



# Intealth<sup>TM</sup>

Advancing the Global Health Workforce

## ECFMG FAIMER

# IFI 2026 Information Session

October 13, 2025

Rashmi Vyas, MD, MHPE, Vice President, Intealth, Senior Director, FAIMER Global  
Shara Steiner, DO, MACM, Deputy Director, FAIMER Global Programs

# Agenda

1. Overview of Intealth
2. What is the FAIMER Fellowship?
3. Fellowship mode of delivery
4. Key dates for the 2026 Fellowship
5. Eligibility criteria for the 2026 Fellowship
6. Application Checklist
7. How do I apply? - SurveyMonkey Apply
8. Q&A

# About Intealth

- Announced as a new identity in 2021; transitioned to nonprofit organization in 2023
- Reflects successful, multi-year business transformation
- Integrates ECFMG® and FAIMER® expertise and resources to maximize impact
- Provides meaningful framework to support growth and diversification
- Supports IMGs in U.S. GME: J-1 visa sponsorship, well-being, and advocacy

# About Intealth

- Unites ECFMG and FAIMER under a common *Vision*
- *Missions* aligned to create powerful synergies
- ECFMG and FAIMER operate and offer their respective portfolios of services as divisions of Intealth



**VISION:** The trusted global authority on health care education

| ECFMG                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                          | FAIMER                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| <b>MISSION</b><br>To serve the public by:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                          | <b>MISSION</b><br>Through partnership and collaboration:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Assuring the qualifications of health care professionals</li><li>• Providing primary-source verification of credentials of health care professionals, as they serve throughout the world</li><li>• Supporting international medical graduates who seek graduate medical education in the United States</li></ul> |                                                                                                                                                                                                          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Conduct data analyses and research to inform policies and program development in support of ECFMG missions</li><li>• Support the education of physicians and other health care professionals worldwide</li><li>• Develop resources on the health care workforce used by global communities</li></ul> |  |
| VALUES                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |  |
| <b>Integrity and Trust</b><br>We uphold the highest ethical standards and align our words with our actions.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | <b>Inclusion, Belonging, and Understanding</b><br>We foster a culture of belonging, invite varied perspectives, seek to understand and honor all differences, and provide equitable opportunity for all. | <b>Commitment</b><br>We are passionate about our work and dedicated to meeting internal and external expectations.                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |  |
| <b>Respect</b><br>We value the contributions of others and treat one another with dignity.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | <b>Mindful Leadership</b><br>We recognize that we each have a role in fostering a culture of collaboration, creativity, and compassion in the service of others.                                         | <b>Accountability</b><br>We take personal responsibility for our own behaviors, performance, and decisions.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |  |

