

Collaborative Initiative for Paediatric HIV Education and Research

Growing the Leaders of Tomorrow Fellowship

Frequently asked questions

What is the Growing the Leaders of Tomorrow Fellowship Programme?

The Growing the Leaders of Tomorrow Fellowship Programme was launched by the [Collaborative Initiative for Paediatric HIV Education and Research \(CIPHER\)](#) of IAS – the International AIDS Society – in 2017. This initiative aims to strengthen research expertise in paediatric and adolescent HIV. It provides two-year research fellowships of up to USD 70,000 to emerging investigators in Asia-Pacific and central, eastern, southern and western Africa.

Which areas of research are covered by the 2024/2025 round of the Growing the Leaders of Tomorrow Fellowship Programme?

The research project is expected to leverage real-world data to conduct research that informs the uptake, safety and effectiveness of current paediatric HIV medicines and addressing the need for novel paediatric HIV medicines. Research may focus on long-term safety and efficacy of antiretroviral treatments, drug-drug interactions and resistance profiles, as well as treatments for co-infections and non-communicable diseases in children living with HIV. Approaches may include scoping the use of real-world data to support the planning or conducting of paediatric trials.

I obtained my degree over 10 years ago. Am I eligible?

No, you are not eligible.

What does the fellowship include?

Award: The award amounts to USD 70,000 (USD 35,000 per year). The funds are to provide a stipend for the fellow and can support travel for a learning visit and/or to attend one international conference. Fellowship funds are not intended to cover direct research expenses; the host institution or additional grants must provide for these costs.

IAS conferences: The fellow will attend IAS 2025, the 13th IAS Conference on HIV Science, in Kigali, Rwanda, and AIDS 2026, the 26th International AIDS Conference, in Latin America and the Caribbean. CIPHER will cover travel, accommodation and registration expenses for these events.

What are the main fellowship terms and conditions?

Duration: The fellow is expected to begin in March 2025 and serve their fellowship for the duration of the award.

Reporting: Fellows must submit progress reports, including expenses reports, to CIPHER every six months throughout the fellowship period. In addition, at the completion of the fellowship, fellows must submit a final report. Templates to be used for reporting will be provided. All reports submitted to CIPHER must be signed by the mentor.

Terms: All fellows must apply for at least one intermediate fellowship or equivalent career development award by the end of their two-year fellowship. In addition, fellows should be available to attend capacity-building initiatives organised by CIPHER during IAS 2025, the 13th IAS Conference on HIV Science, in Kigali, Rwanda and AIDS 2026, the 26th International AIDS Conference, in Latin America and the Caribbean. CIPHER will cover travel, accommodation and registration expenses for these events.

I would like to propose a small study, which would only take a few months to complete. Is this possible?

No. This programme is a mentored, two-year research training designed to support outstanding early-career investigators from Asia-Pacific and central, eastern, southern or western Africa to strengthen their skills.

I do not hold a national ID or passport from a country in Asia-Pacific or central, eastern, southern and western Africa, but I am working in an institution based in Asia-Pacific or central, eastern, southern and western Africa. Can I apply?

No. This programme is specifically for fellows who hold a national ID or passport from a country in Asia-Pacific or central, eastern, southern or western Africa. Please note that fellows will be requested to upload a copy of their passport or national ID card.