Embassy of India
Kinshasa
****

Announcement of scholarship slots under "India-Africa Maitri Scholarship Scheme" of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) for the academic year 2026-27

1. The Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) has announced allocation of one (01) scholarship slot to Democratic Republic of Congo and one (01) scholarship slot to Central African Republic under the **India -Africa Maitri Scholarship Scheme** (Formerly known as Africa Scholarship Scheme) for the Academic Year 2026-27 for pursuing higher studies (UG/PG/Diploma programmes) at Indian Universities / institutes. Following are the timelines for the processing of ICCR applications:

Date	Item
27 February to 15 April 2026	Opening of A2A Portal for students to apply
27 February to 30 April 2026	Opening of A2A Portal for the Universities to scrutinize the applications and upload provisional admission confirmation for selection by the Indian Missions
27 February to 15 May 2026	Opening of A2A Portal for the Indian Missions to initiate the selection process from the date they start receiving provisional admission confirmations from the Universities/Institutions and convey acceptance of students. Missions are advised to prepare a priority list of candidates as also a reserve list of candidates who can be offered scholarships in case any candidate from the priority list declines the offer. Missions may inform ICCR if the allocated number of slots are not likely to be utilized so that the same can be utilized for the countries within the same Scheme.
16 May to 10 June 2026	Second-round of selection for the Missions to generate offer letters against any vacant slots from the reserve list of candidates and convey their acceptance

2. The applications from interested international students in DR Congo and Central African Republic are invited online through ICCR's A2A Scholarship Portal http://a2ascholarships.iccr.gov.in.

3. To ensure a high standard, the universities/institutes with accreditation of NAAC (A and above) rating / NIRF (rank between 1 - 150) are listed on A2A Scholarship Portal for admission of foreign students through ICCR.

4. Applicants are advised to directly send their applications to the respective universities.

5. 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 the applicant's preference. However, there may be a scenario when students do not get admission to their preferred universities/institutes due to the limited

number of seats on offer. Students should therefore be prepared to receive admission from any of their five preferences.

6. Interested students are advised to visit the respective university/institute website regularly to see 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. They are also advised to refer to the University's Handbook / University Grants Commission's website etc.

7. Student should meet the minimum and maximum age criteria as on 1 July 2026 (Minimum Age 18 years for all courses; Maximum Age - 40 years for UG/PG/Diploma courses and 50 years for Ph.D; no upper age limit for courses in art and culture unless specified by the concerned institution). Application of students forging the date of birth will be rejected.

8. ICCR has introduced disbursement of all scholarship payments to students through the Public Financial Management System (PFMS) and is a direct payment to beneficiaries.

9. Under the scholarship, successful students will be provided with return economy class airfares to the nearest airport and 3rd AC Train fare to the place of study, if so required.

10. The students should be medical fit. It is compulsory for all ICCR scholarship students to procure medical insurance policy with a minimum sum assured for Indian Rupees Five Lakhs per annum (US$6500 approx). The medical insurance coverage can be done either by themselves before travel or immediately after reaching India. 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 purposes. The revised forms are uploaded on the A2A Portal.

11. Foreign students are advised 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.

12. Detailed guidelines on the process of applying for ICCR Scholarships are available on the A2A Portal.

13. Kindly note that ICCR may amend some provisions of scholarships from time to time and it is incumbent on students to accept the revised norms.

14. interested students applying for the scholarships are advised to carefully select their university/institution and the course they intend to pursue.

15. For more information, contact the Embassy of India, Kinshasa through email: info.kinshasa@mea.gov.in .

*****