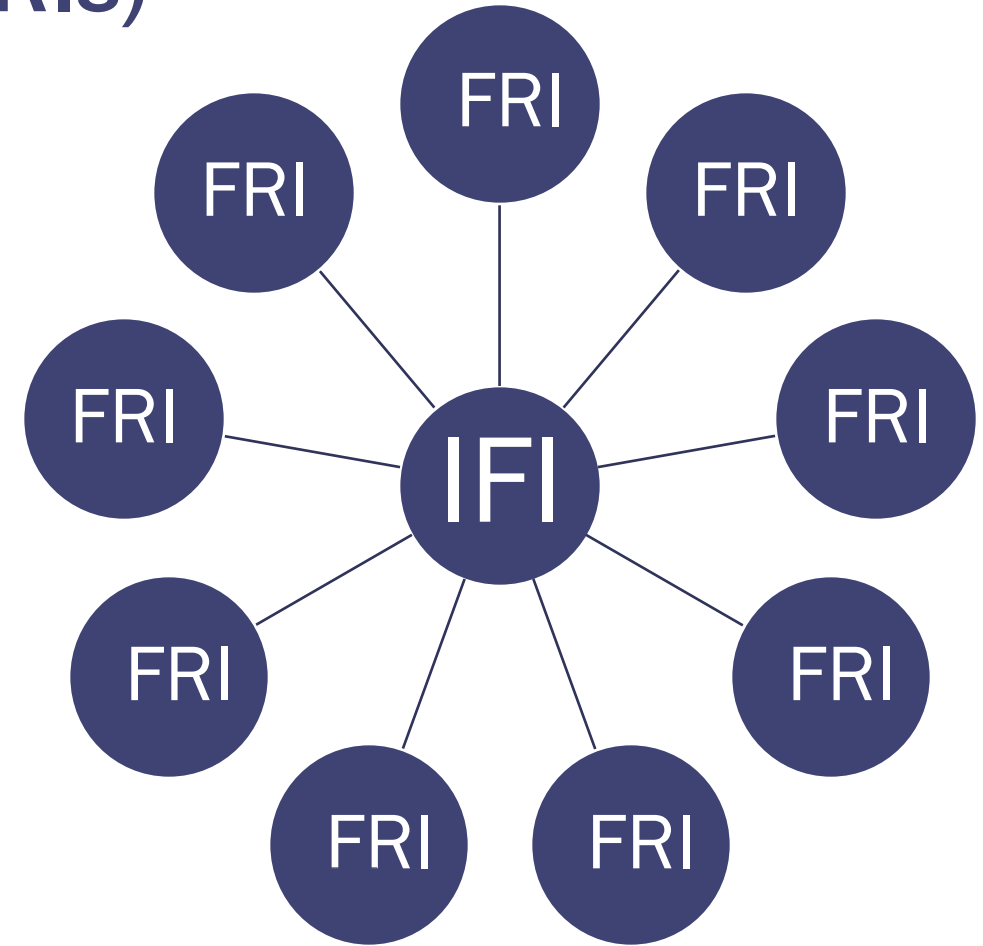
# About FAIMER

- Established as a private nonprofit foundation of ECFMG in 2000; transitioned to a division of Intealth in 2023
- Advances health professions education worldwide: Fellowship programs and community of educators
- Analyzes needs and contributions of IMGs in U.S.: data analysis and policy development
- Provides authoritative resources on health professions education worldwide: medical schools, regulatory authorities, and accrediting agencies



# FAIMER mutual partnership model for development of FAIMER Regional Institutes (FRIs)

- FAIMER used an adapted hub-and-spoke organizational design to develop FAIMER Regional Institutes (FRIs)
- The FAIMER adaptation model features FRIs as spokes relating to the IFI hub as well as to each other
- Features fostering mutual partnership and collaboration
- The FRIs use the IFI curriculum with local adaptation



*Adapted from Vyas R, Morahan PS, Yuan S, Cilliers F, Talaat W, Mladenovic J. Innovations in Health Professions Education (HPE) for the new normal: experiences from FAIMER. Afr Health J. Published online October 2022:9-12.*

