

FICCI Higher Education Excellence Awards 2026

Excellence in Creating Employment & Entrepreneurship

Category	Category Definition
Excellence in Creating Employment & Entrepreneurship	<i>This award category recognizes institutions that have demonstrated exceptional success in preparing students for meaningful careers and entrepreneurial ventures. These institutions implement forward-looking strategies that align academic learning with industry demands while fostering innovation and self-employment. By cultivating strong industry and EdTech partnerships, delivering hands-on learning, offering structured internships, supporting startup incubation, and ensuring robust placement outcomes, they play a critical role in shaping a workforce that is both job-ready and future-ready.</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"/> Institution of Eminence	<input type="checkbox"/> State Private University	<input type="checkbox"/> Others: (Please specify) _____
	<input type="checkbox"/> State Government Institution	<input type="checkbox"/> Institution of National Importance	<input type="checkbox"/> Deemed to be University	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Deemed to be University	<input type="checkbox"/> Others: (Please specify) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Autonomous Institution	
Level of education provided	<input type="checkbox"/> Under-Graduate <input type="checkbox"/> Ph.D./Doctorate <input type="checkbox"/> Others (please specify)		<input type="checkbox"/> Post-Graduate <input type="checkbox"/> Diploma/Certificate	
Website				
Have you won an award for this category in any previous three editions of FICCI Higher Education	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes If yes, please specify			

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Excellence Awards? If yes, then please provide details	
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Section 2 – Contact Details *	
Name of Vice Chancellor or Director or Registrar or another equivalent person	
Designation	
E-mail ID	
Contact Number	
Name of the SPOC for the Awards (Same as above)	
Designation	
E-mail ID	

Section 3 – Operational Matrix*		
Parameters	FY 2024-2025	FY 2025-2026
A. Employability Outcomes		
% of graduating students placed through campus or institution-facilitated processes.	<input type="checkbox"/> <30% <input type="checkbox"/> 30–50% <input type="checkbox"/> 51–65% <input type="checkbox"/> 66–80% <input type="checkbox"/> >80%	<input type="checkbox"/> <30% <input type="checkbox"/> 30–50% <input type="checkbox"/> 51–65% <input type="checkbox"/> 66–80% <input type="checkbox"/> >80%
Median annual salary package of placed graduates	<input type="checkbox"/> < ₹3 LPA <input type="checkbox"/> ₹3 – ₹5 LPA <input type="checkbox"/> ₹5 – ₹8 LPA <input type="checkbox"/> ₹8 – ₹12 LPA <input type="checkbox"/> > ₹12 LPA	<input type="checkbox"/> < ₹3 LPA <input type="checkbox"/> ₹3 – ₹5 LPA <input type="checkbox"/> ₹5 – ₹8 LPA <input type="checkbox"/> ₹8 – ₹12 LPA <input type="checkbox"/> > ₹12 LPA
% of students taking at least one structured internship as against the total number of students (Minimum 4 weeks)	<input type="checkbox"/> <25% <input type="checkbox"/> 25–45% <input type="checkbox"/> 46–65% <input type="checkbox"/> 66–85% <input type="checkbox"/> >85%	<input type="checkbox"/> <25% <input type="checkbox"/> 25–45% <input type="checkbox"/> 46–65% <input type="checkbox"/> 66–85% <input type="checkbox"/> >85%
% of academic programs with structured industry integration (live projects, co-designed curriculum, internships). <i>Note – A program will be considered integrated only if it includes at least one of the following: co-designed curriculum, mandatory internship, or evaluated live industry project.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <20% <input type="checkbox"/> 20–40% <input type="checkbox"/> 41–60% <input type="checkbox"/> 61–80% <input type="checkbox"/> >80%	<input type="checkbox"/> <20% <input type="checkbox"/> 20–40% <input type="checkbox"/> 41–60% <input type="checkbox"/> 61–80% <input type="checkbox"/> >80%

