

Indian Council for Cultural Relations
Azad Bhavan, I P Estate, New Delhi – 110 002

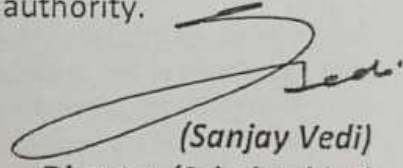
No.ICCR/Scholarships/99/2025-26

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CIRCULAR

As per norms, it is mandatory that each ICCR-sponsored foreign student should have a valid medical insurance cover minimum for an amount of Rs.5.00 lakhs to meet any medical exigencies. It has come to the notice that this norm is not being scrupulously followed by all the ICCR-sponsored foreign students despite guidelines for them are in place in this regard. Not having valid medical insurance cover can lead to crisis for students in case of hospitalization and other exigencies. In order to avoid such a situation, all ZOs/SZOs/RPOs are directed to ensure that each of the ICCR-foreign students in their respective regions should have a valid medical insurance cover of the requisite amount for meeting any medical emergency. ZOs/SZOs/RPOs may coordinate with the concerned ISAs or other officials of the institutions for sensitizing foreign students on this important matter and may also issue the necessary advisory to the students seeking confirmation in this regard. It may also be reiterated that no claims will be entertained either by ICCR or by the concerned institution on account of any medical exigencies and any such exigency has to be handled under the valid medical insurance cover.

2. This issues with the approval of the competent authority.


(Sanjay Vedi)
Director (Scholarships)

To all ZOs/SZOs/RPOs

Copy for information to:

1. DG
2. DDG(A)

- j) In case the student fails in any of the academic years of his/her Course, the scholarship would be suspended, and the student would be required to study on a self-financed basis to repeat the academic year. No scholarship allowances, tuition fee or any other fees to be charged by the University/Institution will be paid by ICCR for the repeat academic year. The scholarship will be revived after the student clears the examination of the repeat academic year and is promoted to the next academic year of his/her course. In case the student fails again in the repeat academic year, his/her scholarship will stand terminated, and he/she would have to complete his/her course as a self-financed student or return to his/her country on his/her own expense.
- k) Student must note that the student is entitled to scholarship allowances and the admissible charges of the University/Institution for the duration of the course, subject to regular promotion to the next level each year on a regular basis.
- l) Students must note that they are required to provide their academic progress report regularly upon completion of each Semester to ICCR, failing which scholarship allowances would be suspended.

11. Permissible Ex-India Leave –

- a) As a recipient of a scholarship, the student is expected to spend most of his/her time in India for study purposes as well as to explore India and its culture.
- b) Scholarship allowances are paid to students to sustain themselves in India, and any stay outside India more than the permissible limit will attract a deduction of scholarship allowances. Students must note that ex-India period waiver/deductions will be governed by the following rules from the commencement of the academic year 2026-27 –
 - 1) Student must note that the paid ex-India period for students of any levels of courses will not exceed 60 days in an academic year with the conditions that (a) Ex-India period can be availed maximum twice in an academic year; (b) Ex-India period upto 30 days at a time will not attract any deduction in scholarship allowances; (c) Any number of days of continuous ex-India period beyond 30 days and upto 60 days will attract 50% deduction on the amount of stipend; (d) Any number of days beyond 60 days limit will attract deduction of entire scholarship allowances (stipend and HRA); (e) Any number of days beyond the second time even if it is within the total 60 days limit will attract deduction of entire scholarship allowances (stipend and HRA).
 - 2) Ph.D. scholars are allowed to avail additional ex-India period up to 60 days without any deductions in scholarship allowance once in the entire duration of their course for the purpose of data collection if the University/Institution has granted formal permission and intimated the same to the ICCR Zonal/Sub-Zonal Office.

- 3) The student must obtain prior written permission from the University/Institution for any planned travel outside India, clearly specifying the reasons for such a visit. The period of such absence must be based on genuine reasons and should not attract a shortfall in attendance that prohibits the student from appearing in the examination for promotion to the next level.
- 4) The student must also inform the concerned ICCR Zonal/Sub-Zonal Office well in advance regarding his/her absence and stay outside India. In emergencies, students should promptly inform the University and ICCR before their departure and seek formal permission from the University upon returning to India. In such cases, the payment of scholarship dues will be stopped until the student returns to India, seeks formal permission from the University, and sends the same to the ICCR Zonal/Sub-Zonal Office.
- 5) Waiver of scholarship deductions on account of ex-India absence is an enabling provision to support students in genuine cases and cannot be claimed as a matter of right. The student must note that no waiver or relaxation in deductions in stipend and other dues on account of the ex-India period will be granted.

12. Accommodation

- a) The student must note that the University will guide the student to find suitable accommodation in the University Hostel or outside on their own expenses. The student is expected to make a decision carefully, either to stay in the available Hostel accommodation after satisfying himself about the living conditions and other facilities or in a private accommodation.
- b) In case the student opts for hostel accommodation, he/she will not be allowed to leave the accommodation till the completion of the academic year. In case a student opts to leave hostel accommodation in the midst of an academic year, he/she is required to seek permission from the University authorities with a minimum of three months' advance notice, or as prescribed by the University under its rules. The student will be liable to pay any charges/fines/penalties as demanded by the University/Institution under its rules for pre-mature leaving of the Hostel due to any reason whatsoever.
- c) Student must note that the above regulations regarding hostel accommodation do not prohibit the University from framing its own rules for the purpose, and the student is bound to abide by any such rules of the University. The student is also bound to abide by any rules framed by the University for foreign students availing the hostel accommodation.
- d) Accommodation charges are to be paid by the student directly to the Hostel authorities or to the owner in case of private accommodation. ICCR has no liability whatsoever with regard to the accommodation of the student.