**Ireland-SIDS Fellows Programme**

The Ireland– SIDS Fellows Programme offers early to mid-career professionals from eligible Small Island Developing States (SIDS) the opportunity to undertake a fully funded, one-year master’s level programme at a higher education institution in Ireland. Focused on nurturing future leaders and building in-country capacity to achieve national Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), the programme contributes to building enduring positive personal and professional relationships with Ireland, promoting institutional linkages.

**Eligibility**

To be eligible for an Ireland Fellows Programme – SIDS award commencing at the beginning of the academic year 2026s, applicants must:

* Be a national of one of the eligible SIDS countries and resident in one of the eligible SIDS countries, they can be a national of one country and resident in another, in the same region.
* Have a minimum three years’ substantial work experience that is directly relevant to your proposed programme(s) of study.
* Hold a bachelor’s level academic qualification from an accredited and government-recognised higher education institution, with a minimum grade point average of 3.0 (4.0 scale) – i.e. a first class honour, or second class honour, Grade 1 (a second class honour Grade 2 may be accepted if the applicant has substantial directly relevant work experience). It must have been awarded in 2014 or later (i.e. within the last 12 years).
* Not already hold a qualification at master’s level or higher. Not currently undertaking a programme at master’s level or higher, or be due to start a programme at master’s level or higher in the academic year 2025/26.
* Be applying to commence a new programme at master’s level in Ireland no sooner than August 2026.
* Be able to demonstrate the following: leadership abilities and aspirations; a commitment to the achievement of the SDGs within your own country; and a commitment to contribute to building positive relationships with Ireland.
* Have identified and selected three programmes relevant to your academic and professional background from the Directory of Eligible Programmes.
* Have a clear understanding of the academic and English language proficiencies required for all programmes chosen.
* Must not have applied to the Ireland Fellows Programme on more than one previous occasion.
* Be in a position to take up the Fellowship in the academic year 2026/2027.

**Scholarship Coverage**

**This fully funded scholarship includes:**

* Programme fees
* Flights
* Accommodation
* Living costs

**The Fellowship covers the recipient ONLY. Financial support or visas for spouses or dependents are not included within the scope of the programme.**

**Application Process**

Applications for the academic year 2026–27 are now open. The application process has three stages:

1. Preliminary Application
2. Detailed Application
3. Interviews

Please read the [**Applicant Guidance Note**](https://www.irishaidfellowships.ie/sites/default/files/are-you-eligible/ireland_fellows_programme_sids_2026-27_stage_1_guidance_note.pdf) carefully before completing as eligibility criteria may differ from country to country.

All relevant information, applicant requirements, and the application form can be found at:  
<https://www.irishaidfellowships.ie/strands/ireland-sids-fellows-programme>

**DEADLINE: JULY 25, 2025**