

FICCI Higher Education Excellence Awards 2020-21
Terms and Conditions

Definitions

Awards	FICCI Higher Education Excellence Awards 2020-21
Awards Management	Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI)
Jury	A group of persons appointed by Awards Management to determine the shortlisted participants and winners
Participant	Any eligible institution that participates by submitting an application form for the awards
Screening Jury	The screening jury is group of people from the industry who shortlist finalists in each award category
Grand Jury	The final jury is a group of people from the industry who shortlist winners in each award category
Finalists	An institution short-listed by the screening jury for the Awards
Terms and conditions ("T&C" or "Terms")	These terms governing the Awards, as may be amended from time to time
Website	https://www.ficcihighereducationawards.com/

- These Terms & Conditions are applicable to and govern the "FICCI Higher Education Excellence Awards 2020-21" organized and conducted by FICCI
- By participating in the Awards, Participant agrees to abide by and be bound by these terms. These terms may be modified without any prior notification. Participant is advised to regularly review these terms. If participant does not agree with any of the terms and any amendments thereto, participant must not participate in the Awards and withdraw its application from the Awards

Awards Objective

To celebrate and honor various stakeholders for initiatives they have undertaken, that have changed the course of Indian higher education sector in India

Award categories

Award categories as defined by the terms are as follows:

Sr.	Category name	Description
Nomination based		
1	Excellence in Faculty	Institutions which have established a sustainable ecosystem for faculty, set out a long-term roadmap to identify, nurture and grow faculty talent and have been demonstrating tangible outcomes leveraging communities and technologies for improving teaching effectiveness at the institute
2	Excellence in Internationalization of Education	Institutions which have established a sustainable ecosystem for integrating an international, intercultural or global dimension to identify global partnerships, joint initiatives and have been demonstrating tangible outcomes leveraging communities and technologies for recruitment, student-staff exchange programs and internationalization of the curriculum
3	Excellence in Enabling Research Environment	Institutions which have established a sustainable ecosystem for research to strengthen collaborations among institutions, organizations and communities to leverage talent across institutions for research

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Sr.	Category name	Description
4	Excellence in Employability through industry engagement	Institutions which have established a sustainable ecosystem for employability by collaborating with industry and have been demonstrating tangible outcomes by leveraging communities and technologies to improve curriculum/ pedagogy, industry engagements and employability
5	Excellence in Institutional Social Responsibility (ISR)	Institutions which have established a sustainable ecosystem for community engagement and social responsibility to encourage awareness on social initiatives by demonstrating tangible outcomes leveraging communities and technologies to benefit societies
6	University of the year	Universities which have established a sustainable ecosystem for showcasing exceptional performance to promote faculty, curriculum/pedagogy, internationalization, research, employability, industry engagement, social responsibility to demonstrate tangible outcomes by leveraging communities and technologies to encourage student entrepreneurship, managing transparent governance and sustaining a culture of quality teaching-learning
	A. In existence for less than 10 years (Incorporation date after Oct 31, 2010)	
	B. In existence for more than 10 years and up to 30 years (incorporation date between Nov 1, 1990 and Oct 31, 2010)	
	C. In existence for more than 30 years (incorporation date before Nov 1, 1980)	
7	Excellence in creative and performing arts	Institutions which have established a sustainable ecosystem for arts entrepreneurship education, develop an ability in faculty to deliver quality programs and offer training providing students with versatility by enabling students to access a range of career options in creative and performing arts
Special Jury award		
8	Lifetime achievement award	Recognizing leaders who have changed the course of the Indian education sector with their vision, work and evangelism. Individual should have at least 30 years of experience in the sector
9	Personality of the year	Recognizing individuals who have demonstrated thought leadership, delivered projects that have resulted in tangible outcomes and contributed to national level initiatives and worked in the higher education sector for 15 years. The participant nominated in this category should have taken initiative/ project and created impact in the last 1 year

