

Announcement for PHFI-UC Research Fellowships for Joint PhD Program 2020

Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI) in partnership with University of Canberra, Australia announces **second round** of PHFI-UC Research Fellowships for PhD Studies. The University of Canberra is now ranked 34 in the world's best universities aged 50 years or under. The university is also number 484 in the 2020 Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World University Rankings, placing the University in the top 2 per cent of universities in the world.

The Health Research Institute at the University of Canberra was received the highest 5 rating in the Excellence in Research Australia ranking in 2018 'well above world standard' for Public Health and Health Services Research.

Structure

Each fellowship is expected to complete their PhD within 3 – 3.5 years which includes research work in India and thesis submission. The research is expected to be India based, India centric and India relevant. Selected candidates will be required to complete the University of Canberra application process for enrolment and comply with other requirements.

Eligibility

Professionals who wish to build upon a substantial and relevant experience for an advanced career in public health through a PhD degree. The candidate must possess a minimum of Master's degree preferably by Research or with a substantive research component / equivalent qualification in relevant discipline from a recognized institution / university and must have demonstrated significant research interest in public health related areas. Candidates having research publications as lead author and experience of working in a research/academic environment will be given preference.

Candidates will be required to have met the English Language requirement of an IELTS score of a 6.5 overall, and no less than a 6 on any sub-score. More information about English Language requirements can be found at: <http://www.canberra.edu.au/future-students/research-students/english-proficiency>

Identified areas of Research

The PhD Programme should focus on issues relevant to India. The following areas of research will be given priority in the current round:

- Maternal and child health
- Primary Health Care and Universal Health Coverage
- Epidemiology (especially using spatial analysis and Geographical Information Systems (GIS))
- Aging and Aged Care
- Health Economics

Fellowship entails:

- Partial fee waiver by University of Canberra for the PhD Programme (approx. \$10,000 AUS per year)
- **Note: Applicants would need to pay for \$15,000 per annum for International Fees.**
- **Return Airfare to University of Canberra once per year to be borne by the fellow**
- Stipend for Living Expenses at University of Canberra, Australia up to \$28,000 AUS (expected stay of minimum of 6 months per year in Canberra).
- Access to office space, library etc and institutional facilities by the host institution at PHFI
- Academic supervisory team from India and Australia
- A minimum of 30% time contribution to host organization during India phase of the fellowship.
- Selected candidates will have to sign an agreement spelling out detailed terms of the fellowship.

Application Process

Please email your application to kalpana.swamy@phfi.org in the following two parts:

Part1: To be sent by the Candidate (*in word format: file name - < name of the applicant.doc >*)

- A cover letter stating why you have applied for the PhD fellowship, the technical area where you wish to focus your PhD on and how your background is suitable for this degree.
- A ten to twelve page (font size 12, single spaced) description of the research that you wish to pursue in the PhD that includes background, objectives, methodology and expected implications of the research.
- A copy of your updated curriculum vitae.
- Three of your best research publications.
- Transcripts and experience certificates from previous education institution and employer respectively.
- Valid score sheet in IELTS acquired not earlier than 18 month. Please note that, if selected, it will be mandatory to qualify IELTS for obtaining Australian Visa.
- An 'UNDERTAKING' stating that if offered admission to the PhD Programme by University of Canberra under PHFI – UC Fellowship, the candidate will not withdraw his / her candidature from the PhD Programme.

Part 2: Letters of Recommendations

- At least two letters of recommendations from your professional referees.
- Please arrange for these letters to be sent directly by the referees to PHFI mail ID mentioned above (kalpana.swamy@phfi.org) before the closing date for receipt of applications.

Deadline

Applications complete in all respects including the letters of recommendations must be received by **5.00 pm on 28th August 2019**.

Incomplete / late applications will not be considered. Shortlisted candidates will be contacted by email by early to mid-September 2019 regarding next steps. The applicant will be responsible for ensuring completeness of the application.