

# INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY GANDHINAGAR

## STUDENT AFFAIRS

### **NORMS FOR IIT GANDHINAGAR EXPLORER'S FELLOWSHIP**

**(As approved by the Board of Governors in its 15<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 02 December 2014)**

IIT Gandhinagar Explorer's Fellowship enables students to undertake travel to explore different parts of the country and gain new perspectives. IIT Gandhinagar Explorer's Fellowships are intended to introduce students to cultures, people, and areas of India with which they are not familiar. Fellows will make powerful connections and find opportunities to foster dialogue with people from different walks of life. They will share who they are and where they come from while learning from others about their customs and ways, who they are, what they do, and what matters to them. Fellows will get a glimpse of many places and many lives. The Fellows will travel fast – tasting, not savoring – in order to gain a breadth of understanding. Their journey will spark insight, curiosity, reflection, compassion, and commitment. This is not the usual tourist experience, instead Fellows will roam and get lost, walk off the well-worn path, only to find themselves on unexpected adventures. They will seek the novel, the foreign, the unknown and the uncomfortable. At times they will realize their great strengths, other times they will be confronted with sheer humility. In six weeks they will explore a small chunk of the world and a large chunk of themselves.

#### **Guidelines**

- Fellows must commit to travel in a group two or three members during the summer break (May – July),
- Fellows must commit to exploring six or more states, which should include atleast one state each from south, north and north-east regions of India.
- The fellows must commit to travel at least six weeks.
- Fellows must travel via Sleeper Class trains and state government buses and must stay in budget accommodation, such as Dharamsalas, Homestays and Youth Hostels.
- Fellows are encouraged to organize their travel around a theme (E.g. Cuisines, folklore, oral history, indigenous technology etc.)

#### **Eligibility and Selection**

In order to apply for IIT Gandhinagar Explorer's Fellowships, applicant must be regular student of IITGN and must be at least 18 years old. All complete applications will be scrutinized by the Senate Scholarships and Prize Committee (SSPC). Shortlisted applicants will be invited for an interview by the committee to make the final selection. The fellowship amount would be in the range of Rs. 35,000/- – Rs. 50,000/- per person and will be periodically increased to cover for inflation. The evaluation of the applications would be based on the originality and feasibility of proposal and the performance during interview, if applicable. The graduating seniors can also avail this fellowship within two months of their graduation.

#### **The Application**

An applicant must submit write up on the travel plans which would include goals/ objectives/ outcomes, timeline, budget and action plan/ ideas for follow-on activities. The applicant will also submit his/ her current resume. Following the travel, the recipient agrees to submit a report describing experiences and analyzing objectives achieved; share his/ her experiences with others; and be available to make a presentation to the IITGN community. The applicant is expected to maintain a diary/ blog during the travels; upto two students with best kept diaries/ blogs will receive a prize of Rs. 5,000/- and a certificate of merit.