- The award categories may be changed/modified/split/merged/increased or cancelled by the jury based on the number and quality of entries received in each category
- In the event that no participant in a category is found to be worthy of inclusion by the jury, the award category may be cancelled by the jury. The decision of the Jury in this regard will be final and non-contestable. The Awards management will not entertain any queries in this regard

Eligibility Criteria for participation in the Awards

- Only Indian institutions that have a registered office in India can participate for the Awards
- Initiative/ project should have been completed and executed in the Indian operations of the participating institution
- Institution must have at least 5 years of operations in India as on October 31, 2020

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- Institution must have at least one graduate or post graduate class in India as on October 31, 2020
- Initiative/ project described in the Awards application should have been implemented during the period April 1, 2018 to October 31, 2020
- Initiative/ project should have demonstrated a measurable impact in the higher education sector/institution during the period April 1, 2019 to October 31, 2020
- Participating institutions must be engaged primarily in providing higher education services in India. Organizations offering learning and training solutions are not eligible to participate
- Participant can send multiple application forms for same category or separate categories provided it is for a different initiative/ project. If multiple entry forms are received for same initiative/ project, then only one form will be considered, and others will be disqualified. In such cases, the Jury will take the final decision on which entry will be considered and moved to another round of the awards
- The final eligibility of the participant will be subject to the discretion and approval of the Jury
- The initiative/ project entered for the awards must be already implemented and should not be in a planning or conceptualizing stage
- Employees and immediate family members of the Awards management, sponsors and partners of the awards are not allowed to participate in the Awards
- An institution cannot participate on behalf of its sister units, parent institution or other institutions under the parent institution
- The jury may modify the eligibility criteria from time to time with retrospective effect hence the final eligibility of the participant will be subject to the discretion and approval of the Jury
- The jury holds the right to disqualify any application which does not meet the eligibility criteria without assigning any reason whatsoever
- Participation in the awards is subject to defined terms and conditions available on the website <https://www.ficcihighereducationawards.com/>

Timelines

- Efforts will be made to adhere to the defined timelines. However, the defined timelines are subject to change based on the decision of Awards management
- Awards management and its sub-contractors shall not be held accountable/liable for any disruptions/stoppages/interruptions or cancellation of the awards or its ceremony or any part of its processes on account of any factors beyond its control

Call for Entries & Participation

- The call for entries for the awards will be announced on one or more media platforms and / or by direct communication with potential participants, and that shall be construed to be adequate notice for the call for entries
- A participant can apply in each category only once and detail out the initiative/ project taken in that category
- If, multiple partners apply for the same initiative/project, then they should agree amongst themselves who would be the rightful owner of the initiative/project. The awards management or any of its partners will not be involved in deciding the same
- Entries will be accepted in English language only
- In case if participant fails to submit the proof of registration of the institution, they may be disqualified from participation
- The jury has the right to reclassify application forms from one category to another or reject the application form, at its discretion. Jury also have a right to change/modify the eligibility criteria at any step of the awards. This is not contestable in any manner

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Application Process

- A participant can apply for the awards by logging on to the website <https://www.ficcihighereducationawards.com/>. The interested participants have to download the application form from the **Award Category** page, fill it as instructed and upload it on the website along with the supporting documents, then click on **Submit** button to complete the application process.
- Receipt of application forms after last date of receipt specified may be permitted only at the discretion of the Awards management
- Awards management will not be responsible for application forms that are damaged / lost due to lack or lapse in any communication on account of internet failure
- Participation in the Awards in any manner will be construed as an acceptance to the terms and conditions stated herein
- Awards management has the copyright to the applications, if the same been used by the participant in any form other than the awards than Awards management can take strict action against such participant

Completeness of Entries/ Disqualification

- All sections of the application form are mandatory. Participant would not be able to submit the form unless all sections are filled, all the fields of the application form needs to be complete in all respects; else it may be disqualified from participation
- Entries will be accepted in English language only
- Institutions can provide up to 3 supporting materials to assist the jury in evaluating their application such as photos, articles, awards and accolades and material under “Attachments” section (Maximum size that can be uploaded is 2 MB per attachment)

