

FICCI Higher Education Excellence Awards 2025

Excellence in Financial Sustainability & Student Access

Category	Category Definition
Excellence in Financial Sustainability & Student Access	<i>This award recognizes institutions that demonstrate robust financial health while actively fostering access to education through inclusive, sustainable, and innovative financing models. These institutions reduce financial barriers through scholarships, fee waivers, EMI options, income-share agreements, and partnerships with financial or EdTech platforms. Their commitment to affordability and responsible financial planning enables long-term stability and ensures education remains accessible to students from diverse socio-economic backgrounds.</i>

Section 1 – Basic information*				
Institution name				
Institution address		City:	State:	Zone: Choose an item.
Date of incorporation	Click here to enter a date.			
Type of institution	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Institution		<input type="checkbox"/> Private Institution	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Central Government Institution	<input type="checkbox"/> Institute of Eminence	<input type="checkbox"/> Central Government Institution	<input type="checkbox"/> Institute of Eminence
	<input type="checkbox"/> State Government Institution	<input type="checkbox"/> Institute of National Importance	<input type="checkbox"/> State Government Institution	<input type="checkbox"/> Institute of National Importance
	<input type="checkbox"/> Deemed to be University	<input type="checkbox"/> Others: (Please specify) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Deemed to be University	<input type="checkbox"/> Others: (Please specify) _____
Level of education provided	<input type="checkbox"/> Under-Graduate <input type="checkbox"/> Post-Graduate <input type="checkbox"/> Ph.D./Doctorate <input type="checkbox"/> Diploma/Certificate <input type="checkbox"/> Others (please specify)			
Website				

Section 2 – Contact Details *	
Name of Vice Chancellor or Director or Registrar or another equivalent person	
Designation	
E-mail ID	

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Contact Number	
Name of the SPOC for the Awards (Same as above)	
Designation	
E-mail ID	

Section 3 – Operational Matrix*		
Parameters	April 2023 – March 2024	April 2024 – March 2025
Total institutional budget (INR Cr)		
% of budget allocated to student support (scholarships, EMIs, financing)	<input type="checkbox"/> <5% <input type="checkbox"/> 5–10% <input type="checkbox"/> 11–20% <input type="checkbox"/> >20%	<input type="checkbox"/> <5% <input type="checkbox"/> 5–10% <input type="checkbox"/> 11–20% <input type="checkbox"/> >20%
Number of institutional scholarships/fee waivers offered	<input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> 1–50 <input type="checkbox"/> 51–200 <input type="checkbox"/> 201–500 <input type="checkbox"/> >500	<input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> 1–50 <input type="checkbox"/> 51–200 <input type="checkbox"/> 201–500 <input type="checkbox"/> >500
Number of students supported via scholarships or tuition waivers	<input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> 1–50 <input type="checkbox"/> 51–200 <input type="checkbox"/> 201–500 <input type="checkbox"/> >500	<input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> 1–50 <input type="checkbox"/> 51–200 <input type="checkbox"/> 201–500 <input type="checkbox"/> >500
Number of students availing EMI or deferred fee payment options	<input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> 1–50 <input type="checkbox"/> 51–200 <input type="checkbox"/> 201–500 <input type="checkbox"/> >500	<input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> 1–50 <input type="checkbox"/> 51–200 <input type="checkbox"/> 201–500 <input type="checkbox"/> >500
Number of NBFC/FinTech/EdTech partnerships for student financing	<input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> 1–2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3–5 <input type="checkbox"/> >5	<input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> 1–2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3–5 <input type="checkbox"/> >5
Are revenue-sharing or income-share models used?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If yes, please specify	
Student default or repayment delay rate (if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Tracked <input type="checkbox"/> <5% <input type="checkbox"/> 5–10% <input type="checkbox"/> >10%	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Tracked <input type="checkbox"/> <5% <input type="checkbox"/> 5–10% <input type="checkbox"/> >10%

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% of students from EWS backgrounds supported through financial aid	<input type="checkbox"/> <10% <input type="checkbox"/> 10–25% <input type="checkbox"/> 26–50% <input type="checkbox"/> >50%	<input type="checkbox"/> <10% <input type="checkbox"/> 10–25% <input type="checkbox"/> 26–50% <input type="checkbox"/> >50%
Number of PPPs or CSR-supported infrastructure/financing programs	<input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> 1–2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3–5 <input type="checkbox"/> >5	<input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> 1–2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3–5 <input type="checkbox"/> >5
Has your institution reported a budget surplus or balanced budget in the past 2 fiscal years?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes – Both Years <input type="checkbox"/> Yes – One Year <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Prefer not to disclose	
Have you participated in or initiated an education-focused endowment, SSE, or education bond?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If yes, please specify	
% Split of Total Operational Budget (Academic) Note: "Academic" activities refer to all direct instructional, research, and curriculum-linked functions. This split must be based on internal audited financial reports or budget documents.		
% Split of Total Operational Budget (Non-Academic) Note: "Non-academic" refers to administrative operations, facilities, marketing, events, etc. This split must be based on internal audited financial reports or budget documents.		
(Please note that the numbers provided here will be validated at later stage hence it should be backed up with sufficient and relevant supporting documents)		

