

ACHS Fellowship Program 2026 Intake Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)



General FAQs

1. What is the ACHS Fellowship Program?

The ACHS Fellowship Program aims to inspire and connect the next generation of health security leaders and innovators. It offers training and mentorship to develop future leaders in the field of biosafety and biosecurity.

2. What is the focus of the ACHS Fellowship Program?

The program focuses on deepening the expertise, expanding the network and building leadership skills of graduate students and professionals in the areas of biosafety, biosecurity, public health, and global health security.

3. What is the role of the Asia Centre for Health Security in the fellowship?

The Asia Centre for Health Security (ACHS) organises and hosts the fellowship, providing expert guidance, resources, and networking opportunities within global health security.

4. What is the duration of the ACHS Fellowship?

The fellowship lasts for a year, with a combination of virtual and in-person components, allowing flexibility for participants to continue full-time work or study in their home countries.

5. Is the fellowship full-time or part-time?

The fellowship is part-time, allowing professionals and students to participate while maintaining their current employment and/or academic schedule.

6. What impact does the fellowship have on global health security?

The fellowship aims to enhance the knowledge and capacity of students and professionals to address global health security challenges, especially in the areas of biosafety and biosecurity.

7. How does the fellowship contribute to public health systems?

The ACHS fellows will be working on projects that aim to improve preparedness and response mechanisms to current and emerging public health threats.

8. What are the benefits of the fellowship?

Fellows gain access to mentorship, leadership training, network opportunities, and participation in workshops and discussions on biosafety and biosecurity.

9. What is the mentorship structure like?

Each fellow is paired with an experienced mentor from ACHS who will provide guidance on their project throughout the program.

10. What are the program's expectations from fellows?

Fellows are expected to actively engage in all aspects of the program, including workshops, webinars, and meetings. Additionally, they must complete a biosecurity project or product during the fellowship year, under the mentorship of ACHS faculty.

11. What types of projects do fellows work on?

Fellows would work on a project related to addressing emerging health security challenges, such as AI and biosecurity risks, One Health, urban pandemic preparedness, dual-use research governance, and early detection surveillance, through research and policy analysis. For the list of projects please refer to Annex A within the ACHS Fellowship Program Details document that can be downloaded from the [ACHS website](#).

12. Can fellows choose their research topics?

Fellows will select their preferred project from the list of available projects. These topics align with the program's goals and ACHS's area of interests, while still offering fellows the opportunity to contribute their own perspectives and expertise.

13. Are there opportunities for networking during the fellowship?

Yes, the fellowship will offer networking opportunities with global leaders in public health, biosafety, and biosecurity through webinars, workshops, and conferences.

14. What kinds of workshops are included in the program?

Fellows will have access to webinars relevant to biosecurity, such as those organised by ACHS, the WHO Information Network for Epidemics (EPI-WIN), and affiliated partner organisations.

15. What kind of funding support do fellows receive?

Fellows receive financial support for travel, accommodation during in-person sessions, and a stipend to cover basic living expenses to attend a biosecurity and networking event in Singapore and biosecurity workshop at another international location.

16. Can fellows publish research during the fellowship?

Yes, fellows are encouraged to publish their research findings and share insights gained through the program. Written consent should be sought from ACHS before findings are published.

17. How are fellows evaluated during the program?

Fellows are evaluated based on their completion of deliverables and project work.

18. What is the impact of the fellowship on career development?

The fellowship offers career-advancing opportunities, including mentorship from global leaders in their respective fields, access to professional networking, and the potential to present and publish research work in health security.

19. What are the post-fellowship opportunities?

Post-fellowship opportunities include continued collaboration with ACHS, including collaboration on research activities, and participation in future ACHS training and workshops.

20. What happens after the fellowship concludes?

After the fellowship, fellows may continue collaborating with ACHS and/or the network they have built during the fellowship. ACHS will continue to engage past fellows by inviting them to ACHS-run events and webinars.

21. Is there an alumni network?

Yes, ACHS plans to maintain an active alumni network, providing continued engagement and collaboration opportunities for former fellows.