Additional Information

- Participants may be contacted for any additional information or / and Award management may conduct field visit(s) to verify the information provided. Such information sourced from the participants will become part of the original application
- Awards management has the right to ask for additional documentary proof. If such a request is made and the participant does not comply within 5 working days from the date the request is made, the Participant may be disqualified from participation in the awards
- Information provided by the participant will be confidential and will be used only for the limited purpose of evaluating the participant’s entry to these awards
- Awards management or team appointed by awards management will try to contact the participant on best effort basis using the contact information provided in the application form
- In the event it is not possible to contact the participant to obtain additional or missing information, interview them, etc., such participant may be disqualified from further participation
- The participant hereby irrevocably authorizes the Awards management to use the data gathered during the Awards in respect of the participants. This shall be the property of FICCI and FICCI shall be entitled to use the same in its communications including marketing promotions and advertisements along with/without FICCI’s brand. Further, awards management shall not be liable in any manner for any loss, damage, theft, or any other mishap caused during the awards

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Validity and Correctness of Information

- If at any time, including after the conclusion of any of the award ceremonies, any information provided by any participant(s), is found to be incorrect in any manner, then the participant will be liable to be disqualified and / or return the award and the monetary emoluments provided to the participant under this award, if any. Awards management may also take penal action against the participant for providing false information to participate in the awards
- Determination of whether information provided is fair and accurate rests with the jury and Awards management

Short-listing finalists for each award category from applications received

- Application forms received would be collated under each award category for evaluation by awards management
- Determination of the Awards category to which an application belongs is at the discretion of the jury
- Awards management reserves the right to make the final judgment in case of any ambiguity in rules and regulations / disputes over suitability
- The Screening Jury will select top finalists per award category based on pre-defined evaluation parameters who will qualify for the final round
- Short-listed finalists will be contacted by FICCI to inform them of their shortlisting. Post shortlisting, the shortlisted finalists will be provided with the date and presentation format in which they would be required to present their application and case study to the Grand Jury
- The decision of the above short-listing is binding and final on all participants

Selection of the Winners

- The final jury will score / rank / vote for the finalists on predefined evaluation parameters, based on the application form, supporting materials and presentation made by the finalist in person
- Only senior level management leading the initiatives of short-listed finalists would be required to make the presentation in front of final jury comprising eminent persons from education and related fields, for determination of winners. The grand jury round this year will be a virtual meet, hence the participant has to be available to present their initiative/ project on the day of jury. The details of the virtual jury round will be shared by Awards management prior to the grand jury round
- There could be one or more winners in each award category, at the discretion of the jury
- The determination of who should receive an award for any award category rests with the jury
- The Jury's decision is final and binding on all finalists and winners
- Participation in the awards authorize FICCI to use the content submitted as part of nomination, in whole or in part and use and display such entry, which shall include trade publications, press releases, electronic posting to the awards website, electronic hyperlinks to the website of the participant, and any display format selected by FICCI during the awards ceremony or at a later point in time, for a period of five years

General

- Participant agrees that the Participant is legally capable of entering and, if selected, participating in the Awards and agree to the Terms. Participant is competent (i.e. Participant are of legal age and sound mental capacity) and eligible to enter for the Awards
- Participant understands and agrees that merely participating in this Awards does not entitle the Participant to a prize or to any other form of consideration
- Participant warrants and represents to the Awards Management that all information including any communications, software, photos, text, video, graphics, music, sounds, images and other material

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submitted or recorded in any manner by the Participant or the partners of Awards Management including Awards Management for consideration for the Awards are solely owned by the Awards Management and do not infringe upon any other individual or individual rights (including, without limitation, intellectual property rights). Participant shall be completely responsible for handling any infringement or alleged infringement and shall indemnify the FICCI, and the Awards Management from any claims, costs or damages from infringement or alleged infringement of the logo or trademark or the defense of a claim or any costs payable thereof

