

FREQUENTLY
ASKED
QUESTIONS

(FAQS) SFP 2024-25



**SAMARTH
Fellowship**

Democratising Fellowships in India

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FELLOWSHIP BACKGROUND

1

What is the SAMARTH Fellowship?

The SAMARTH Fellowship is a 9-month self-leadership program aimed at enhancing the capacities of Indian youth to enter social development spaces through entry-level jobs and prestigious fellowships in India. The program will equip young individuals with awareness, knowledge, skills, and a growth mindset to meet the demands of the ever-growing and complex development sector.



2

What is the Sarva SANDHI Foundation?

"Sarva" (meaning "all, everyone") and "SANDHI" (meaning "joining, coming together, or collaboration") unite to form Sarva SANDHI, an NGO in India registered as a Section 8 company under the Companies Act, 2013.

3

How does the Sarva SANDHI Foundation work?

The Sarva SANDHI Foundation is dedicated to catalyzing the social development process in India through a Sustainable Approach to Networking and Developing Holistic Initiatives (SANDHI) for all. SSF collaborates closely with youths to build their social leadership to increase their awareness, participation, and ownership in the social development process in India.

4

What are the vision and mission of the Sarva SANDHI Foundation?

Vision: To foster an aware, empathetic, and empowered society through social-empathetic leadership and collaboration.

Mission: To drive social change as catalysts by fostering partnerships and mobilizing children, youth, and women for their development.



5

What are the values of the Sarva SANDHI Foundation?

SSF strongly believes in its values and promotes it through its activities, engagements and partnerships. They are:

- Service to a cause greater than self
- Empathy
- Collaboration
- Integrity
- Flexibility

6

What is the approach behind Sarva SANDHI Foundation's works?

The approach of SSF is based on the Theory of Change Pillars:

- 3C's: Compassion, Collaborate, Contribute
- 3S's: Strategise, Serve, Sustain
- 3L's: Learn, Lead, Liaison

7

What is the longer vision behind SSF's SAMARTH Fellowship?

With our mission to democratize social-impact-based fellowships for youth experiential learning in India, SSF aims to nurture social-empathetic leaders. The focus is on building a pool of over 10,000 young leaders in the coming decade through the SAMARTH Fellowship, mentorship program, and allied platforms.

Additionally, SSF aims to reach 1 million youths by raising awareness about social development fellowships and jobs in India.



FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM 2024-25



1

Why is the SAMARTH Fellowship needed?

In India, there's a rise in social development fellowship opportunities for experiential learning, fostering youth leadership, and addressing social challenges. However, there's insufficient awareness, limited trust in youth, and inadequate guidance, and fewer support channels to engage rural, semi-urban, and tribal youths in these significant and prestigious fellowships.

2

How will the SAMARTH Fellowship work on the need identified?

Recognizing the need to enhance youth capacities with necessary skills, language proficiency, and cultivating their passion, we provide professional mentorship to align with entry-level job and fellowship opportunities in India's social development sector.

3

What are the objectives behind the SAMARTH Fellowship Program?

- To raise awareness about the scope and diversity of roles in social-impact-based jobs and fellowships in India.
- To develop learning and skill-building publications and resources.
- To enhance youth competencies through structured processes.
- To channel youth leadership into the social development process.
- To establish a community pool of social-empathetic leaders.
- To network with academic institutions, social development professionals, organizations, and governments.

4

What is the program structure of the SAMARTH Fellowship?

The SAMARTH Fellowship is designed with a three-pillared approach to enhance the capacity of young leaders:

- **Knowledge:** Creating awareness about social development roles, opportunities, and needs identification. Establishing a foundational understanding of public policy, implementation, and involved partners.
- **Competencies:** Developing organizational skills such as communication, documentation, collaboration, strategic planning, and more. Emphasizing systems thinking approaches.
- **Aspirational Career Preparation:** Crafting personalized resources to meet the requirements for applying to jobs and fellowship opportunities in India.

5

What are the services offered to a Fellow in this program?

Through its structured Fellowship program, SAMARTH offers the following services:

- **SamBodh:** A weekly thematic session to build competencies
- **FellowMania:** A fellow-led co-creational learning platform
- **Mentor- संवाद:** Personalised mentorship from mid-social leaders
- **Opportunity Updates:** Weekly Fellowships & Young Professional opportunity alerts and bulletins
- **Knowledge Publications and Resources:** Aid learning through insightful modules, blogs, books, reports, and allies.
- **CareerSaarathi:** Building profiles, portfolios, applying opportunities, hand-holding recruitments.
- **Learning Expo:** Participation in bootcamps at different phases and allied learning exposure events.
- **Groomed Implementers:** Practice competencies in assigned tasks, peer activities, and external opportunities.
- **Professional referrals and recommendations.**

6

What will the SAMARTH Fellowship offer in its program?

