



HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA
MBABANE (Eswatini)



Indian Council for Cultural Relations



PRESS RELEASE

Announcement of 100 scholarships under Bharat Ratna Lata Mangeshkar Dance & Music Scholarship Scheme (A1209) for the Academic Year 2024-25

The High Commission of India, Mbabane is happy to inform that 100 scholarships are available globally under the Lata Mangeshkar Dance & Music Scholarship Scheme for the Academic Year 2024-25 for pursuing study of Indian Culture such as Dance, Music, Theatre, Performing Arts, Sculpture, Indian Languages, Indian Cuisine etc. The process right from Application to Admission for these scholarships is online. Following is the revised schedule for filing applications and acceptance of the same:

20 Feb 2024	Opening of ICCR's A2A Scholarship Portal http://a2ascholarships.iccr.gov.in
30 Apr 2024	Last date for submission of applications on the portal
31 May 2024	Last date of Universities to inform the decision (if confirmed, intimation to Missions; if rejected, intimation to students)
15 Jul 2024	Last date of acceptance by students

2. Applications from interested Eswatini students are invited online through ICCR's A2A Scholarship Portal <http://a2ascholarships.iccr.gov.in>. **It may be noted that the above schedule is tentative.**

Highlights of the Scheme/Admission process
(for more information, visit <http://a2ascholarships.iccr.gov.in>)

- The process right from Application to Admission for these scholarships is online.
- These scholarships cover from undergraduate to PhD courses.
- Applicants should be between 18 and 40 years at the time of admission for UG/PG Courses. For PhD courses, the age limit is 50 years.
- Applicants have the option to apply to 5 Universities/Institutes in the order of their preference.
- A 500-word essay in English is mandatory to ascertain English proficiency. Students can also submit their TOFEL/IELTS etc. Standardised Test scores, if available. If desired, Universities will directly conduct interview of applicants online.
- Rejected candidates will be intimated by Universities.
- As part of Government of India's guidelines on direct payment to beneficiaries, scholarship/stipend payment to students would be through PFMS while the tuition fee is paid by ICCR directly to the University/College.
- The scholarships include return economy class airfares.
- Students are advised to visit University/Institute website and do thorough research of course offered, eligibility criteria and general information before applying for admission.
- **Scholarship is awarded only after the High Commission is satisfied that the student intending to study in India has no serious health issues**, has not submitted incomplete/fraudulent documentation or any other such parameters, which may negate the objective of promoting goodwill through these scholarships.
- All ICCR scholarship students have to obtain medical insurance coverage on their own at an approximate cost of **E900 per annum** or its equivalent in Indian Rupees (about INR 4,000/-) which should secure a minimum assured sum of INR 500,000/- before their travel to India or immediately after reaching India, whichever is convenient. Students can purchase medical insurance from any of the insurance companies of their choice in Eswatini/India.
- **Students are advised not to visit the High Commission at this stage for any queries, without prior appointment.** Queries, if any, could be addressed to inf.mbabane@mea.gov.in.

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