

**Information Note about
the ICCR Scholarships in India for Bulgarian Students**

1. The Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) has offered scholarships under the Lata Mangeshkar Dance & Music Scholarship Scheme (A1209) for pursuing study of Indian Culture such as dance, music, theatre, performing art, sculpture, Indian languages, Indian cuisine etc at the Indian Universities/Institutes for the academic year 2024-25
2. The applicants may read the information carefully to understand the application process for ICCR scholarships. A 'Timeline for the admission process' is given at the end of this document. **The Last date of submission of application by students is 30 April 2024.**
3. The foreign students interested in availing ICCR scholarships need to apply for admission at the Indian Universities/Institutes for the academic year 2024-25 through the A2A Scholarship website (<http://a2ascholarships.iccr.gov.in>).
4. The students can apply directly to the respective universities/ Institutes listed on the a2ascholarship portal. They need not submit the application to the Embassy of India, Sofia. The applicants will be informed of selection or rejection of their application directly by the concerned University.
5. Applicants can apply to maximum 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 situation when students do not get admission in their preferred Universities/Institutes due to limited number of seats on offer. Students should be prepared to receive admission from any of their five preferences.
6. The application will not be considered without the English translation of documents if the original documents are not in English. Incomplete application will be summarily rejected by universities if documents are not in English or English translation is not provided. Students are advised to thoroughly check their applications and attach requisite documents before submission of the application.
7. For Academic Year 2024-25, students are required to submit a 500-word essay in English to ascertain their Proficiency in English language. In addition, students can also submit their Standardised Test scores like TOFEL/IELTS etc., if available.
8. ICCR scholarships are not available for studying in courses related to Medical/Paramedical (Nursing Physiotherapy/ anaesthesia etc.)/Fashion/ Law courses/ integrated courses such as BALLB (5 Years)/ B Sc & MSc etc.
9. Sscholarships will granted subject to ICCR's satisfaction that the student is serious in studying in India and has no serious health problems and has not submitted incomplete/fraudulent documentation.

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10. The scholarship amount will be paid directly to students through Public Financial Management System (PFMS) as per the Government of India guidelines on direct payment to beneficiaries.

11. The applicants should be between 18 to 40 years for under graduation/ Post graduation and 50 years max for PhD Programme at the time of admission in Indian Universities/ Institutes.

12. **Compulsory Personal Medical Insurance:** It is mandatory for all ICCR scholarship students to obtain Medical Insurance policy with minimum sum assured of Indian Rupees Five Lakhs which is equivalent to US\$6100 per annum. Students can purchase medical insurance from any of the insurance companies of their choice. For reference, students could check the updated insurance norms of two insurance companies on ICCR's A2A Portal.

13. These 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.

14. For any clarification/query, Ms. Sneh Batra, Attache, Embassy of India, Sofia may be contacted on email: pol.sofia@mea.gov.in and WhatsApp No. +359 888990963.

Time line to Apply for ICCR Scholarships for Academic Year 2024-25	
20-February-2024	Opening of ICCR <i>A2A Portal</i> for admissions.
30-April-2024	Last date of submission of application by students.
31-May-2024	Last date for Universities to inform the decision (if confirmed, intimation to Missions; if rejected, intimation to students).
30-June-2024	Last date for allocating scholarship and generating Offer Letters by Indian Mission abroad.
15-July -2024	Last date of acceptance by students.