# Location of FAIMER Institutes and Fellows Geographic Distribution

2021: International FAIMER Institute, Philadelphia, USA

12 FAIMER Regional Institutes,  
10 currently active

2005: GSMC – Mumbai, India

2006: CMCL – Ludhiana, India

2007-2017: Brazil - Fortaleza, Brazil

2007: PSG – Coimbatore, India

2008-2021: Cape Town, South Africa

2013: CMU – Shenyang, China

2015: MAHE – Manipal, India

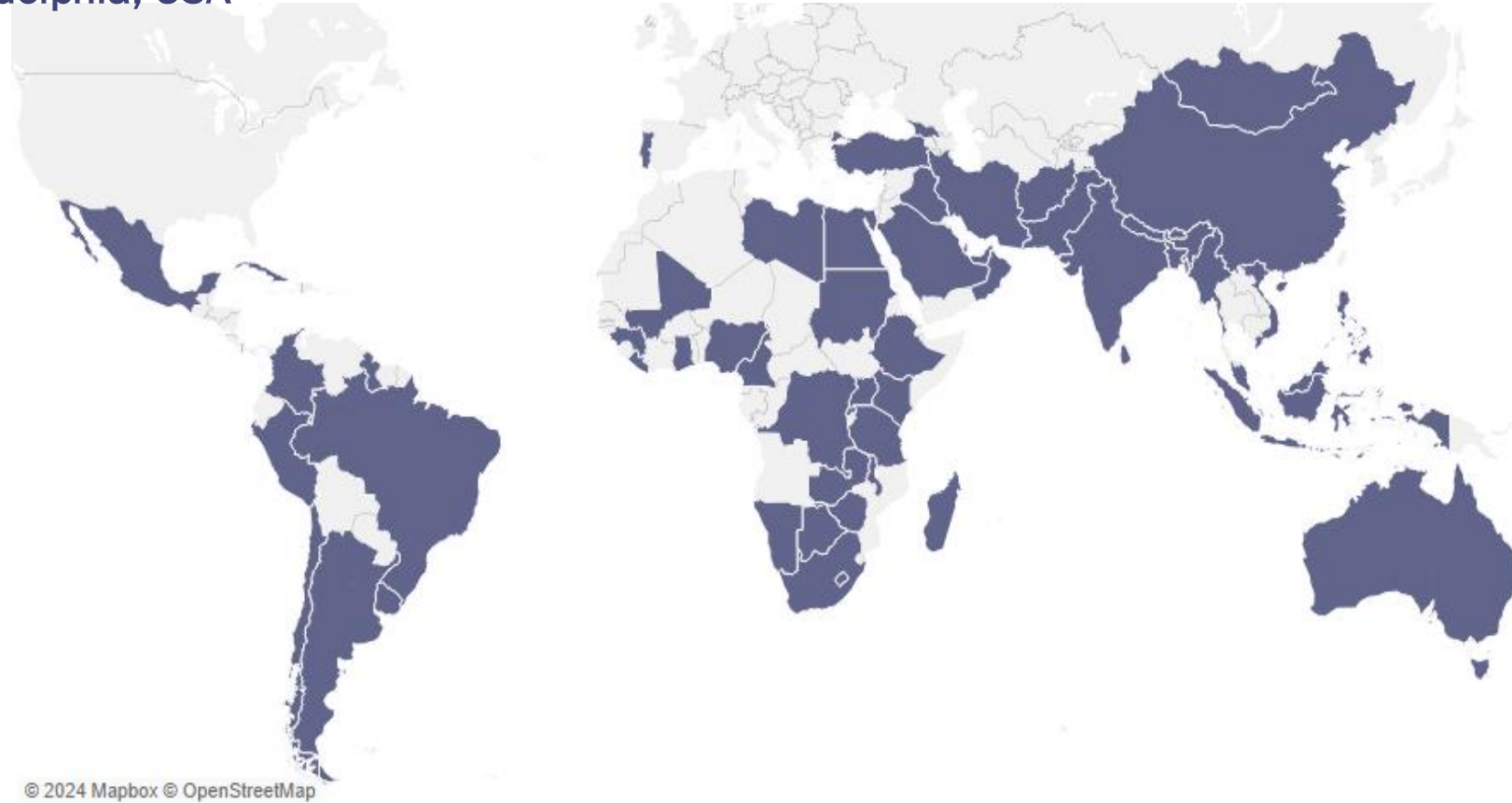
2016: SMU – Guangzhou, China

2018: FRILA – Santiago, Chile

2019: ASU-MENA – Cairo, Egypt

2019: FRIENDSHIP - Yogyakarta, Indonesia

2023: EAFRI- Kampala, Uganda



**2,146+ Fellows from 59+ countries have  
completed FAIMER fellowships**

# IFI Program Goals

- Promote health professions education, leadership development, and global community building through a **free, completely online, two-year fellowship** program.
- Establish and support regional institutes in low- to middle-income countries to expand regional access to health professions education; promote sustainability of FRIs.
- Foster a global community of health professions educators and supporting institutions to promote evidence-based clinical care, workforce development, community health, and institutional development.

# The long-term value of joining the global FAIMER community

- Engagement in scholarly teaching and SoTL
- HPE leadership and management development
- Engagement in a culture of peer teaching, learning, and mentorship
- Membership to a global network of health professions educators
- Practical application of knowledge through an education project that addresses a need in the Fellow's institution and/or region
- Coaching and mentoring by international experts in HPE and organizational change

# FAIMER Institutes Learning Model

## Four Themes and Two Principles:



## Instructional methods include:

- Large-group teaching
- Small-group collaborative work, synchronous and asynchronous
- Peer-teaching and feedback
- Project-centered approach
- Project advising
- Webinars
- Workshops
- Small-group projects
- Small- and large-group presentations
- FG community events eg, Global Forum

Vyas R, Morahan PS, Yuan S, Cilliers F, Talaat W, Mladenovic J. Innovations in Health Professions Education (HPE) for the new normal: experiences from FAIMER. Afr Health J. Published online October 2022:9-12.

