

**Embassy of India
Monrovia

Press Release

Subject: Announcement of “Lata Mangeshkar Dance & Music Scholarship Scheme (A1209)” (formerly ICCR Scholarship Scheme for Indian Culture) for pursuing study of Indian Culture such as dance, music, theatre, performing art, sculpture, Indian languages, Indian cuisine, etc. for the academic year 2023-24

Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) is pleased to announce Scholarships slots under Lata Mangeshkar Dance & Music Scholarship Scheme (A1209)" (formerly ICCR Scholarship Scheme for Indian Culture) for pursuing study of Indian Culture such as dance, music, theatre, performing art, sculpture, Indian languages, Indian cuisine, etc. for the academic year 2023-24.

2. The applications from interested international students for the academic year 2023-24 are invited online through ICCR's A2A Scholarship Portal (www.a2ascholarships.iccr.gov.in), which is operational from 12th April, 2023. A 'Timeline for the admission process' has been set as given below:-

3.

12 th April, 2023	Opening of ICCR A2A Portal for admissions.
15 th May, 2023	Last date of application to be submitted by students.
15 th June, 2023	Last date of Universities to inform the decision
30 June 2023	Last date for allocating scholarship and generating Offer Letters by the Indian Missions abroad.
15 July 2023	Last date of acceptance by students.
22 July 2023	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 2023	Second-round students to convey their acceptances.

Note: Applicants are advised to strictly adhere to the above timeline.

4. The minimum age to apply for the scholarship for Undergraduate courses is between 18 years and 30 years of age and for PhD Programmes between 18 to 45 years.

5. For AY 2022-23, a 500-word essay in English has been introduced to ascertain the English proficiency. Besides, students can also submit their TOEFL / IELTS etc. Standardized Test scores, if available. Students may need to attend interview conducted by the universities / institutes, if so required. Disqualified candidates shall be intimated by the Universities.

6. According to A2A process, applications will be directly sent by students to the respective universities. This will automate the process and Universities will be able to see the applications received directly from the students. 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.

7. The 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. One way air-ticket to the selected scholars shall be provided by the Embassy of India, Monrovia.

8. ICCR shall disburse the scholarship payment to the students through PFMS.

9. It is compulsory for all ICCR scholarship students to procure Medical Insurance policy with minimum sum assured for Indian Rupees Five Lakhs per annum. Applicants are advised 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.

10. Selected students will be required to obtain the Association of Indian Universities (AIU) equivalence also, if required. This would be stipulated by the concerned University / Institute in their Provisional Confirmation letter for the applicant (uploaded on A2A portal). In case AIU equivalence is required, the student may apply for the same at the link <https://evaluation.aiu.ac.in/student/login> and bear the fees incurred on obtaining the certificate at own expense (non-reimbursable). For any further details / queries, students may contact AIU at (+91 11 23230059 / 23231097 / 23232305 Extn. 210, 234, 252, E-mail id: studentinfo@aiu.ac.in, ds_international@aiu.ac.in, evaluation@aiu.ac.in).

11. It may please be mentioned that ICCR may amend some provisions of scholarships from time to time and it is incumbent on the students to accept the revised norms.

12. 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.

13. The guidelines of all schemes are available on the Portal and the interested candidates applying for admission through ICCR may like to go through them. Interested students are also 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. Students are also advised to refer to the University's Handbook / University Grants Commission's website etc.

14. In case of clarifications, please contact Mr. Kushal Singh, Attache (Admin) on email id: adm.monrovia@mea.gov.in