SHARDASHISH INTERSCHOOL FELLOWSHIP: Financial Need Assessment Form 2027-2028

UNM Foundation, benefactor of Shardashish Scholarship, is committed to expanding education opportunities at all levels. Believing that education and health are cornerstones of societal development, particularly in a developing country like India, 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 Financial Need Form must be completed by the below deadline:
School of International and Public Affairs *January 15, 2027*
Graduate School of Arts & Sciences & School of Engineering and Applied Science *February 16, 2027*

Section 1: Resources

Graduate studies represent a major investment of both time and financial resources. A student is expected to meet the costs of graduate study. Please complete the section below and list available resources and estimate in U.S. dollars, based on current exchange rates**.**

You should list the amount(s) you've secured and will be able to secure when you commence the Program. Attach any and all supporting documentation (e.g., sponsorship letter, bank statements, etc.).

Self/Family Resources:

Employer/Organization Sponsorship:

Other Funding Agency (i.e. government scholarship):

Section 2: Sponsoring Organization Information

If you are working with or associated with an organization or company that will be assuming all or part of the cost of attendance, please provide information of your sponsor below.

Name of Sponsoring Organization:

Amount of support the Organization will provide:

Section 3: Additional Funding Information

This section collects some information about your financial circumstances. Please provide all information in US dollars using a conversion rate as of the time you are completing this application. Attach any and all supporting documentation (e.g., tax returns, wage statements, etc.).

Income: Please enter the amount of income you and your family (parents) earned from all sources from 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2026 and your estimated income for 1 April 2026 to 31 March 2027. This would include wages from employment (including self- employment), income from business and professional services payments you received for goods or services, interest or dividends earned on investments, or monetary gifts and any capital gains. If you had no sources of income, enter zero, do not leave this item blank.

Father

2025-26

2026-27

Mother

2025-26

2026-27

Self

2025-26

2026-27

Your spouse's income (if applicable): Same as the previous item, for your spouse, if applicable. If you are unmarried, leave this blank. If you are married and your spouse had no income, enter zero.

2025-26

2026-27

Section 4: Current Assets

Please estimate the current amount each of the three categories shown below and enter the sum of the three on your application. Use the estimated values as of today. Include this for father, mother, self and spouse as applicable.

Current balance of savings and checking accounts

Net worth (market value) of investments, including stocks, bonds, trust funds, CDs, mutual funds, shares, other securities and capital in business (net worth of business as on 31/3/2026). The equity (the current market value of the property (including all agricultural land and any ancestral and inherited portions) minus any current outstanding debt) of real estate you own. If you own your primary place of residence, do NOT include it here (Include father, mother, self and spouse)

Total Current Assets

Section 5: Total Household Size

Include yourself and if applicable, your parents, spouse and children. Do not include siblings or any other family members.

Section 6: Previous Education Costs and Debt

Undergraduate program cost: please provide the approximate total cost to you and/or your family for your entire undergraduate degree program, including room and board costs if you lived at your college or university.

Please list your undergraduate institution:

Cost:

How cost of your undergraduate program was paid: check all that apply regarding how or by whom your undergraduate costs were paid, including: your parents; yourself; other family; your employer; a sponsor; financial aid; student loans; or your undergraduate education was free)

How was your undergraduate degree paid for? (Check all that apply)

- ☐ Employer
- ☐ Loans
- ☐ Scholarships
- ☐ Sponsor
- ☐ Parents / Family Members
- ☐ Free

Internal Use

SFS Need Assessment Summary: ____