THE INTERNATIONAL SOLAR ALLIANCE: SOLAR FELLOWSHIP SCHEME FOR MID-CAREER PROFESSIONALS (2026-28)

Introduction

The **International Solar Alliance (ISA) Solar Fellowship Scheme for Mid-Career Professionals** is designed to support and empower policymakers, planners, administrators, and managers in government who demonstrate a strong commitment to public service, leadership potential, and sustainable development in their home countries.

As the global energy transition accelerates, **building skilled human capital and strengthening institutional capacity will be critical to enabling countries to plan, deploy, and scale renewable energy solutions effectively.**

Since the Fellowship's inception in 2019, five batches have graduated, while two are currently undergoing training at the **Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi, India,** the host institution of the Fellowship.

About IIT Delhi

Indian Institute of Technology Delhi is one of the 23 IITs created to be Centres of Excellence for training, research and development in science, engineering and technology in India.

Established as College of Engineering in 1961, the Institute was later declared as an Institution of National Importance under the "Institutes of Technology (Amendment) Act, 1963" and was renamed as "Indian Institute of Technology Delhi". It was then accorded the status of a Deemed University with powers to decide its own academic policy, to conduct its own examinations, and to award its own degrees.

Since its inception, over 60000 have graduated from IIT Delhi in various disciplines including Engineering, Physical Sciences, Management and Humanities & Social Sciences. Of these, nearly 5070 received Ph.D. degrees. The number of students who graduated with B.Tech. degree is over 15738. The rest obtained Master's Degree in Engineering, Sciences and Business Administration. These alumni today work as scientists, technologists, business managers and entrepreneurs. There are several alumni who have moved away from their original disciplines and have taken to administrative services, active politics or are with NGOs. In doing so, they have contributed significantly to nation building, and to industrialization around the world.

Call for Applications – Eighth Batch

The **International Solar Alliance (ISA)** invites applications for the Eighth Batch of candidates for admission to the **two-year Master of Technology (M.Tech) programme in Renewable Energy Technologies and Management (Programme Code: ESR) at IIT Delhi.**

The programme is scheduled to **commence on 23 July 2026**

Interested applicants are required to submit their applications online through the PG International Admission Portal for the M.Tech (ESR) programme: **https://ecampus.iitd.ac.in/IPGADM/login**

The application portal will remain open

until 30 March 2026 (1600 hours IST).

Why Apply?

The ISA Solar Fellowship provides a unique opportunity for government professionals across its Member Countries to build advanced expertise in renewable energy while contributing to their countries' energy transition.

Fellows benefit from:

✓ **World-class education** at the **Indian Institute of Technology (IIT)** Delhi, one of the world's leading engineering institutions

✓ **Specialised training** in renewable energy technologies, policy, and management

✓ **Hands-on exposure** to the rapidly expanding solar ecosystem and innovations

✓ **A global network** of policymakers and professionals working to accelerate the clean energy transition

Support from ISA

✓ ISA will sponsor **20 eligible candidates** from across ISA Member, Signatory, and Prospective Countries.

✓ In the event that more than 20 nominations are received, the **International Fellowship Committee** will select candidates through a draw, with **priority given to ISA Member Countries.**

Eligibility Criteria

Educational Qualification

Applicants must possess:

A **four-year Bachelor's Degree (or equivalent)** in one of the following disciplines: Chemical Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Electrical & Electronics Engineering, Electronics & Instrumentation Engineering, Energy Engineering, Engineering Physics, Mechanical Engineering, or Power Engineering

OR

A Master's degree in Physics, Electronics, or Applied Physics

Applicants must have:

✓ Minimum CGPA of 6.0 on a 10-point scale or at least 60% aggregate marks

✓ Applicants are requested to submit copies of their certificates, along with English translations where applicable.

Students with a Master's degree must have completed:

✓ **At least 3 years of undergraduate study,** and

✓ **At least 2 years at the postgraduate level**

Professional Experience:

Minimum 3 years of relevant professional experience

Fellowship Support

Selected Fellows will receive the following support:

✓ **Tuition Fee:** Approximately **USD 4,500** (covered by ISA)

✓ **Monthly Stipend: USD 750 per month** for up to **24 months**

✓ **Health Insurance:** To be arranged by the candidate

Nominations Process

✓ Each ISA Member, Signatory, and Prospective Member Country may nominate two candidates, ensuring one male and one female nominee, to promote balanced representation.

✓ Nominations must be submitted through the ISA National Focal Point, or the designated nodal ministry, and candidates must also complete the online application through the IIT Delhi portal.

भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान दिल्ली
INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY DELHI

This document provides guidance to ISA Member Countries, Signatory Countries, and Prospective Member Countries regarding the nomination of candidates for the ISA Mid-Career Professionals Capacity Building Scheme (2026–2028).

A. Programme Overview

1. What is the academic programme offered under the ISA Fellowship

Selected candidates will be admitted to the **two-year M.Tech programme in Renewable Energy Technologies and Management (Programme Code: ESR)** offered by the **Department of Energy Science and Engineering at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi, India.**

2. What is the mode of delivery of the programme?

The programme will be delivered as a full-time in-person residential academic programme at the IIT Delhi campus in India.

