

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA

Abstract

Agriculture & Cooperation Department – Institution of scheme to grant of Overseas Fellowship to the students of SKLTSHU and Operational Guidelines for Sanction of fellowship – Orders – Issued.

AGRI. & COOP. (AGRI.III) DEPARTEMENTE

G.O.Ms.No.9

Dated:11.03.2024

Read:

Email dt.21.02.2024 received from the Registrar, SKLTSHU.

* * *

ORDER :

Since, agriculture along with allied fields and farmer's welfare is the priority areas of the Government, extending its support in horticultural education, research and extension in the State. In the continued efforts towards enhancing and sustaining the standards, quality and relevance of higher Agricultural education in the State, the Government supporting to train, human resources needed for Agriculture, Agricultural Engineering & Technology, Horticulture and allied sectors backed up by young scientific community teaming with innovators and entrepreneurs, with its proactive policies to enable agriculture and allied sectors as a primary contributor to GDP of our country.

2. Government intends to develop competent human resource in the State with a policy to train the students in the identified best laboratories in the world for creating a pool of scientist-envoys for enhanced future co-operation, by instituting overseas fellowships in SKLTSHU for horticulture programs as pilot basis.

3. In the ref. read above, the Registrar of Sri Konda Laxman Telangana Horticultural University (SKLTSHU) has informed that Auburn University, team offered to relax the 50% tuition fee to the Masters in Horticulture programs to the students of SKLTSHU aspiring to study at Auburn University, Alabama State, USA.

4. The Registrar of SKLTSHU have proposed for institution of overseas fellowship to the undergraduate students of SKLTSHU to pursue Master's programmes in Horticulture education at Auburn University, Alabama State, USA.

5. Government after careful examination of the proposal, hereby accord permission to the SKLTSHU to institute overseas fellowships, as a pilot basis to two students of SKLTSHU for three batches, for students completing their graduation during the end of AY 2023-24, AY 2024-25 and 2025-26 and wishing to pursue Masters program at Auburn University, Alabama State, USA, and obtaining admission for spring semester in 2024, 2025 and 2026.

6. The operational Guidelines for implementation of Overseas Fellowships to the students of the SKLTSHU are enclosed as Annexure to this order.

7. The expenditure for the above overseas fellowship shall be met from the head of account: SKLTSHU: 2415-01-120-25-05-310-312.

8. The Registrar, SKLTSHU shall take necessary further action accordingly in the above matter.

This order issues with the concurrence of the Finance (EBS.II) Department vide their U.O.No.2419429/18/A1/EBS.II/2024, dt.05.03.2024.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF TELANGANA)

**M.RAGHUNANDAN RAO
APC & SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT**

To

The Registrar, SKLTSHU

Copy to:

P.S to Min.(Agri.)

P.S to APC & Secretary to Govt., A&C Dept.

Finance (EBS.II) Dept.

The PAO, T.S. Hyderabad.

The Dy.PAO, T.S. Secretariat Branch, Hyd.

Sf/Sc.

//FORWARDED::BY ORDER//

P.C. N. Sanyal
SECTION OFFICER

ANNEXURE

(To G.O. Ms. No.9, A&C (Agri.III) Dept., dt.11.03.2024)

GUIDELINES FOR SKLTSHU -OVERSEAS FELLOWSHIPS

A. PREAMBLE

The State of Telangana is interested to foster innovation and implement cutting edge technologies across sectors for building livelihoods, a strong fiscal situation and healthy populace. Agriculture along with its allied fields and farmers welfare have been priority areas for the Government supporting agricultural education, research and extension in the process. In its continued efforts towards enhancing and sustaining the standards, quality and relevance of higher horticultural education and research in the State, Sri Konda Laxman Telangana State Horticultural University was established at Mulugu, herein after referred to as SKLTSHU, has instituted a **SKLTSHU – Overseas Fellowship** with the dual purpose of,

- i) Human resource development in cutting edge technologies that will benefit the State,
- ii) demonstrating the strength of Telangana horticultural system abroad,
- iii) cross learnings and make it a horticulturally happening state.

