2024-2025 Fulbright Distinguished Awards in Teaching Research Program
India Country Profile

Partner Organization: [United States-India Educational Foundation (USIEF)](#)

Eligible Program Dates: 3-5 months from August - December 2025

Host Institution Expectations: USIEF will coordinate with the selected participant on their host institution placement. Past participants have been placed at universities and NGOs.

Language Requirement: None

Monthly Allowance: Between $3,700 - $4,000 (exact amount to be confirmed at a later date)

Dependent Information: An allowance of $2,000 per eligible dependent will be provided to the participant. USIEF will provide administrative support to the participant and their dependents for procuring appropriate visas and assist with local logistics upon arrival in India. For scholars with dependent children, India has several good private schools, alternative schools, and international schools with International Baccalaureate (IB) curriculum to choose from.

Country Overview: India is the world's largest democracy, with a vibrant and growing economy, rich history, kaleidoscopic diversity, and an enormous appetite for education. Its education system continues to expand at a rapid pace. India attracts faculty and students to study, teach and conduct research, its expertise extending beyond the technical and business fields to nearly all academic disciplines. Visit the World Factbook for more information:

- https://www.cia.gov/the-world-factbook/countries/india/summaries

Educational System Overview: In India, the federal government has played a key role in formulating national policies for educational development and regulates selected aspects of education throughout India. The federal Ministry of Education through the Department of School Education and Literacy is responsible for formulating policies on secondary education in India.

The 2011 census data reveals an overall literacy rate of 64.8 percent in India. This number is found to be lower among women and in rural areas. Also, there is a striking regional variation with a high literacy rate of 90.9 percent in Kerala to a low 47.0 percent in Bihar. The variations in the learning rate within the country are an indication of the complexities of the education scenario.

Resources

- [Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE)](#)
- [Council of Indian School Certificate Examinations](#)
- [National Institute of Open Schooling](#)
- [Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan](#)

- [Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti](#)
- [National Education Policy 2020](#)

For more information on Indian education, please visit the websites of the following organizations:

- [Ministry of Education](#)
- [National Council of Education Research and Training (NCERT)](#)
- [National Council of Teacher Education (NCTE)](#)

Possible Topics of Interest for U.S. Educators: There are several issues that deserve attention in the primary and secondary education sphere in India, some of which may be of specific interest to Fulbright DA participants.

- Improving teacher performance by introducing them to new skills which can be implemented in classrooms. A project that examines how innovative teaching methods are introduced, improved, and scaled will be very relevant.
- Comparing and contrasting global understandings of evaluation practice and its relationship to fostering educational change.
- The use of technology in the teaching and learning process is another area that has been prioritized for immediate intervention in the Indian education system. In India, there is usage of technology in classrooms, but these are limited to schools that are well resourced. A research project that investigates how technology can be used to improve learning outcomes, both subject specific and in the broader context, will be welcome.
- Promoting the learning of STEM subjects especially among girl students is a challenge. A project could explore how Indian educators make STEM education interesting and accessible for girl students.
- The government of India has taken several initiatives to strengthen inclusive education at the school level. However, a large section of children with special needs and learning disability are secluded and discriminated against. A research project could identify the issues and challenges of inclusive education in India and consider some transferrable best practices.
- One major problem that formal education in India faces is the quantity and quality of teachers. Research on the impact of policies on teacher qualification and how public and private schools are trying to bring an overhaul of teacher education may be of relevance.
- Post-pandemic reality and the challenges of rural and underserved areas catching up to integrate online learning in schools.
- Other challenges such as teaching English as a second language and using child centered teaching approaches are of the utmost importance in the context of India, so research projects could consider these topics as well.