Students will attend:

- Classroom lectures
- Laboratory sessions
- Research and project work
- Field exposure and technical visits

Since the programme is residential, selected fellows are required to reside in India during the course period and actively participate in all academic activities.

3. What is the duration of the programme?

The programme has a **total duration of two years (24 months)** and is scheduled to commence on **23 July 2026.**

- During the first 18 months, selected fellows will undertake academic coursework and research in-person at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi, India, as part of the residential component of the programme.
- The final 6 months of the programme will be dedicated to the completion of the research dissertation/project, which fellows will undertake from their respective home countries, enabling them to contextualize their research within national energy priorities and apply the knowledge gained during the programme.

4. What is the medium of instruction in the programme?

The programme will be conducted entirely in English, and applicants should therefore possess adequate proficiency in English to undertake postgraduate studies.

B. Eligibility of Countries

5. Which countries are eligible to nominate candidates under the ISA Mid-Career Professionals Capacity Building Scheme?

Pursuant to the provisions of the ISA Framework Agreement, which is open for signature and accession by all 193 Member States of the United Nations, eligibility extends to:

- ISA Member Countries – States that have deposited their instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval, or accession to the ISA Framework Agreement.
- Signatory Countries – States that have signed the ISA Framework Agreement and are in the process of completing domestic ratification procedures.
- Prospective Member Countries – States that have neither signed nor ratified the ISA Framework Agreement but remain eligible to accede to it.

6. Can candidates from non-ratified countries apply?

Yes. Applications may be submitted from:

- ISA Member Countries (ratified members)
- ISA Signatory Countries
- Prospective countries invited to join the ISA

However, priority consideration may be given to candidates nominated by countries that have ratified the ISA Framework Agreement.

C. Nomination by Governments

7. Is nomination by the Government mandatory for participation in the programme?

Yes. All candidates must be officially nominated by their respective government through the ISA National Focal Point (NFP) or the designated nodal ministry.

The nomination must include the completed Nomination Form (Annexure–I) and should be transmitted through official communication from the government authority.

Individual applications submitted without government nomination will not be considered for the ISA Fellowship. Typically, this may include:

- Ministry of Energy / Renewable Energy
- Ministry of Power
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs

8. What is the maximum number of candidates that a country can nominate?

Each country may nominate two candidates only, preferably one male and one female.

9. How many candidates can be accommodated in each batch of the programme?

Each batch of the programme will accommodate up to 20 candidates under the scheme from across ISA Member, Signatory, and Prospective Member Countries.

D. Application Process

10. How should candidates submit their applications?

In addition to the official nomination submitted by the government, each candidate must also complete and submit their application **through the designated IIT Delhi online portal.** Submission through the portal is mandatory for consideration.

Application Portal: https://ecampus.iitd.ac.in/IPGADM/login

Deadline: 30 March 2026 (1600 hours IST).

E. Academic Eligibility Requirements

11. What are the minimum academic qualifications required for applicants?

- Applicants must hold a four-year Bachelor's degree (or equivalent) in a relevant engineering discipline from the recognized university such as Electrical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Chemical Engineering, Energy Engineering, Engineering Physics, Power Engineering, or related fields.

- Alternatively, applicants with a Master's degree in Physics, Electronics, or Applied Physics may also apply, provided they have completed at least 3 years of undergraduate study and 2 years of postgraduate study.

- Applicants must have a minimum CGPA of 6.00 on a 10-point scale or at least 60% marks in aggregate.

- Copies of academic certificates and transcripts must be submitted, and if the documents are not in English, official English translations must be provided.

12. Is prior professional experience required?

Yes. Applicants must have **a minimum of three (3) years of professional experience,** preferably in government institutions or organizations engaged in energy policy, planning, or implementation.

13. What is the age limit for applicants?

The age limit is:

- **Up to 45 years** for applicants from **Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and Least Developed Countries (LDCs)**

- **Up to 40 years** for applicants from **other countries**

F. Financial Support Provided by ISA

14. What financial support is provided under the ISA Fellowship?

The ISA Secretariat will sponsor selected fellows by covering:

- Tuition fees **(approximately USD 4,500)**

- A monthly living stipend of **USD 750 for up to 24 months**

- **Economy-class international airfare** via the most direct route for travel to India at the beginning of the residential programme and return travel upon completion of the classroom component.

The monthly stipend is intended to support living expenses during the period of study in India. However, health insurance must be arranged by the candidate independently.

15. Will accommodation be provided to fellows?

Fellows will normally be provided with student accommodation on the IIT Delhi campus.

G. Service Status of Nominated Fellows

16. What does "treated as on duty" mean for the nominated candidate?

"On duty" means that the nominated officer/fellow will remain in active government (Ministry) official service while participating in the programme. The candidate will be considered an official deputation for capacity building, rather than a resignation, leave without pay, or career break.

17. Will the candidate continue to receive their government salary during the programme?

Yes. The nominating ministry should confirm that the officer/fellow will continue to receive their regular salary and applicable allowances from the government (Ministry) during the study period, in accordance with national service regulations.

18. What confirmation must the nominating ministry provide in the nomination letter?

The nominating ministry should confirm that:

- The candidates are **officially nominated by the government**

- They will be **treated as on duty during the programme**

- They will be **fully relieved from their duties during the programme**

- They will be granted **paid study leave for a minimum of two years**