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Number of student-led startups incubated or formally supported by the institution.	<input type="checkbox"/> 0 <input type="checkbox"/> 1 – 3 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 – 8 <input type="checkbox"/> 9 – 15 <input type="checkbox"/> >15	<input type="checkbox"/> 0 <input type="checkbox"/> 1 – 3 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 – 8 <input type="checkbox"/> 9 – 15 <input type="checkbox"/> > 15
Total funding raised by institution-supported startups in the reporting year.	<input type="checkbox"/> < ₹10 Lakhs <input type="checkbox"/> ₹10 – ₹50 Lakhs <input type="checkbox"/> ₹50 Lakhs – ₹2 Crore <input type="checkbox"/> ₹2 – ₹5 Crore <input type="checkbox"/> > ₹5 Crore	<input type="checkbox"/> < ₹10 Lakhs <input type="checkbox"/> ₹10 – ₹50 Lakhs <input type="checkbox"/> ₹50 Lakhs – ₹2 Crore <input type="checkbox"/> ₹2 – ₹5 Crore <input type="checkbox"/> >₹5 Crore
% of vocational / skill programmes offered in Indian language / mother-tongue medium (NEP 2020 language policy)	<input type="checkbox"/> 0 <input type="checkbox"/> 1–5% <input type="checkbox"/> 5–10% <input type="checkbox"/> >10%	
Does your institution have an incubation centre? If yes, briefly describe its contribution to startup creation and employment outcomes. (Max 50 words)	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes If yes, please specify	
<i>(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)</i>		

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.**

Initiative Start Date: (DD/MM/YYYY)

Initiative End Date: (DD/MM/YYYY) / Ongoing

Name of Initiative/ Project

Select the sector(s) where your institution has

[Click here to enter a date / Ongoing](#)

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<p>demonstrated expertise in job creation:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Technology</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Healthcare</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Finance</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Manufacturing</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Others (please specify):</p>	
<p>1. Describe a major initiative undertaken by your institution to enhance employability and/or promote student entrepreneurship. Outline its objectives, target beneficiaries, collaborators (if any), the approach or strategies used for implementation and the problem it aimed to address.</p> <p><i>(Max 200 words, preferably in bullets)</i></p> <p>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</p>	<p>Your response should clearly cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Problem being addressed • Target group and scale • Program design and delivery model • Industry / startup ecosystem involvement • How the initiative enables: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Job placement / career readiness 2. Startup creation / self-employment • Innovative elements, if any
<p>2. What measurable outcomes has the initiative achieved in improving employability and entrepreneurship outcomes? Include specific quantitative metrics and relevant qualitative outcomes</p> <p><i>(Max 200 words, preferably in bullets)</i></p>	<p>Your response should clearly cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impact on placements, internships, startups, funding, etc. (placements, internships, startup creation, etc.) • Nature of improvement observed (trend, shift, consistency, conversion) • Specific outcome examples • Extent and scale of impact
<p>3. Why should your institution be recognized for Excellence in Creating Employment & Entrepreneurship? Highlight key differentiators such as innovation, measurable impact, inclusivity, industry engagement, potential for replication and long-term value creation.</p> <p><i>(Max 200 words, preferably in bullets)</i></p>	<p>Your response should clearly cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What differentiates this initiative • Quality of industry/ecosystem integration • Innovation in approach • Replicability and long-term value creation

Section 5 – Supporting Documents

Certificate of Incorporation/Registration certificate *	<u>Attach file</u>
Reports, research, testimonials or any other documentation validating the quantitative and qualitative impact of the initiative*	<u>Attach file</u>

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AI Report covering: * <ul style="list-style-type: none">• AI tool used• % of content generated or paraphrased• % Plagiarism <p><i>(Max 20% AI-generated content allowed)</i></p>	<u>Attach file</u>
Why should your institution win this award? <i>(Max 2 pages)</i> <i>Please note: This document must be completed or reviewed by a senior member of the academic or leadership team.</i>	<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 2026 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.

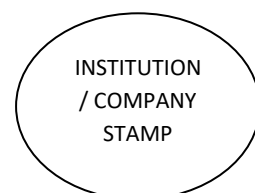
I/we declare that below is true:

- Initiative/ project is completely executed and fully implemented in the period April 01, 2024, to March 31, 2026
- The impact demonstrated and results showcased by initiative/ project is in the period April 01, 2025, to March 31, 2026

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: _____



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Designation: _____

Date: _____