

# TRANSCRIPT OF LECTURE DELIVERED ON DECEMBER 29, 2018.

## (FORUM 1)

THEME » **How To Secure ICCR & ICAR Indian Scholarships.**

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### **About The Scholarship Schemes**

#### **ICCR**

ICCR stands for Indian Council for Cultural Relations. The major aim of the organization is to foster and strengthen cultural relations and mutual understanding between India and other countries. The scholarships under this scheme were divided into various categories with the African Education Scholarship Scheme specifically being for Africans. Under the scheme, every year, the council would offer 900 scholarships slots to the continent. However medical studies for MBBS, BDS, from undergraduate, postgraduate, doctoral or postdoctoral are not offered under this scheme.

#### **ICAR**

ICAR stands for Indian Council for Agricultural Research. The scholarship programme is called Netaji Scholarship. It is specifically for those studying Agriculture and Veterinary science; and is mainly for PhD scholars. The council, usually, nominates candidates based on the quality of their research proposal and its applications or usefulness to them with regards to their demands. This scheme has two to four slots for Africans every year and only tuition fee is covered for; awardees have to take responsibility of accommodation and living expenses.

## **Application Timeline**

Application runs from mid-December to mid-January annually.

## **Application Requirements**

- Certificate of graduation for SSCE, UG, PG, depending on the level of the applicant.
- A transcript of academic records from secondary school for UG and university for PG course.
- A front page copy of valid international passport.
- A medical certificate of fitness from a certified government hospital.
- A certificate of good conduct from a high Court.
- A reference letter from two persons—one of your referees must be your last mentor.
- A test of English language—but not compulsory.
- Any other relevant documents that will show your competency in getting the scholarship such as awards and prizes certificates, professional body certificate etc.

## **Step-by-Step Application Procedure**

- » Access the following link: <http://a2ascholarships.iccr.gov.in/>
- » Create an account and login to fill the Application Form.
- » Upload the required documents in the fields provided.
- » Submit your Application and generate a printed hard copy.
- » Make clear photocopies of your credentials in five replicates, and attach to the filled application form.
- » Send these to the Indian Embassy in your country (at Abuja for Nigerians).

N.B: Shortlisted candidates will be contacted via their emails. In Nigeria, candidates with high GPA would normally be selected and subsequently invited for interview. Application forms of successful candidates will be sent to ICCR head office in Delhi India. In countries like Ethiopia, shortlisted candidates will write an aptitude test.

Indian universities are autonomous and ICCR has no right to guarantee admission into the universities of choice. It is also advisable to choose only universities whose admission processes are less competitive. If a candidate is admitted by the university of choice, the University will contact the Head Office at Delhi where final decision will be made based on the number of slots for applicant's country, after which they will contact the applicant's country embassy notifying you of your selection. Then, getting the visa as well as other miscellaneous proceedings follows.

## **Benefits of Scholarship**

### **ICCR**

- Free tuition and accommodation for all levels of study.
- Monthly stipend of 18000 Indian Rupees plus an annual Contingent Grant of 5500 Indian Rupees for Undergraduate study.
- Monthly stipend of 20000 Indian Rupees plus an annual Contingent allowance of 7000 Indian Rupees for Postgraduate study.
- Monthly stipend of 22000 Indian Rupees plus an annual contingent allowance of 12500 Indian Rupees for MPhil and Doctoral studies.
- Cost of treatment for minor ailments as per central government health scheme.
- A return air fare ticket for joining and going back.

### **ICAR**

- Free tuition.
- Monthly stipend of 40000-42000 Indian Rupees.
- Air ticket to and from home country.

## **Questions & Answers**

Q. Does the scholarship cover diverse field of interest in academia or solely for agriculture?

A. ICAR is for Agric. scholars while ICCR is for all scholars except MBBS, BDS.

Q. How is the degree of freedom concerning international students—especially those from Africa—with respect to job vacancies and other social issues?

A. It is not allowed for a ICCR candidate to engage in jobs. Moreso, job opportunities are rare to foreign nationals consequent upon the issue of overpopulation in India.

Q. What are the prospects of continuing with graduate studies forthwith after a previous study courtesy of the scholarship scheme?

A. A fresh application for the graduate study, although the chances of being selected are slim once a previous beneficiary. A Master's awardee going for PhD will be considered only under the condition that the school recommends them based on the work they started which is of significant importance to the development of India.

Q. Can one make use of certificate of good conduct from police rather than from a high court?

A. No, strictly from the high court.