SAMARTH Fellows engages in three components: self-development, peer activities, and achieving career aspirations through well-defined structural processes.

7

What is the uniqueness of the SAMARTH Fellowship program?

It is believed to be the first of its kind fellowship in India. This can take the privilege to call itself:

- Most Flexible Fellowship
- Intrinsic Democratic values
- Fellowship of Fellowships
- Technology-aided-Innovation
- Fellowship of expressions
- People Behind

*To get clarity on the uniqueness, refer to our Fellowship Brochure.

8

What will be the resources used for capacity building of Fellows?

- Boot camps, Workshops, Guest lectures
- Knowledge resources & publications
- Peer community
- Blogs & Digital media contents
- Videos
- Virtual courses and masterpieces
- Assignments
- Group Discussions
- Mentors

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

1

Whom are the SAMARTH Fellowship looking for?

A SAMARTH Fellow must be a young graduate or final-year student, or a young professional aged 27 or younger, aspiring to work in the social development sector. They should be passionate learners, ready to develop skills and engage in self-development tasks.

2

Why should anyone join the Samarth Fellowship?

The young individuals who sense intrinsic dissatisfaction with how community-level issues are perceived, and feel compelled from the heart to contribute their skills, time, and energy toward seeking better possibilities, are encouraged to apply here.

3

Who are eligible to apply for the SAMARTH fellowship program?

Any Indian youth who meets the below criteria can apply to this Fellowship:

- Must be passionate about working in the social development sector.
- Must be an Indian citizen aged 27 years or younger.
- Must have completed graduation in any field or be in the final year of their course.

4

What is the duration of the fellowship?

SAMARTH Fellowship is a nine-month program including orientation, two semesters, mid-point, and endpoint processes.

5

Is the Samarth Fellowship a full-time engagement?

No, the SAMARTH Fellowship is uniquely designed to accommodate part-time participation, requiring a minimum of 10-12 hours of engagement per week.

6

Does the program mandate English proficiency?

No, applicants with a working knowledge and understanding of the English language can apply to this program. The shared resources will be in English.

7

Can someone join the Fellowship along with their engagement in final year studies or jobs?

Yes, the SAMARTH Fellowship offers part-time engagement, allowing participation alongside final-year studies or job commitments. However, the program requires a commitment of 10-12 hours per week. If the learner agrees to this commitment, they are welcome to embark on the self-leadership journey.

FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM 2024-25

1

When will the SAMARTH Fellowship Program 2024-25 application open?

The Fellowship application will go live on March 30th, 2024. The applications will be accepted till April 21st, 2024.

2

Will the early application get some benefits?

The batch size of the SAMARTH Fellowship's second cohort is **30 fellows**, with early applicants prioritized for review and offers. Selection is first-come, first-served. Apply Fast!

3

How can I apply for the Fellowship program?

You can apply by completing the online application form, which includes a few essay questions and a short questionnaire on the website. Only completed submissions via the online form will be accepted. Additionally, please participate in a survey study conducted to gain insights into the Fellowship trend in India.

4

Is there an application fee involved for the Fellowship program?

No, the SAMARTH Fellowship application process is free of any cost.

5

What will be the selection process for the Fellowship program?

The SAMARTH Fellowship program will entail the following selection processes:

- Application form
- Longlisting
- Check-in call
- Interviews
- Fellowship Offers and Onboarding



FELLOWSHIP COSTS

1

Do Fellows have to pay for the Fellowship Program?

The program is designed to be accessible to individuals from tribal, rural, and semi-urban areas across India, with no costs incurred by fellows. All fellowship expenses, including tuition fees, resources, mentorship, training events, and related costs, are solely covered by SSF.

2

Does this offer any stipends to its Fellows?

No, Fellows will not receive monthly stipends during their 9-month Fellowship journey.

3

What will be the outcome of the investment put in the Fellowship Program?

The organization's return on investment is measured by fellows' personal growth and their subsequent placements in the social sector, including prestigious entry-level jobs, aspirational career paths, and fellowships in India.





SAMARTH Initiative Mission

With our mission to democratize social-impact-based fellowships for youth experiential learning in India, we aim to nurture socially empathetic leaders. We envision building a pool of 10,000 young leaders in the coming decade through the SAMARTH Fellowship Program, mentorship platform, and allied channels. Additionally, we aim to reach 1 million youths by creating awareness about social development fellowships and jobs through collaborations with academic institutions, development organizations, and governments.

MORE ABOUT US



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