

Asia Centre for Health Security (ACHS) Fellowship 2025 Program Details

Introduction

The ACHS Fellowship Program aims to inspire and connect the next generation of biosecurity leaders and innovators.

Newly launched in 2025, the ACHS Fellowship is a highly competitive, part-time program that provides an opportunity for talented graduate students and professionals to deepen their expertise, expand their network, and build their leadership skills through a series of training and project work coordinated by the Asia Centre for Health Security based at the Saw Swee Hock School of Public Health, National University of Singapore (NUS).

This 12-month fellowship does not require relocation to Singapore and can be completed alongside full-time employment or an academic schedule.

ACHS Fellowship Program Outline

The ACHS fellowship program will:

1. Deepen knowledge in different aspects of biosafety and biosecurity policy and practice;
2. Provide opportunities to connect with senior leaders, current fellows, and alumni networks in the biosecurity field;
3. Completion of one biosecurity project or product (please refer to Annex A for more information) during the fellowship year, mentored by ACHS faculty. The project can be selected from proposals offered by ACHS, or a self-proposed project that has been discussed and approved in advance with an ACHS mentor; and
4. Offer access to resources and participation in events focused on the most current, relevant topics in biosecurity

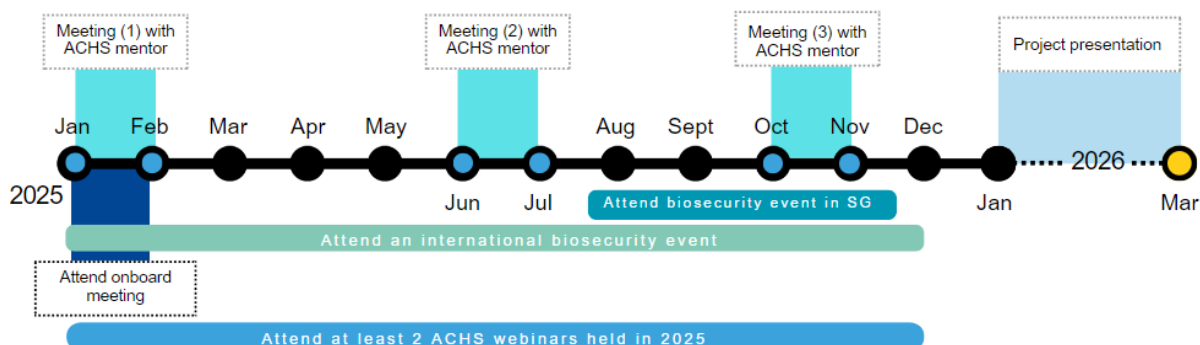
Funding of the ACHS fellowship program will cover:

A total of SGD \$12,000 will be awarded to each ACHS fellow for the two events listed below (points 1 and 2) which will cover expenses such as travel (air and land), accommodation and subsistence allowance.

1. Attendance at a biosecurity event (training workshop or policy roundtable) in Singapore, and visit to ACHS-associated organisations, which includes the National University of Singapore, Saw Swee Hock School of Public Health (NUS SSHSPH); National Centre for Infectious Diseases (NCID); and/or Nanyang Technological University, S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (NTU RSIS)
2. Attendance at a biosecurity workshop and networking event in an international location outside Singapore, e.g. events organised by Global Health Security (GHS), Nuclear Threat Initiative (NTI), Biological Weapons Convention (BWC)
3. Access to webinars relevant to biosecurity e.g. webinars organised by ACHS, WHO information Network for Epidemics (EI-WIN)
4. Additional networking events

ACHS Fellowship Deliverables and Timeline

The ACHS fellow will be expected to complete the required deliverables (please refer to Annex B for more information) detailed in the timeline below:



Eligibility Criteria

Prospective fellows must meet the eligibility criteria stated below:

1. Masters or Doctoral program graduates, OR applicants with at least three (3) years of professional experience in national security, public health, medicine, biotechnology, laboratory sciences, law, biosecurity/biosafety, global health, cybersecurity/AI, or a related field;
2. Nationality of, or have at least three years working in a country in the Asia-Pacific region; and
3. Proficiency in English (written and spoken) is required

Terms and Conditions

A summary of the key terms and conditions associated with the fellowship has been provided in Annex C.

Important Dates and Application Timeline

Registration for the ACHS Fellowship Program will commence on **4 October 2024** and the deadline for submission is the **3 November 2024, 5pm (GMT+8:00)**.



Application Form and Submission Details

A copy of the ACHS Fellowship Program Application Form is available for download at the [ACHS website](#).

Prospective fellows must submit the completed application form and all supporting documentation listed below, within one zip folder by the application deadline to achs@nus.edu.sg for their applications to be considered for the fellowship.

- Completed ACHS Fellowship Program Application Form
- Curriculum Vitae (maximum of 2 pages)
- Cover letter (1 page) describing your work in biosecurity and interest in the fellowship
- Letter from your supervisor or employer supporting your application for this fellowship
- Letter of recommendation from your current or past supervisors
- Copy of degree certificates and official transcripts

Selection Process

ACHS fellows will be selected based on the quality of their statement, academic and/or professional accomplishments, and letters of recommendation.

