

## APPLICATION FORM FOR THE ACUMEN INDIA FELLOWS PROGRAM CLASS OF 2016

### **INSTRUCTIONS:**

All applications must be received by 12:00 AM IST (Indian Standard Time) on 1 September 2015. **Late or incomplete submissions will not be considered.**

Before beginning the applications, please review the [Application Instructions](#) section of our website for eligibility criteria and tips for filling out the form. If you have questions or if you are having technical difficulties, please read the [Frequently Asked Questions](#). If you still have questions after reading the FAQ, you may email [indiafellows@acumen.org](mailto:indiafellows@acumen.org).

Application Instructions: <http://acumen.org/content/uploads/2015/05/RFP-2015-Application-Instructions-FINAL.pdf>  
FAQ: <http://acumen.org/content/uploads/2015/05/Regional-Fellows-FAQs-2015-FINAL.pdf>

The application for the India Fellows Program consists of:

- + *Background information on both you and your work in social change*
- + *Your responses to the application essay questions*
- + *Your resume/CV*

Please complete this application in English. Fields marked with an \* are required. You will not be able to exceed the character limits. It is strongly recommended that you compose your essays in a word processor with a character count feature.

Next steps after submission of application:

- + Update to all applicants – mid-September 2015
- + Phone interviews – September 2015
- + Selection Conference (mandatory in-person interviews in Mumbai) – October 17<sup>th</sup> 2015
- + Final Selection of 20 Fellows – December 2015
- + First Seminar – Q1 2016

If you are unable to complete the form online, please print out this form and mail it to us by **Monday, September 1<sup>st</sup> 2015**. Please send it to the following address:

Acumen  
203 Dheeraj Plaza, Hill Road  
Bandra West  
Mumbai 400050  
Phone: +91 22674 01520



# INDIA FELLOWS PROGRAM

## Background Information

### Contact Information

First Name\* \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name\* \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address\* \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Phone\* \_\_\_\_\_

Secondary Phone \_\_\_\_\_

### Referral Source

How did you first come to know out about this opportunity?\* Please be specific (i.e. Facebook, Internet Search, Ashoka Network, NGO Box, TFI Network)

\_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever applied to any Acumen Fellowship in the Past? If so, please name the program and year of application.\*

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What other opportunities have you applied for in the last 1 year?

\_\_\_\_\_



# INDIA FELLOWS PROGRAM

## Personal Information

Fellows must demonstrate a **long-term commitment** and **concrete connection** to India.

What is your nationality? \* \_\_\_\_\_

What is your country of residence? \* \_\_\_\_\_

How long have you lived in India? \* \_\_\_\_\_

What is your gender? \*

(Circle one) **Male** / **Female** / **Other**

Do you hold any of the following?

(Circle one) **PIO Card** (Person of Indian Origin) / **OCI** (Overseas Citizen of India) / **Indian Work Permit**

## Social Change Work

Social change work refers to any project, initiative, program, or organization addressing a pressing social issue with an innovative solution and demonstrating a positive impact on the community. It can take the shape of a social enterprise, grant-funded program, government initiative, or socially-focused project within a for-profit corporation.

What is the name of your social change organization/project? \*

\_\_\_\_\_

In one or two words, what is your organization's/project's main area of focus i.e. Human Rights, Water & Sanitation, Energy, Housing, Education, etc.? \*

\_\_\_\_\_



# INDIA FELLOWS PROGRAM

What is your title at this organization/project?\*

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What are your specific roles/responsibilities at this organization/project?\*

*(Note: If we asked your CEO or Board of Directors what your role is, how would they describe your main responsibilities on a day-to-day basis?)*

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How long have you been working at this organization/project?\*

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What is your time commitment at this organization/project?\*

*(Note: Full-time is 40 hours/week or more, Part-time is less than 40 hours/week)*