This initiative has been proposed on a pilot basis for three batches (academic year 2024-25, 2025-26 and 2026-27) initially, the learnings from the experience will drive the continued implementation of the fellowship for the next two batches. The objective is to develop competent human resource that are trained in the identified best laboratories in the world for creating a pool of scientist-envoys for enhanced future co-operation.

B. GUIDELINES

1. Title:

The fellowship is named as “SKLTSHU – Overseas Fellowships” (SKLTSHU – OF) and the awardee will be called “Overseas Fellow”.

2. Purpose:

The SKLTSHU – Overseas Fellowships are intended to support regular students of SKLTSHU, domicile of the State of Telangana (as per the prevailing rules in the Government of Telangana) for pursuing Master of Science (MS) degree in horticulture and allied disciplines in accredited/recognized Overseas Universities/Institutions having strong research and teaching capabilities.

3. Location:

The SKLTSHU – Overseas Fellowships shall support study in the accredited/recognized Overseas University having strong research and teaching capabilities and adequate strength in terms of faculty and infrastructure facilities, while Auburn University, Alabama State, USA has been recognized on pilot basis for the academic year 2024-25.

4. Tenure of Fellowship:

- 4.1 The SKLTSHU – Overseas Fellowships shall be for Regular students of SKLTSHU, for 22 months.
- 4.2 The tenure of the Fellowship shall not be extended under any circumstances, in terms of financial support from SKLTSHU.
- 4.3 In case the Overseas Fellow is not able to complete degree during the fellowship period, he/she will use his/her own resources for completing the degree.

- 4.4 In case the Overseas Fellow is not able to complete even after maximum of six months from the end of the fellowship, SKLTSHU shall reserve the right to recover fellowship incurred for his entire post graduate education.

5. Number of Fellowships:

- 5.1 Number of fellowships available every year for a programme leading to MS degree under this scheme shall be two (2) during the pilot period across the faculties.

6. Eligibility for Overseas Fellowship for academic year 2024-25:

- 6.1 The applicant shall hold a bachelor's degree from SKLTSHU by 30th June 2024.
- 6.2 The regular students admitted through EAMCET/HORTICET/ICAR-AIEEA (UG) and passing out in the year of notification only are eligible for the Overseas Fellowship.
- 6.3 The in-service candidates are not eligible for the Overseas Fellowship.
- 6.4 Regular students admitted through Self Finance/NRI quota at SKLTSHU are not eligible for the Overseas Fellowship.
- 6.5 The candidates should not be more than 25 years of age as on 1st July 2024.
- 6.6 The applicant must have OGPA of 8.0 and above in under graduation (until 7th semester) and should have a valid I 20 / admission letter from Auburn University, Alabama State, USA.
- 6.7 The applicant shall be domicile of the State of Telangana (as per the rules prevalent in the Government of Telangana)

7. Procedure for securing admission for the academic year 2024-25:

- 7.1 The admission process and selection would be as per the regulations of the Auburn University, Alabama State, USA.
- 7.2 The candidates are required to make their own efforts in seeking admission in Auburn University. The applicant shall thoroughly study and understand the course and admission requirements, academic rigour of Auburn University before seeking admission.
- 7.3 The applicant shall apply for the MS degree (by course work and research) only in the courses offered in the College of Agriculture of Auburn University duly understanding the pertinence of the Under Graduate degree.

8. Procedure for applying for Overseas Fellowship:

- 8.1 The selected candidates (two) shall submit an application for the fellowship in the prescribed format that would be made available on SKLTSHU website "<http://www.skltsu.ac.in>".
- 8.2 Documents to be submitted by the applicant along with the filled in application form after securing admission, for verification by SKLTSHU:
- i. Caste Certificate
 - ii. Income certificate

- iii. Date of Birth certificate (SSC)
- iv. Aadhar card
- v. Residential/Nativity certificate
- vi. Passport
- vii. Marks sheet / Transcript from SSC/Inter/Under Graduate (upto 7th semester)
- viii. Admission offer letter from Overseas University (I-20/Letter of Admission/Equivalent)
- ix. Copy of bank account pass book in a nationalized bank of the applicant
- x. Passport size photos (5)

Note: The originals documents shall be returned after verification and the applicant shall submit copies of the said documents for record in SKLTSHU.

