International FAIMER Institute (IFI) Fellowship Admissions

Frequently Asked Questions

About the International FAIMER Institute

What is the International FAIMER Institute (IFI)?
The International FAIMER Institute (IFI) is a competitive, tuition-free, two-year online fellowship in health professions education, leadership and community building for global health professions educators.

What are the goals of the International FAIMER Institute?
The International FAIMER Institute (IFI) Fellowship prepares health professions educators to serve as educational leaders, scholars, and change agents within their institutions and regions. Through a comprehensive two-year curriculum and participation in an international community of practice, the fellowship seeks to:

- promote health professions education, leadership development, and global community building.
- establish and support regional institutes in low- to middle-income countries to expand regional access to health professions education.
- provide a partnership base (global community and medical schools/universities that host regional institutes) for FAIMER Global to offer need based programs.

The long-term value of joining the global FAIMER community

- Engagement in scholarly teaching and Scholarship of Teaching and Learning
- Health Professions Education (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

Eligibility and Admissions

Who is eligible to apply?
Applicants must hold a graduate or professional degree in a health profession, be actively engaged in health professions education teaching, demonstrate proficiency in written and spoken English, have reliable internet access, and obtain institutional support.

Eligibility criteria:

- Applicants must have a graduate or professional degree in the health professions *(all health professions are welcome to apply*).

- Applicant must demonstrate competence in written and spoken English.
- Applicant must have consistent, reliable internet access in a quiet, distraction-free environment suitable for learning during online sessions (*E.g., not while driving or in transit; not from a mobile phone*).
- Applicant must be currently involved in Health Professions Education teaching.
- Applicant must have institutional support to participate in the fellowship, as demonstrated by a nomination form from the applicant's institution.
- 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.
- Applicant must NOT be currently enrolled as a Fellow in any FAIMER Institute fellowship program.
- Applicant must provide a Curriculum Vitae that is up-to-date and that includes the dates of completion for any post-graduate programs (*E.g., PhD in HPE, 2021-2024; MSc in HPE, 2021-2023*).
- Applicants who have previously completed a FAIMER Fellowship at a FAIMER Regional Institute (FRI) are **NOT** eligible to apply to the International FAIMER Institute unless they are specifically nominated by their FRI leadership.

May individuals currently enrolled in degree programs apply?
No. Individuals 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.

Is institutional support required?
Yes. Applicants must obtain a completed Institutional Nomination Form from a Dean or other senior institutional leader in your institution where the education project will be implemented. The Institution Nomination Form is one of the applicant tasks to be completed in the FAIMER Application & Review Portal. https://apply.faimer.org

IFI Curriculum and Participation

How is the fellowship delivered?
The fellowship is conducted entirely online and includes mandatory synchronous instruction, asynchronous assignments, collaborative learning, webinars, workshops, project advising, and mentorship.

What is the expected time commitment?
Participation in IFI requires a substantial time commitment over two years. Attendance at all scheduled synchronous online sessions and completion of all activities and assignments are required. Attendance at all scheduled synchronous online sessions is expected.

- Pre-Institute Technology Orientation: One 3-hour synchronous online session.
- Instruction Phase: A two-week intensive phase requiring approximately 6–8 hours per day, including 4 hours of synchronous sessions and approximately 4 hours of asynchronous coursework each day.
- Implementation Phase: An approximately 11-month phase requiring an average of 6–8 hours per week, including approximately four 2-hour synchronous sessions and 8–16 hours of asynchronous coursework each month, along with project work and other Fellowship activities.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to discuss the Fellowship's time commitment with their Dean or Supervisor before applying.

When are synchronous sessions held?
Live synchronous sessions occur between 7:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. U.S. Eastern Time via Zoom.

Are AI tools permitted to be used during the fellowship?
Please read the "Use of generative AI and AI-assisted technologies in FAIMER Global programs" guidelines for acceptable use for the program.

Application Requirements

What application materials are required?
Applicants must submit an application form, updated CV, a health professions education project proposal, institutional nomination form, and the contact information for two professional references. The application portal provides instructions and requirements for each task.

What should be included in the CV?
Applicants updated CV should include 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

Health Professions Education (HPE) Project Requirements

What is the HPE Project?
During the two-year IFI fellowship, Fellows focus on developing, implementing, evaluating, and disseminating a health professions education project. Development of the project is supported by didactic sessions informed by the core IFI 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.

Does FAIMER provide project funding?
No. Fellows are responsible for securing any resources necessary to support project implementation.

Will mentorship be provided?
Yes, each fellow will be provided guidance and mentorship by project advisors.

Admissions Timeline

When do applications open?
Thursday, October 15, 2026

What is the application deadline?
Thursday, December 17, 2026

When are admission decisions released?
April 2027

When does the fellowship begin?
June 2027

Selection Process

How competitive is admission?
Admission is highly competitive, with an approximate acceptance rate of 8 percent.

What strengthens an application?
Strong applicants typically demonstrate sustained educational involvement, leadership potential, institutional support, and a well-developed education project proposal.