Contact Us

For enquiries about the ACHS Fellowship Program, please contact Ms Delia Quek at achs@nus.edu.sg

ACHS Fellowship Program Prospective List of Project Proposals

- 1 Developing questionnaires that can be completed by infectious disease and public health networks, collating the data, and potentially writing up the findings for publication in peer-reviewed journals.
- 2 Develop workflow templates for staff health surveillance that can be downloaded as useful resources from the ACHS website.
- 3 Map and evaluate the emerging and rapidly changing laws, frameworks, and standards that govern biosecurity at the AI-biology interface. It would also assess the applicability or suitability of existing biosafety and biosecurity laws to govern AI-related activities and outcomes.
- 4 Review and Evaluation of an Early Detection Surveillance Platform in Asia aimed at new or existing pathogens of high consequence.
- 5 Review and Evaluation of Crisis Management Training Strategies including simulation exercises related to a new biological threat.
- 6 Assess One Health core capacities, evaluate policy influences, and identify synergies to develop comprehensive frameworks and recommendations.
- 7 Conduct country-specific research involving data-gathering (including literature review), interviews/focus group discussions, and analysis on the following issues: i) biosafety lab proliferation; and ii) dual-use research of concern in the life sciences and potential threats that arise from use of biological weapons.
- 8 Project proposed by the applicant

ACHS Fellowship Program Deliverables

During the 12-month ACHS Fellowship, the ACHS Fellow is required to:

1. Attend one ACHS biosecurity, outbreak or pandemic preparedness event in Singapore and visit to ACHS-associated organisations
2. Attend one international biosecurity, outbreak or pandemic preparedness event in a location outside Singapore. These may include Global Health Security (GHS), Nuclear Threat Initiative (NTI), Biological Weapons Convention (BWC), Medical Biodefence (MBDE) conferences among others
3. Attend at least 2 webinars relevant to biosecurity, outbreak or pandemic preparedness
4. Select and work on one health security project from among the proposals provided by ACHS faculty or one that they have proposed that is approved by the ACHS Fellowship Program
5. Meet with ACHS faculty mentor at 3 time-points in the fellowship year to discuss progress on their project, and de-brief at the end of the Fellowship
6. Finalise the product or submit for publication the results of the project and/or present the project in an ACHS online meeting

ACHS Fellowship Program Terms and Conditions In Brief

Project(s) and Deliverables

1. You commit to completing your fellowship project(s) and other deliverables in a timely manner within the fellowship period. You agree that the ACHS Fellowship may be terminated if NUS is of the reasonable opinion that your level of commitment towards the project(s), deliverables and the objectives of the ACHS Fellowship is inadequate.
2. You will seek NUS' written approval, using the Change Request Form for any variation to the approved fellowship project(s) or the activities or deliverables of your ACHS Fellowship.
3. You shall not, whether during or after the ACHS Fellowship, publish or present the results, methods or findings of or derived from your project(s) without NUS' prior written consent.
4. You agree to keep NUS informed of the progress of your fellowship project(s), activities and deliverables through regular meetings with your NUS mentor at such frequency as may be required by NUS, and comply with the reporting and milestones requirements stipulated by NUS and you will submit a final report and/or presentation(s) upon completing your project(s).

Funding

5. You acknowledge that NUS is obliged to ensure good governance of its programs and will therefore ensure that all your claims for Fellowship Funding are true and correct.
6. Budget requests for the international biosecurity event must be submitted to ACHS' program secretariat no later than eight (8) weeks before the event.
7. You shall ensure that all Fellowship Funding claims are made for payment items necessary and aligned to the objectives of the ACHS Fellowship; and that due diligence has been carried out to ensure that the proposed budget is reasonable and not inflated.
8. You agree that if this ACHS Fellowship is terminated as a result of your breach, if NUS requires the return of any funding previously disbursed to you, you undertake to repay NUS the sum claimed.

Intellectual Property

9. All rights, title and interest in any information, materials and/or other intellectual property developed or created in the fellowship project(s), activities and deliverables during the course of your ACHS Fellowship shall vest in and belong to NUS.
10. You warrant that the Fellowship Work Products will not infringe upon the rights of any third party; and where any information, materials and/ or other intellectual property owned by a third party is incorporated in the Fellowship Work Products you shall ensure that NUS is granted any necessary rights, licenses or authorization to incorporate and freely use the same.

Confidentiality and Publicity

11. You shall keep confidential any information acquired (whether verbally or in documentary or other material form) from NUS or any third party in the course of the ACHS Fellowship which is identified as proprietary or confidential or which by its nature would reasonably be construed as proprietary or confidential. You shall not, without the prior written consent of NUS, use or disclose the Confidential Information to any person, except for the proper performance of the obligations of the ACHS Fellowship.
12. You shall immediately notify NUS of any unauthorised disclosure, misappropriation or misuse by any person of any Confidential Information, upon your becoming aware of the same. Upon the termination of the ACHS Fellowship or at any time upon the request of NUS, you shall promptly return to NUS or destroy all copies of Confidential Information in your possession.
13. You shall not publish any news releases, publicity materials or make statements or announcements concerning the ACHS Fellowship or NUS, without NUS' prior written consent.
14. You shall not make use of NUS' trademarks or logos, trade names and/or service marks without NUS' prior written consent.

Personal Data

15. You shall comply with all laws applicable to the protection of personal data with regard to any personal data that you may collect and/or receive, whether from NUS or third parties, in connection with your ACHS Fellowship.

Termination

16. NUS may terminate your ACHS Fellowship in the event of any of the following conduct on your part:
 - (i) Breach of any of the terms and conditions, that is incapable of remedy;
 - (ii) Failure to remedy a breach of the terms and conditions (that is capable of remedy) within thirty (30) days of receipt of NUS' written notification of such breach;
 - (iii) Any breach of ethics or misconduct;
 - (iv) Your carrying out of fellowship project(s) or activities diverges materially from the Approved Project Proposal and/or the objectives of the ACHS Fellowship;
 - (v) Any corruption, misrepresentation and/or fraud; or
 - (vi) Failure to carry out or complete in a timely manner the fellowship project(s), activities and deliverables.
17. NUS may also terminate the ACHS Fellowship if it is of the opinion that the continuation of the ACHS Fellowship program is no longer viable.