

FAQs: United Nations Global Health Fellowship Programme

General Information

1. What is the United Nations Global Health Fellowship Programme?

The Fellowship Programme is an immersive learning experience designed to empower individuals with diverse perspectives to contribute to global health. It provides participants with exposure to key global health organizations, workshops on critical topics, networking opportunities, and hands-on training in public health policy, governance, and innovation.

2. Where does the programme take place?

The upcoming cohorts of the fellowship will be conducted in Geneva, Switzerland, a global hub for health governance, home to institutions such as the World Health Organization (WHO), the United Nations (UN), international NGOs, such as Médecins Sans Frontières. Future iterations of the programme may be held in other locations, and details will be shared for each cohort before participants register.

3. When will the programme take place?

The first cohort is scheduled for 16th to 20th of June 2025. The programme runs for five days, combining site visits, expert-led workshops, and interactive sessions.

Information about subsequent cohorts will be made available on the [Division's webpage](#).

Register your interest to learn about the upcoming cohorts by filling out [this form](#).

4. How does this programme align with UNITAR's mandate and strategic framework and the SDGs?

The United Nations Global Health Fellowship Programme directly aligns with UNITAR's mandate to enhance global capacity and promote sustainable development. The programme supports UNITAR's strategic objectives by fostering leadership in global health, building knowledge and expertise, and advancing collaboration across sectors. It also contributes to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being), SDG 4 (Quality Education), and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals), by empowering future leaders with the skills and knowledge needed to tackle pressing global health challenges and advocate for sustainable, equitable solutions.

Programme Structure and Content

1. What are the key components of the fellowship?

The fellowship experience will be tailored for each cohort, with customized guest speakers, faculty, and visit locations. The specific itinerary for each cohort, including visits to global health institutions (such as UNITAR, WHO, Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF), the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Novartis, and others), as well as workshops on global health leadership, diplomacy, AI in healthcare, crisis

management, policy development, and more, will be shared with participants prior to registration. Participants will also have opportunities for networking events and career development sessions, including resume building and interview simulations.

2. Who will conduct this programme and who are the speakers and facilitators?

The programme will be conducted by UNITAR in partnership with The Defeat-NCD Partnership. The guest speakers and facilitators will be esteemed experts and leaders from the healthcare industry, including representatives from organizations such as WHO, GAVI, Novartis, and other key global health stakeholders. These professionals will bring valuable insights and practical knowledge to enrich the fellowship experience.

3. Will I receive a certificate upon completion?

Participants who complete the programme will receive a Certificate of Participation from UNITAR and its implementation partner -- The Defeat-NCD Partnership.

4. Can I participate virtually?

The programme is designed as an in-person experience to maximize engagement and networking opportunities. However, pre-session reading materials will be made available online before the fellowship to help you prepare for the event.

5. Will there be a dress code to attend the programme?

Business casual is recommended for all site visits and sessions. More formal attire may be required for networking events.

Eligibility and Application Process

1. Who is eligible to apply?

The fellowship programme is open to high school students, university students in healthcare-related disciplines, and young healthcare professionals. Each cohort will be tailored to specific groups of participants to ensure a relevant and engaging learning experience. To register your interest and join the waiting list, please fill out [this form](#).

2. How do I apply?

Please fill out [this form](#) to express your interest in joining the United Nations Global Health Fellowship Programme.

3. What is the selection criteria?

Participants will be shortlisted based on a careful review of their application, letter of motivation, and the required supporting documents. The selection process takes into account the applicant's relevant experience, commitment to global health, and alignment with the programme's goals. Each application will be evaluated to ensure that the selected participants have the potential to benefit from and contribute to the fellowship experience.

4. When is the application deadline?

We maintain a database of individuals who have expressed interest in the fellowship and will inform them about the application deadline for each cohort in advance. To

ensure you receive timely updates, we encourage you to fill out the form to indicate your interest in the programme due to limited slots in each cohort.

5. I have applied. When will I know if I have been accepted?

You will be informed of your acceptance once your application has been reviewed by the United Nations Global Health team. This process typically takes around 15-20 days. We appreciate your patience during this time.

Costs and Financial Support

1. What is the cost of the programme?

The cost will be communicated upon application. Participants will need to cover travel, accommodation, and meals.

2. What would be covered under this fee?

The fellowship fee covers all activities outlined in the itinerary, including workshops, site visits, lunches for the 5-day event, tea/coffee breaks, local transportation, travel to Basel, and a networking dinner. Please note that the fee does not include accommodation, visa, or airfare costs, which are the responsibility of the participants.

3. Why does this programme have a cost?

UNITAR is a non-profit, project-based organization that does not receive core funding from the UN Secretariat. The programme fee helps cover the essential costs required to maintain and enhance the fellowship experience. These contributions ensure that we can continue offering a high-quality, impactful learning experience for all participants.

4. What are my options if I cannot afford the fee?

If you do not receive a scholarship and are unable to cover the programme fees, UNITAR can provide you with a recommendation letter to support your search for external funding. We encourage you to explore funding opportunities through foundations, trusts, companies, and embassies. While UNITAR does not maintain a list of potential donors, we encourage you to research funding opportunities through foundations, companies, or embassies. Please note that your participation in the fellowship will only be officially confirmed once the programme fees have been paid.

5. Does this programme have a refund policy?

At this time, we are unable to offer refunds due to the high demand for participant slots in each cohort. However, in cases of exigent circumstances, refund requests will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. If you're unsure whether the programme is the right fit for you, we encourage you to review the Fellowship details on our webpage and explore the FAQ section. For additional guidance, feel free to reach out to our team at globalhealth@unitar.org.

6. Can I pay the programme fee in installments?

Due to the structure of the 5-day programme, we are unable to accept payments in installments. The full fee must be paid upfront in order to complete the registration process for the programme.

Logistics and Travel

- 1. Do I need a visa to attend the programme in Geneva?**
Participants should check visa requirements for Switzerland based on their nationality. UNITAR can provide a letter of invitation for visa applications once the registration process is completed.
- 2. Are travel and accommodation provided?**
Participants are responsible for their own travel and accommodation. UNITAR will provide recommendations on budget-friendly options in Geneva.
- 3. What should I bring?**
Essential items include a laptop/tablet, business casual attire, comfortable walking shoes, and personal essentials for a week in Geneva.

Post-Fellowship

- 1. What happens after the fellowship?**
Participants will join an alumni network for continued learning, networking, and collaboration.
- 2. How can I stay involved with UNITAR?**
Graduates can engage in follow-up initiatives, research projects, and mentoring future cohorts. They may also be invited to contribute to UNITAR's ongoing global health efforts. For more information, visit the UNITAR website or contact the programme team at globalhealth@unitar.org.