COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Shardashish Interschool Fellowship
Application Instructions and Form

About the Shardashish Interschool Fellowship

The Shardashish Interschool Fellowship (SIF) is made possible by the generous support of the UNM (Uttambhai Nathalal Mehta) Foundation. The UNM Foundation is committed to expanding educational opportunities at all levels. Believing that education and health are cornerstones of societal development, particularly in a developing country like India, the UNM Foundation expends significant resources in both these areas. The intention of the Shardashish Scholarships at Columbia University is to make available the best of global educational opportunities to bright and committed students who are economically challenged. Beneficiaries of "Shardashish" (blessings of Mother of Knowledge) must push their existing boundaries to achieve and excel. The expectation of Shardashish Scholars is that they will maximize their learning opportunities and once successful will pay it forward, through enabling others.

The SIF provides financial assistance to master's students with a strong established commitment to India and its future. Applicants must have demonstrated financial need and preference shall be given to students who have previously worked, lived, or studied in India. The number of awards given each year is very limited. Applicants must have applied and been admitted to one of the specific Columbia University schools and programs listed below.

Graduate School of Arts and Sciences - 5 programs

- MA in Biotechnology
- MA in Mathematics of Finance
- MA in Statistics
- MA in Economics
- MA in Ecology, Evolution and Conservation Biology

The Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Science

- all MS programs

School of International and Public Affairs - 1 program

- MPA in Environmental Science and Policy

Fellowships are awarded through a competitive process after admission to one of the above programs. Funding is for one year, varying in amount depending on the particular program, financial need, and application submissions. The maximum amount is $50,000 for that one year. The award will be applied to tuition and fees.

Each school has a different application process. Please review the below instructions to ensure your application is submitted correctly.

Instructions for SIPA & GSAS

In order to apply for the fellowship:

1. Complete the SIF Fellowship Application Form on the following page
2. Complete the financial need assessment form
3. Construct a single PDF of the materials above
4. Submit all of the above materials for the SIF Fellowship to the admissions contact or via the link below:

School	Application Submission
Graduate School of Arts and Sciences	https://apply.gsas.columbia.edu/register/sif24
School of International and Public Affairs	MPA_ESP@sipa.columbia.edu

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School of Engineering and Applied Science candidates should apply directly through SLATE. Applications outside of SLATE will not be accepted.

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The deadlines to submit the SIF Application Form and Financial Need Form are below:
(*dates below are for fellows who will be selected to begin their fellowship in the summer or fall of 2027)*

School of International and Public Affairs *January 15, 2027*
Graduate School of Arts & Sciences & School of Engineering and Applied Science *February 16, 2027*

The SIF Application Form is *in addition to the general admissions application* for the individual program or department to which you are applying. For more information about applying to Columbia University, please visit the admissions page of the individual program/department to which you are applying:

- Graduate School of Arts & Sciences
- School of Engineering and Applied Science
- School of International and Public Affairs

1) Name (Last, First) _____

2) CU School & Program to which you are applying _____ __

3) Degrees completed, dates of completion, and GPA:

Degree/Major	Institution	Date of Completion	GPA

4) Please list up to 3 three relevant professional positions or activities that demonstrate your commitment and interest to change and address crucial development challenges facing India.

5) If applicable, please indicate how long you have previous worked, lived, or studied in India_____

6) **(Required)** Provide a brief statement of interest (maximum of 1000 words) that explains *how your past, present, and future educational and professional experience contribute to the overall advancement of India and its future*.

7) **(Optional)** Submit any additional relevant materials that you believe will support your candidacy (e.g. a writing sample of relevance to your application for the SIF Program, and/or letter of support or endorsement). Optional materials must be limited to ten pages or less.

8) Complete the financial need assessment form (separate form/document)