22. Can the fellowship duration be extended?

The duration of the fellowship is one year. There may be certain considerations, such as extension of time to complete their project work, or to deliver their final presentation but attendance to the two events stated in the list of deliverables should be kept within the one-year period of the fellowship.

23. Can a fellow withdraw from the ACHS Fellowship?

If a fellow needs to withdraw from the ACHS Fellowship, they will be required to contact the program secretariat as soon as possible to discuss next steps and any cost implications.

24. What challenges do fellows typically face?

Fellows may face challenges in balancing their professional duties with fellowship commitments, but the program offers flexibility to accommodate work/academic schedules.

25. Can I contact the ACHS fellowship program faculty directly?

We strongly recommend against contacting the faculty directly to avoid any potential conflict of interest. For any enquiries, please contact the program secretariat at achs@nus.edu.sg.

Application Details

26. Who is eligible to apply for the fellowship?

The fellowship is open to early and mid-career individuals with a Masters, Doctoral or Medical degree graduates *or* individuals with a minimum of three (3) years of relevant work experience in national security, public health, medicine, biotechnology, laboratory sciences, global health, biosecurity, cybersecurity, or a related field. Applicants should also be proficient in English (written and spoken) and a citizen of or working in an eligible Asia-Pacific country for at least three years at the point of application.

Please download a copy of the ACHS Fellowship Program Details from the [ACHS website](#) for more details.

27. Is there a minimum work experience requirement?

Yes, applicants must have 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.

28. Is there an age limit for applicants?

The fellowship looks to select early to mid-career professionals who are between the age 25 to 40.

29. Are there any language requirements?

Proficiency in English is required, as the fellowship's activities and communications are conducted in English.

30. Is the fellowship open to international applicants?

Yes, the fellowship program accepts applications from nationalities of eligible Asia-Pacific country or those who have worked in an eligible Asia-Pacific country for at least three (3) years.

31. What are the eligible countries for application?

For the list of eligible countries please refer to Annex C within the ACHS Fellowship Program Details document that can be downloaded from the [ACHS website](#).

32. Can applicants from the private sector apply?

Yes, applicants from both the public and private sectors are encouraged to apply if they have the relevant experience.

33. What documents are required for the application?

Applicants will be required to submit the following in PDF format via the [online application form](#):

- Curriculum Vitae (maximum of 2 pages)
- Cover Letter (no longer than 1 page) describing your work in biosecurity and interest in the fellowship
- One (1) letter of support from your current organisation's employer or supervisor supporting your application for this fellowship
- One (1) letter of recommendation from your past employer or academic supervisor
- Copy of Degree Certificate(s) and Official Transcript(s), **consolidated into one PDF**
- Documentation of English competency (optional)

34. What is the difference between a letter of support and a letter of recommendation?

A letter of support must be written by your current supervisor and/or employer. This is essential because the fellowship will be pursued part-time, alongside your existing work and/or studies. In addition, one letter of recommendation from your past supervisor or employer is required, as a character or professional reference. It should speak to your professional capabilities, personal qualities, and suitability for the fellowship based on your previous work experience and contributions.

35. What certificates should candidates submit to prove my English language proficiency?

Candidates can provide proof of English language proficiency through a recognised certificate. Accepted certificates include TOEFL, IELTS, Cambridge English qualifications or other internationally recognised tests. If you have completed a degree where the language was in English, official transcripts or documentation from your institution may also be provided.

36. What is the application deadline for the 2026 intake?

Applications for the ACHS Fellowship Program will close on **16 September 2025, 10am (GMT +08:00)**. Late applications will not be accepted.

37. What are the key selection criteria?

Key criteria may include candidate's relevant qualification(s), professional experience, aptitude, aspiration, and his/her potential impact on health security.

38. What is the selection process?

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

Applications will be reviewed by a panel of experts and shortlisted candidates will be invited for a virtual interview.

39. When will I know the outcome of my application?

You can expect to hear from us by end December 2025. For a more detailed timeline, please refer to the application timeline listed on the [ACHS website](#).

40. How can interested individuals learn more about the fellowship?

For more information, individuals can visit the [ACHS website](#).

For enquiries about the ACHS Fellowship Program, please contact the program secretariat at achs@nus.edu.sg.