

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) – Shastri Alberta Students in India (SASI) 2025–26

This FAQ is designed to help students, faculty, and institutions understand the SASI 2025–26 program, its objectives, and key requirements. The answers below reflect the latest Call for Applications and are simplified for clarity.

1. What is the SASI Internship Program?

The Shastri Alberta Students in India (SASI) program provides Alberta students with the opportunity to gain international experience in India. Interns engage in academic and applied projects at SICI's partner institutions, focusing on cross-cultural learning, sustainability, and people-to-people ties.

2. How long is the internship and when will it take place?

The internship runs for 6–8 weeks between July 1 and August 24, 2026. The first week is virtual (orientation, project handover, readiness activities), followed by 5–7 weeks in India for project implementation, reporting, and wrap-up. All students will travel as a cohort, accompanied by a SICI representative.

3. How many grants are available and what is their value?

A total of 12 SASI grants will be awarded. Each grant is valued at CAD \$8,500.

4. What does the grant cover?

The grant covers round-trip international airfare, in-country travel, accommodation, meals, visa fees, health insurance, a stipend for the student, and an honorarium for the host faculty supervisor.

5. Who is eligible to apply?

Applicants must be Canadian citizens or permanent residents currently enrolled at a publicly funded post-secondary institution in Alberta. Eligible programs include:

- 1-year certificates
- 2-year diplomas
- Associate or applied degrees
- 4-year bachelor's degrees
- Post-bachelor and graduate certificates or diplomas

6. Can I earn academic credit for the internship?

Yes, students are encouraged to consult with their instructors or academic advisors at their home institutions before applying to explore the possibility of receiving academic credit.

Credit recognition is not required but may provide additional academic and professional benefits.

7. What is the application deadline?

The deadline for submitting applications is November 30, 2025 (11:00 p.m. MST). Results will be announced on December 8, 2025.

8. How do I apply?

Applicants must complete the SASI Application Form 2025–26 and submit items (a, b, c) of the required documents as a single PDF file. Proof of Canadian citizenship or permanent residency must be submitted as a separate PDF. All documents should be emailed to siciapp@ucalgary.ca, with files arranged in the order specified in the application form. Please use the subject line: “SASI Application 2025–26 – [Your Full Name]” when submitting your application.

9. Who will provide accommodation and safety support in India?

Accommodation will be arranged by the host institution in India. SICI and host institutions will provide orientation, safety guidance, and ongoing support to ensure a safe and productive internship experience.

10. Do I need a visa and how will it be arranged?

Yes. A valid Indian student visa is required. SICI will guide selected students through the application process.

11. What are the reporting requirements?

Interns must submit a final report to SICI after completing the program. This includes project outcomes, learnings, and feedback. Submission of the report is required for finalizing the grant disbursement.

12. Who can provide my reference?

The reference form must be completed by an instructor, professor, or supervisor at your home institution who knows you well and can comment on your academic ability, personal qualities, and suitability for the program.