9. Fellowship Amount:

The Fellow will be entitled to the following:

- 9.1 The fellowship is offered for a period of 22 months only (starting from the release of 1st installment) which includes Tuition fee, Medical insurance and Living Allowance USA which includes Student Fee, and one-way economy airfare from India to Auburn University, Alabama State, USA as follows.

Overseas Fellowships amount payable in (US \$)/ per annum per student:

S. No.	Type of Fee	2024-25 Batch	
		I year	II year
1	Tuition fee	10,704	10704
2	Living allowance in USA including student fee and one way economy air fare from India to Alabama	22,500	18,750
		@ 1875/month x 12 months	@ 1875/month x 10 months
3	Medical insurance	2,000	2000
Total		35,204	31,454
Total Fellowship		66,658	

- 9.2 The Fellow shall maintain OGPA of 3.0 and above out of 4.0 and shall submit a certificate of conduct and satisfactory performance from the guide/supervisor/designated authority after completion of every semester for availing the Living Allowance in USA.
- 9.3 The fellowship amount towards Living Allowance/Medical Insurance would be remitted in Indian Rupees to the Fellow's account in India as per the FOREX rate existing on the 1st working day of the month in which the amount is disbursed. The Tuition Fee shall be directly remitted to Auburn University by SKLTSHU.
- 9.4 The fellow should meet all the other expenses exceeding the above fellowship from his/her own resources and no other financial assistance shall be provided to the student under any circumstances.
- 9.5 There is no provision for expenses of the dependents of the Overseas Fellow during the

period of the study and no such claim shall be entertained.

- 9.6 The student is eligible to apply for other graduate teaching/research assistantships offered by Auburn University during the tenure of the fellowship provided it is permitted by the regulations of Auburn University.

10 Other regulations

- 10.1 A bond/surety shall be obtained from the student and the parents to the effect that the student shall strive to finish the course within in the period prescribed at Auburn University and bear the financial burden of the extended period if any.
- 10.2 SKLTSHU or the Government of Telangana shall not be responsible for any untoward incident or loss/damage that happens to the Fellow in the campus or outside the campus, while at Auburn University, USA. The Fellow and their parent shall provide a declaration to this effect.
- 10.3 It shall be the responsibility of the Fellow to obtain appropriate VISA after receiving acceptance letter for admission from Auburn University for a country where one intends to pursue further study under award of fellowship. The expenditure towards obtaining the VISA shall be borne by the student.

11 Continuance of the Fellowship:

- 11.1 The fellow shall not change the institute of admission for which the fellowship is sanctioned during the tenure of fellowship.
- 11.2 The fellow shall devote his/ her full time for his/ her chosen area of studies/ research work during the tenure of his/her fellowship.
- 11.3 In case of unsatisfactory performance in studies, or conduct, the fellowship will be terminated with immediate effect and the fellow shall be required to meet the expenditure for the remaining part of the programme from his/her own resources.

12 Medical Fitness:

Selected fellow shall get his/ her medical fitness test done at his/her own cost.

13 IPR Issues:

In all publications, copy rights, patents and any other IPRs arising out of the Fellows work, the financial support from the sponsoring agency/ SKLTSHU shall be duly acknowledged.

14 Completion Report:

- 14.1 The selected fellow shall submit a copy of the dissertation/thesis and a brief report on the activity undertaken including any significant research contribution, within 15 days of their completion of the program to SKLTSHU for record.
- 14.2 The Fellow shall submit receipts for the funds towards Tuition fee, Student fee, etc., with endorsement from the Overseas University.

15 Review of the SKLTSHU – Overseas Fellowship Scheme:

The Overseas Fellowships along with the Fellowship amount and Guidelines will be subject to periodic reviews, as deemed fit by the Government of Telangana / SKLTSHU.

16 General:

- 16.1 For further clarifications regarding the Overseas Fellowships, the Registrar, SKLTSHU may be contacted.
- 16.2 The Vice Chancellor, SKLTSHU shall be the final authority in resolving and taking decision on any situation/case of conflict and his/her decision shall be abided by all parties concerned.
- 16.3 All disputes shall be settled as per the Laws of India under the jurisdiction of Courts in Hyderabad, Telangana, India only.

P.C. Jayarama
SECTION OFFICER