USDA Borlaug Fellowship Program for India

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is pleased to announce the 2019 Borlaug International Agricultural Science and Technology Fellowship Program (Borlaug Fellowship Program) for India.

The Borlaug Fellowship Program promotes agricultural productivity, food security, and economic growth through collaborative research. The program offers training for agricultural research, leadership, and agricultural policy to university faculty, researchers, and government officials in India. Competitively selected Fellows will work one-on-one with a U.S. mentor who will coordinate the training program. After completion of the 10-12 week fellowship, the mentor will visit the Fellow's home institution to continue collaboration on the research topic. USDA will select U.S. host institutions and mentors for each fellow.

The 2019 Borlaug Fellowship Program is administered by the United States Department of Agriculture, Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS).

The application deadline for the 2019 Borlaug Fellowship Program for India is December 31, 2018.

Objectives

- Provide early to mid-career agricultural economists, research scientists, faculty, and policymakers with one-on-one training opportunities in the fields of agricultural policy and research (see acceptable research areas below).
- Provide agricultural economists, research scientists, faculty, and policymakers with practical experience and exposure to novel perspectives and/or new technologies that can be applied in their home institutions.
- Foster collaboration and networking to improve agricultural productivity and trade.
- Facilitate the transfer of new economic, scientific, and agricultural technologies to strengthen agricultural practices.
- Address obstacles to the adoption of technology such as ineffectual policies and regulations.

Research Topics

- Resilient Agriculture: In the face of country-wide water shortages, this training will provide an in-depth look at the variety, adaptability, and production benefits of drought-tolerant crops.
- Nutrition: To help combat India's high malnutrition rates in rural communities, this training will explore applications for, and the efficacy of, soy-, dairy-, and poultry-based protein products.
Length of Fellowships

Fellowships last between 10-12 weeks. All program proposals must include goals that are achievable within that timeframe. Fellowships can begin as early as August 2019 or as late as the summer of 2020. After completing the U.S.-based portion of the fellowship, the mentor will visit the fellow’s home institution approximately one year after the U.S. portion of the training.

Eligibility Requirements

Candidates will be evaluated, interviewed, and selected based on the following criteria:

- Citizen of India
- Proficient reading, writing, and speaking skills in English language
- Master's degree or higher with at least two years of practical experience (minimum)
- Currently employed by a university, government ministry, research institution, or other scientific institution
- Intention to continue working in the home country for a minimum of two years following the return from the United States
- Early/mid-stage of professional career (2-10 years of experience preferred; candidates with more than 15 years of experience are weakly competitive; candidates with 20 years or more experience will not be considered)
- Proposal must be directly related to one of the approved research areas listed. USDA will not consider proposals submitted on unapproved topics

Application Requirements

Eligible candidates must submit an application using the Fluid Review application website no later than December 31, 2018: https://borlaug.fluidreview.com. Applicants must submit the following documents to complete an application:

- Application form (using Fluid Review website). Proposals submitted by email will not be considered.
- Program proposal and research action plan
- Signed approval from applicant's home institution
- Two letters of recommendation (academic and professional preferred)
- Copies of diploma(s) for college/university degree(s) received or transcripts
- Copy of passport identification page
Contact Information

For questions related to the application process please contact:

USDA-FAS New Delhi
United States Embassy
agnewdelhi@fas.usda.gov

Borlaug Fellowship Program
BorlaugFellowships@fas.usda.gov

Additional information is available on the website:
http://www.fas.usda.gov/programs/borlaug-fellowship-program