# FAIMER Fellowship Project

- During the two-year FAIMER fellowship, Fellows focus on developing, implementing, evaluating, and disseminating an education project
- Development of the project is supported by didactic sessions informed by the core FAIMER fellowship curriculum.
- During Year 1 of the Fellowship, Fellows focus on developing their project with guidance from a Project Advisor and their peers, seeking ethical approval (as needed), and implementation of their project.
- During Year 2 of the Fellowship, Fellows continue to focus on implementation as well as evaluation and dissemination of their findings through formats such as a Project Report and an abstract.

# Key dates for IFI 2026

| Phase                                                                                                                                                         | Duration | Year 1 of Fellowship                                     | Year 2 of Fellowship                                     | Mode of Delivery   |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|----------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Phase 1 –INSTRUCTION PHASE</b><br><i>A short intensive phase comprised primarily of synchronous sessions supported by asynchronous work</i>                | 2 Weeks  | Orientation on May 26, 2026<br><br>June 1 - 12, 2026     | June 2027<br>(Exact dates to be provided later.)         | Synchronous online |
| <b>Phase 2 – IMPLEMENTATION PHASE</b><br><i>A nearly year-long distributed instruction phase comprised of both synchronous sessions and asynchronous work</i> |          |                                                          |                                                          |                    |
| <b>IMPLEMENTATION PHASE 2, Part A: Course &amp; Project Work</b>                                                                                              | 6 Months | July – December 2026 (Exact dates to be provided later.) | July – December 2027 (Exact dates to be provided later.) | Synchronous online |
| <b>IMPLEMENTATION PHASE 2, Part B: Independent Project Work &amp; Community Engagement</b>                                                                    | 5 Months | January – May 2027 (Exact dates to be provided later.)   | January – May 2028 (Exact dates to be provided later.)   | Synchronous online |

# IFI Time Commitment

Year 1 - has 84 hours of Synchronous Sessions and 31 Asynchronous Assignments

Year 2 - has 76 hours of Synchronous Sessions and 27 Asynchronous Assignments

- Most Fellows spend about 6.5 hours per day in sessions and on homework during the Instruction Phase
- Attendance to synchronous sessions is mandatory
- Synchronous sessions are held on Zoom usually between 7am and 11am EST

# Eligibility Criteria: Who should apply?

## Applicants must:

- have a graduate or professional degree in the health professions (*all health professions are welcome to apply*).
- demonstrate competence in written and spoken English.
- have consistent, reliable internet access in a quiet, distraction-free environment suitable for learning during online sessions (*eg, not while driving or in transit; not from a mobile phone*).
- be currently involved in HPE teaching.
- have institutional support to participate in the fellowship, as demonstrated by a Letter of Support from the applicant's institution.
- NOT be currently enrolled as a Fellow in any FAIMER Institute fellowship program.

# Eligibility Criteria: Who should apply?

- Applicants who are currently enrolled in a part-time or full-time Certificate, Diploma, Master, PhD, MD, DMD, or other post-graduate program are NOT ELIGIBLE to participate in the Fellowship. If you have questions about this criterion, please email [inquiry@faimer.org](mailto:inquiry@faimer.org).
- Applicant must provide a CV that is up-to-date and that includes the dates of completion for any post-graduate programs (eg, PhD in HPE, 2021-2024; MSc in HPE, 2021-2023).
- Applicants who have completed a FAIMER Fellowship at an FRI may apply to the IFI **only if** the Fellow is nominated by their FRI Leadership.

# What if I am not accepted to IFI?

- Acceptance rate is ~8%
- Consider applying to one of the 10 FAIMER Regional Institutes.
- Information about FRIs is available at <https://www.faimer.org/faime-r-regional-institutes/>



# Application Checklist

## 1. Updated CV including the following information:

- HPE Publications (articles, abstracts, editorials, letters, short reports, conference proceedings, books, book chapters, etc.)
- HPE Conferences/Presentations/Workshops
- Professional Development in HPE
- Roles in HPE journals (eg, Editor, Peer-reviewer, etc.)
- Professional Organization Memberships and Leadership Roles in HPE
- Awards/Honors in HPE
- Grants/Funding in HPE

# Application Checklist

## 2. Education Project Proposal

During the 2-year FAIMER Fellowship, Fellows create, implement, and evaluate an education project at their home institution. Fellowship education projects could be in curricular innovation or improvement, learner assessment, program evaluation, building community, technology-enhanced learning, or any other relevant area of HPE.

