRST NAME) (MIDDLE NAME) (FAMILY NAME/SURNAME)  
(As reflected in your passport or high school certificate)

Current Work Address \_\_\_\_\_

(CITY/TOWN/VILLAGE) (DISTRICT) (STATE) (PIN)

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
(LANDLINE/MOBILE)

Current Residence Address \_\_\_\_\_

(CITY/TOWN/VILLAGE) (DISTRICT) (STATE) (PIN)

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

How long have you lived in this state? \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address (tick one)  Current Residence Address  Current Work Address

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Place of Birth \_\_\_\_\_  
(DATE/ MONTH/ YEAR) (CITY/TOWN/VILLAGE) (STATE)

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Total number of years in full time employment  Years  Months

Are you currently employed?  Yes  No

Number of years employed in your current organization  Years  Months

Do you currently work for OR have worked in the past for:

- Government  Corporate Sector  Public/Autonomous Institution
- NGO  International/Multilateral Development Agency
- Self Employed  Educational /Research Institution  Any other

If you work for Government, please state designation, cadre & service category  
OR If you work for an NGO, please specify the group/community you work with

Name of your current organization \_\_\_\_\_

Do you receive a salary for your work?  Yes  No

If yes, your current annual income Rs. \_\_\_\_\_ per year

Working hours per week \_\_\_\_\_

Designation \_\_\_\_\_

Main responsibilities at work \_\_\_\_\_

Tick only one grant-making area of the Ford Foundation to which your work experience relates

- Arts & Culture  Civil Society
- Community Development  Development Finance & Economic Security
- Education & Scholarship  Environment & Development
- Governance  Human Rights
- Media  Religion, Society & Culture
- Public Health  Workforce Development

Have you traveled abroad?  Yes  No

Longest stay in this country \_\_\_\_\_  Years  Months  Days

Purpose of visit  Personal  Official  Academic

### Section 2: SOCIAL BACKGROUND

Sex: Are you  Male  Female

Do you belong to  Scheduled Caste  Scheduled Tribe  Other Backward Classes

If you belong to any one of the 3 categories above, specify caste/community

Do you belong to a religious minority?  Yes  No

If Yes, please specify \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have a physical or sensory disability?  Yes  No  
(Disability as defined by the Persons with Disability Act, 1995)

If Yes, please specify \_\_\_\_\_

EMP1

EMP2

IFP1

GEN

GEN/  
CAS

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**Bachelor's degree**

Name of college \_\_\_\_\_

Name of university \_\_\_\_\_

Place \_\_\_\_\_

(CITY/TOWN/VILLAGE)

(STATE)

Medium of instruction  English  Indian language

Did you face financial difficulties during school or college education?  Yes  No

Briefly describe any OTHER difficulties you experienced in getting school or college education

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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**Section 3: ACADEMIC BACKGROUND**

(Write N. A. in the sections below that do not apply to you)

**Class 10**

Year of certificate examination \_\_\_\_\_ Division \_\_\_\_\_ Overall Percentage \_\_\_\_\_

Details of Board/Certificate obtained \_\_\_\_\_

Subjects studied \_\_\_\_\_

Name of institution \_\_\_\_\_

Full address \_\_\_\_\_

**Class 12 (or equivalent examination, including intermediate)**

Year of certificate examination \_\_\_\_\_ Division \_\_\_\_\_ Overall Percentage \_\_\_\_\_

Details of Board/Certificate obtained \_\_\_\_\_

Subjects studied \_\_\_\_\_

Name of institution \_\_\_\_\_

Full address \_\_\_\_\_

**Graduation (Bachelor's degree) [First BA degree, if you have more than one BA]**

Years (From) \_\_\_\_\_ (To) \_\_\_\_\_ Division \_\_\_\_\_ Overall Percentage \_\_\_\_\_

Details of Degree awarded \_\_\_\_\_

Subjects studied \_\_\_\_\_

Name and place of college \_\_\_\_\_

Name of university \_\_\_\_\_

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**Post Graduation (Master's degree) [First MA degree, if you have more than one MA]**

Years (From) \_\_\_\_\_ (To) \_\_\_\_\_ Division \_\_\_\_\_ Overall Percentage \_\_\_\_\_

Details of Degree awarded \_\_\_\_\_

Subjects studied \_\_\_\_\_

Name and place of college \_\_\_\_\_

Name of university \_\_\_\_\_

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**Please list any further BA or MA or MPhil degrees or any diplomas completed**

Degree/Diploma (and subject)	Years		University/Institution
	(From)	(To)	

**Are you currently registered or are studying for any degree or diploma?**

Degree/Diploma (and subject)	(From)	Years		University/Institution
		(To)	Date of proposed completion	

**Section 4: ACADEMIC AND WORK PLANS, SOCIAL COMMITMENT AND LEADERSHIP**

Which subject do you wish to study in your MA program?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Tick only one of the following Ford Foundation's grant-making areas to which your subject relates

- Arts & Culture
- Civil Society
- Community Development
- Development Finance & Economic Security
- Education & Scholarship
- Environment & Development
- Governance
- Human Rights
- Media
- Religion, Society & Culture
- Public Health
- Workforce Development

What are your two main reasons for applying for an IFP fellowship?

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
2. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What are the two most important skills required to be a social justice leader?

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
2. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name any two leaders who inspire you in the social context.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_

Mention two of their qualities that you admire most.

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
2. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Has any family member received this fellowship?  Yes  No

**How did you learn about IFP?**

Press advertisement in newspapers Name of newspaper \_\_\_\_\_  
 Articles in the press Name of publication \_\_\_\_\_  
 Through IFP fellow/alumni Name of fellow/alumni \_\_\_\_\_  
 Through the Internet  
 By word-of-mouth  
 Other Please specify \_\_\_\_\_

I confirm that all the above particulars are true and that I will be able to provide documentary evidence to verify all the above information.

Date \_\_\_\_\_  
(DATE / MONTH / YEAR)

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT

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