Section 4 – Case Study*

Note:

- The below case study must pertain to **ONLY one initiative/project implemented in relevance to this category. Please fill a different application form if you wish to apply with another initiative/s**
- This section should reflect the strategic vision and institutional priorities of the institution. It must be completed or reviewed by a member of the academic or leadership team (e.g., Director, Vice Chancellor, Dean, or Registrar). Inputs collected or compiled by administrative staff must be validated before final submission.

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<p>1. What is your institution's long-term vision and financial strategy to ensure sustainability while enabling access to quality education? <i>(Max 150 words, preferably in bullets)</i></p>	
<p>Initiative Start Date: (DD/MM/YYYY)</p> <p>Initiative End Date: (DD/MM/YYYY) / Ongoing</p> <p>Name of Initiative/ Project</p>	<p>Click here to enter a date / Ongoing</p>
<p>2. Describe your student financing and affordability models (scholarships, EMI plans, ISAs, fee waivers, etc.). Include implementation approach, eligibility, and any partnerships with NBFCs, banks, or EdTechs.</p> <p><i>(Max 150 words, preferably in bullets)</i></p> <p><i>Note: You may describe either a single flagship initiative or a cluster of interrelated projects, provided they collectively reflect a cohesive institutional strategy and measurable impact.</i></p>	
<p>3. Highlight the measurable impact of these financing initiatives on student enrolment, diversity, retention, or academic success. Include metrics where possible.</p> <p><i>(Max 150 words, preferably in bullets)</i></p>	
<p>4. What role have your financial ecosystem partners (donors, banks, NBFCs, alumni, industry) played in enabling your affordability and sustainability agenda? <i>(Max 150 words, preferably in bullets)</i></p>	
<p>5. Describe efforts to diversify revenue streams beyond tuition. Include initiatives like alumni giving, research commercialization, corporate funding, PPPs, or endowment creation. <i>(Max 150 words, preferably in bullets)</i></p>	
<p>6. Outline your institution's roadmap to enhance student affordability and financial sustainability over the next two years. <i>(Max 150 words, preferably in bullets)</i></p>	
<p>7. Why should your institution be recognized for Excellence in Financial Sustainability & Student Financing? Highlight what sets your initiative apart in terms of</p>	

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<p>innovation, impact, inclusivity, and long-term value creation. (Max 300 words, preferably in bullets)</p>	
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Section 5 – Supporting Documents*

Certificate of Incorporation/Registration certificate *	<u>Attach file</u>
Scholarship policy/financial support documentation*	<u>Attach file</u>
Reports/data showing beneficiary impact (anonymous or summary) *	<u>Attach file</u>
<p>AI Report covering: *</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AI tool used • % of content generated or paraphrased • % Plagiarism <p>(Max 20% AI-generated content allowed <u>Attach file</u>)</p>	<u>Attach file</u>
MOUs with financing partners (banks/NBFCs/EdTechs)	<u>Attach file</u>
<p>Why should your institution win this award? (Max 2 pages)</p> <p><i>Please note : This document must be completed or reviewed by a senior member of the academic or leadership team.</i></p>	<u>Attach file</u>
Any other collaterals (awards/ articles/certificates, etc.)	<u>Attach file</u>

Section 6 – Declaration*

As a matter of record, I/we hereby declare that the information provided in the application form and the supporting documents submitted for the FICCI Higher Education Excellence Awards 2025 is, to the best of my/our knowledge and belief, true, correct, and complete. I/we understand that in the event any information is found to be false, untrue, misleading, or misrepresented, I/we shall be held liable and responsible for the same.

I/we declare that below is true:

- Initiative/ project is completely executed and fully implemented in the period April 01, 2023, to March 31, 2025

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- The impact demonstrated and results showcased by initiative/ project is in the period April 01, 2024, to March 31, 2025

I/we, on behalf of my/our organization, <name of organization>, authorise FICCI to use the content submitted as part of my/our 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.

I/we further agree that the information provided has been approved by the Registrar or equivalent personnel of my/ our institution.

Participant Name: _____

Designation: _____

Date: _____