When planning your project proposal, keep in mind that Year One of the Fellowship will include project development, ethical approval, implementation, and data collection. Year Two of the Fellowship will include data collection, data analysis, and reporting.

- Please note that FAIMER does NOT provide funding for Fellows' projects.
- Once accepted, FAIMER will use your project proposal to match you with a **Project Advisor** who will guide your project throughout the two years of your fellowship.

# Application Checklist

Education Project Proposal will include (more details provided on SMA):

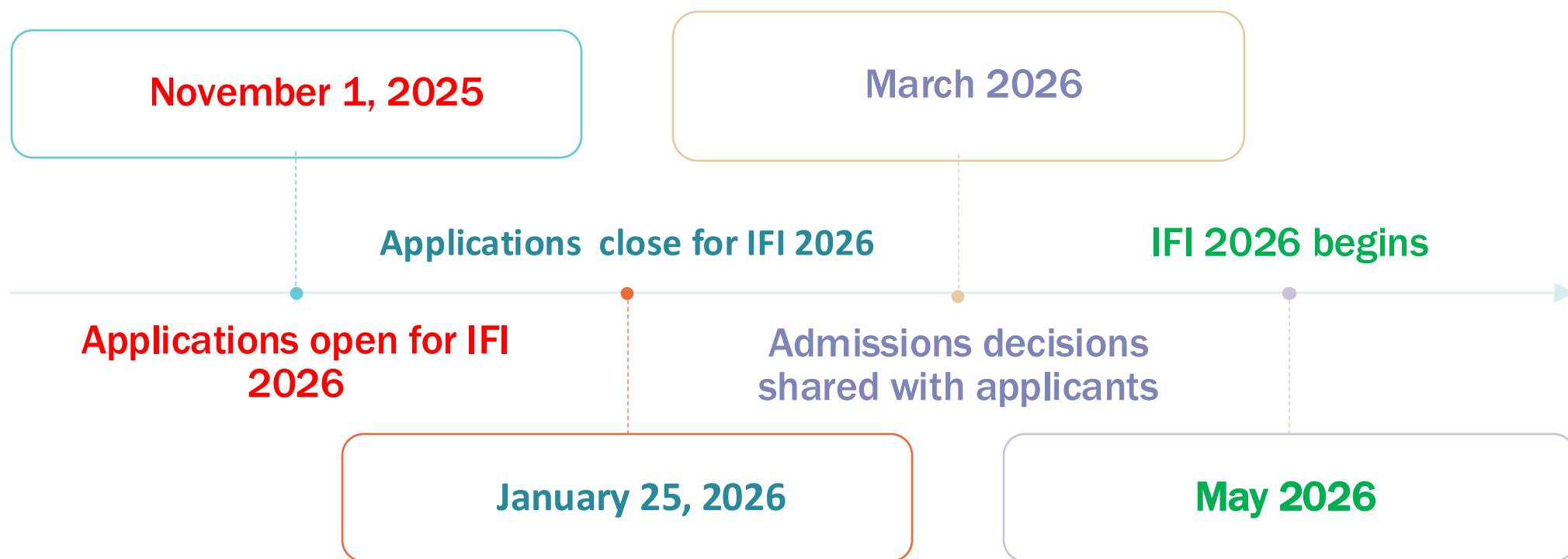
- Project Title
- Problem the educational project will address and the need for the educational project
- Overall goal of the educational project
- Outline of the main activities involved in the education project
- Intended outcomes of the education project
- Methods
  - The methodology (quantitative, qualitative, or mixed methods), Sampling and data collection technique(s), Plan for data analysis.
- Resources and budget
- Project timeline
- References

# Application Checklist

3. Contact information for your Dean or other leader from your institutional who will complete your Letter of Support on SurveyMonkey Apply
4. Contact information for two professional references

# Application Portal: SurveyMonkey Apply

To access the admissions portal: <https://apply.faimer.org/prog/ifi/>





# Questions

- Do we need to clear the English language proficiency test to apply?
- Defining your project in the application.
- Who is eligible to apply?
- Letters of recommendation from FRI Directors and the associated nomination form.
- Is there a specific duration of teaching experience requirement?
- Who is eligible to give a letter of recommendation from the institutions in which we work?