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## Work Experience

Total number years of work experience\* \_\_\_\_\_

What is your main area of expertise?\* \_\_\_\_\_

Please attach Your Resume/CV\*

\*please note resume should be no more than 2 pages in length

## Education

### Secondary or High School

Name of school/institution\* \_\_\_\_\_

Graduation year\* \_\_\_\_\_

Location (City, Country)\* \_\_\_\_\_

### Highest Academic Qualification

What is your highest academic qualification?\*

- Circle one:
- Primary School** ("O" Levels)
  - Secondary School** ("A Levels")
  - Vocational/Technical School** (Associate's Degree)
  - Undergraduate** (Bachelor's Degree)
  - Graduate** (Master's Degree)
  - Doctorate** (e.g., PhD, JD, MD)

Area(s) of Study \_\_\_\_\_

Graduation year \_\_\_\_\_

Location (City, Country) \_\_\_\_\_



# INDIA FELLOWS PROGRAM

## Awards & Recognitions

Please use this area to tell us about any significant awards or recognitions that you have received in the last 5 years (e.g., prizes, honors, fellowships)

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## Address

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/Town\* \_\_\_\_\_

State/Region\* \_\_\_\_\_

Country\* \_\_\_\_\_

## Essay Questions

Please answer the essay questions as directly and concisely as possible. You will not be able to exceed the specified word limits. It is strongly recommended that you compose your essays in a word processor with a word count feature. Be authentic. Don't just write what you think we want to hear. Use stories to show, rather than tell us about yourself. For example, don't just say you are a very curious person; tell us a story that illustrates this trait.

Use the essay portion of the application to tell us more about yourself from a personal perspective and share more about your social change project. We already know about your skills and experience from your background information and resume – now we want to get to know you on a deeper level.

For additional help with the long & short answer questions, please consult the [Application Instructions](#).

**1. Where does your passion and motivation for social change work come from?\***

Everyone who does social change work has chosen to take a leap of faith. Why did you decide to take this leap? We already have your resume, so focus more on the personal than the professional. (200 words)

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# INDIA FELLOWS PROGRAM

## [Acumen's Manifesto](#)

It starts by standing with the poor, listening to voices unheard, and recognizing potential where others see despair.

It demands investing as a means, not an end, daring to go where markets have failed and aid has fallen short. It makes capital work for us, not control us.

It thrives on moral imagination: the humility to see the world as it is, and the audacity to imagine the world as it could be. It's having the ambition to learn at the edge, the wisdom to admit failure, and the courage to start again.

It requires patience and kindness, resilience and grit: a hard-edged hope. It's leadership that rejects complacency, breaks through bureaucracy, and challenges corruption.

Doing what's right, not what's easy.

Acumen: it's the radical idea of creating hope in a cynical world. Changing the way the world tackles poverty and building a world based on dignity.

[[Click here](#) to listen to Acumen's Founder & CEO Jacqueline Novogratz recite the Manifesto, or [click here](#) to listen to her talk about what the Manifesto means to her.]



# INDIA FELLOWS PROGRAM

## Terms & Conditions

Participants are expected to attend ALL program meetings (i.e., 5 Seminars throughout the year each 5-8 days in length) which will include travel to different locations in India. All program-related expenses are provided by Acumen. Acumen and its partners are investing a significant amount of resources, effort, and time into this program, and we must ensure that all participants are committed. Missing even one meeting merits expulsion from the program.

Participants are expected to complete ALL program assignments, participate fully in program activities, and stay in communication with other Fellows between seminars. Failure to complete assignments and lack of engagement/participation merits expulsion from the program.

Your dedication to poverty alleviation is central to your selection to the Fellows Program. You must commit to continue working in a leadership capacity in poverty alleviation for the duration of the one-year program.

**All finalists are expected to attend a day long Selection Conference in Mumbai on 17 October 2015.** Participants are expected to cover their own expenses for travel to/from Mumbai, and accommodation in Mumbai. If selected, you must commit to attending the Selection Conference.

*Note: Acumen wants to ensure that all shortlisted candidates are able to attend, regardless of their financial situation. As a result, in some special situations and upon request, Acumen will consider providing financial assistance to finalists who cannot cover these costs.*

I hereby verify that the above information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. I affirm that the above responses and essays are original and not plagiarized. I understand that misrepresentation or plagiarism of any kind is grounds for immediate disqualification from the selection process.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Please remember to submit your resume/curriculum vitae along with your application form**