- Participant must enter the Awards at their own will and the Awards Management are not in any way obligated or liable for any loss or costs that the Participant may suffer or incur and nothing is payable to the Participants for participating in the Awards or any event prior to or following the Awards
- Participants for the purpose of entering the Awards, automatically grants FICCI a royalty-free, irrevocable, worldwide, non-transferable, non-exclusive right and license to use and display such entry, for participation in the Awards, and any intellectual property in relation to and arising out of such participation in the Awards and footage thereof, which shall include trade publications, press releases, electronic posting to the Website, the FICCI website in any display format selected by FICCI during the Awards or use by FICCI as it deems fit
- The Awards Management reserves the right to, at its discretion, withdraw or amend or add to the T&C of the Awards at any time, with prospective or retrospective effect, and does not take responsibility for any loss or damage that any individual or Institution may suffer as a result of participating or attempting to participate in the Awards, the Awards being withdrawn or its Terms amended
- Should a Participant wish to withdraw from the Awards, kindly inform Awards management in writing at any time up to two weeks prior to the final awards ceremony
- All disputes relating to or arising out of the Awards shall be subject to the laws of India, and shall be subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of the courts of competent jurisdiction at New Delhi, India
- The Participants indemnify FICCI, its employees, officers, contractors, partner or other persons used by them in relation to this Awards and hold them harmless against any loss, claim, demands, costs, damages, judgments, expenses or liability (including legal costs) arising out of or in connection with any or all claims, that may be brought against the Awards Management by any third party in connection with the Participants participation in or winning the Awards, which is inconsistent with any of the warranties and representations made by the Participants, or due to breach of these Terms and shall reimburse FICCI for any loss, costs, expense, or damage to which said indemnity applies. FICCI shall give the Participant prompt written notice of any claim or actions covered by this indemnity, and the Participant shall have the right, at its own expense, to participate in any such action
- Decision of Awards Management on all matters is final and binding on all Participants and no correspondence will be entertained on the same
- In the event these terms do not cover any question or complaint in relation to the Awards, the same will be concluded on by the Awards Management (for all other issues) or an independent body or legal team as appointed by the Awards Management as deemed necessary
- The Participant agrees to give full consent unconditionally for FICCI to share any information provided by the Participant with agencies working with them with regards to the program, its recording and broadcasting and related activities including agencies involved with FICCI
- The decision of FICCI in relation to the interpretation of any of these Terms shall be final and binding on the participants
- If Participants are unclear as to the Terms or any element of the Awards or have any queries/concerns pertaining to the Awards, they can email their queries or concerns to the following address:

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Ms. Priyanka Upreti

Assistant Director

M: 9871534108

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FICCI shall endeavor to the best of its ability to respond thereto

Website

- The website is only an informational website (<https://www.ficcihighereducationawards.com/>) (the “Website”) for the Awards. FICCI or its subsidiaries or holding entities are not liable or responsible for any action or decision taken by Participant or anyone acting on Participant’s behalf or under Participant employment or under contract with Participant. FICCI shall not be under any obligation to Participant and Participant shall have no obligation or rights in relation to the Awards and shall have no claims whatsoever against the FICCI relating to the selection process or the running of the Awards
- FICCI shall not be responsible for:
 - i. Any delivery, failures relating to the registration or submission of videos/presentations;
 - ii. Any SPAM generated messages as result of Participant accessing the Website;
 - iii. Awards Management not receiving or rejecting any data;
 - iv. Any lost, late or misdirected computer transmission or network, electronic failures of any kind or any failure to receive entries owing to transmission failures or due to any technical reasons
 - v. Other conditions/situations or failures beyond its control

Disclaimers

Awards Management has no obligation to screen the entry material in advance and is not responsible for monitoring entries for the purpose of preventing violation of intellectual property ownership rights, or violations of any law, rule or regulation. If Awards Management is notified of submissions or materials that may not conform to the Terms, it may investigate the allegation and determine in good faith and in its sole discretion whether to eliminate such an entry from consideration. The Awards Management has no liability or responsibility to Participants or other users of the Website for performance or non-performance of such activities