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| **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION AND ELIGIBILITY** |
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| The **Centroamérica en Ascenso Fellowship** seeks to support annually a range of active **Human Rights Defenders** from El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua, including lawyers, judges, journalists, university faculty/researchers, human rights defenders, activists, and civil society members, dedicated to **anti-corruption efforts for the benefit of their home countries**. For **one to two years**, selected fellows will be provided unique fellowship experiences in **safe** and **conducive** environments at one of three **U.S. Universities** with strong regional connections. **Tailored fellowship** experiences at these partner universities will train and empower fellows to enhance their contributions, improve skills, share best practices, and expand networks during and after completion of their fellowships. To learn more about the partner universities, please refer to the [Fellowship Tracks](https://www.iie.org/programs/centroamerica-en-ascenso/fellowship-tracks/) and [FAQ’s](https://www.iie.org/programs/centroamerica-en-ascenso/frequently-asked-questions/). The **Centroamérica en Ascenso Fellowship** provides fellows with **comprehensive support** to ensure a successful and fulfilling experience. Each fellowship track is overseen by dedicated **university coordinators** who offer personalized guidance on various aspects of academic and social **integration**. Fellows benefit from **pre-academic sessions and orientations**, equipping them with essential information. While fellows and their dependents are responsible for securing their own housing, the program offers **guidance** in navigating the housing market. Additionally, fellows receive support in enrolling in comprehensive **health insurance** plans and participate in **networking** opportunities and professional development activities. Throughout their fellowship, fellows have access to ongoing guidance and assistance from university and program staff, ensuring a **rewarding** and **productive** experience. **Eligibility Criteria*** The Centroamérica en Ascenso Fellowship accepts applications from lawyers, judges, journalists, university faculty/researchers, human rights defenders, activists, members of civil society, and other relevant profiles from, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua who face threats and cannot continue their anti-corruption work in their home countries.
* Applicants are selected based on professional / academic qualifications, including past achievements in anti-corruption, the quality and impact potential of their work, and the urgency of the threats that they face.
* Applicants may reside in any country in Latin America as of the spring of 2019.
* Applicants’ work must benefit their home countries directly.
* Depending on the track chosen, there may be specific requirements for each university. Please refer to the [Fellowship Tracks](https://www.iie.org/programs/centroamerica-en-ascenso/fellowship-tracks/) for more information on each university and their admissions requirements.
* The Program encourages applications from women, persons with disabilities, LGBTQI+ individuals, individuals from indigenous communities, or those otherwise underrepresented in their fields.

**Note that applications with the following characteristics cannot be considered for this program:** * Applicants seeking to complete degrees longer than two years.
* Applicants with citizenship or current permanent residency outside of Latin America.
* Applicants who at the time of application to the fellowship, have applied or will apply for asylum or refugee status in the United States.

Please direct any inquiries regarding eligibility in English or Spanish to HRD@iie.org.  |
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| **CONFIDENTIALITY** |
| *This application form and all materials related to your Institute of International Education Centroamérica en Ascenso Fellowship application will be treated confidentially and will not be shared beyond IIE without your consent.* |
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| *IIE’S* [***Program Privacy Statement***](https://www.iie.org/Learn/Privacy/IIE-Program-Privacy-Statement)*intends to transparently explain how IIE processes your data as an applicant to the Centroamérica en Ascenso Fellowship. If you are ultimately selected for the Centroamérica en Ascenso Fellowship by the Selection Committee, this statement would also apply to the data you share as an IIE program participant and eventual alumnus. The statement includes:* |
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| * *The types of data IIE processes;*
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| * *The reasons why we process it; and*
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| * *The third parties with whom we share it.*
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| *By completing and submitting this application to IIE, you agree to the* [*Program Privacy Statement*](https://www.iie.org/privacy/iie-privacy-statement/) *(available in Spanish).* *If you have questions about the Program Privacy Statement or the way that IIE processes your data, please submit an inquiry* [***here***](https://privacyportal-cdn.onetrust.com/dsarwebform/164d6136-55ab-44fe-8ca1-b35b6f836ede/9c997ca5-08ef-4400-bc84-48a44ee96964.html)***,*** *and we will respond to you via email. You may also contact us at* *HRD@iie.org* *with any questions or concerns.*  |
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| **APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS** |
| **Before completing this application, refer to the FAQ’s page** [**here**](https://www.iie.org/programs/centroamerica-en-ascenso/frequently-asked-questions/)**. Please fill out this application in English or Spanish. Except for marked optional questions, do not leave any sections blank. If a question is not applicable to you, write N/A. You may read the application in Spanish** [**here**](https://www.iie.org/programs/centroamerica-en-ascenso/application-materials/)**. Note that you may use the dictation function in Word to help you fill out this form if needed.****To submit your application, please send this completed application and all of your materials via email to** **HRD@iie.org** **before June 7th, 11:59 PM ET.** |
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| [ ]  **Check this box if you will be assisted by someone to complete this application due to accommodation needs.**  |
| **If you will be assisting the applicant in completing this form, please provide your full name and relationship.**  |
| Click or tap here to enter text. |

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| **APPLICANT INFORMATION** |
| **Name (as it appears on your passport)** |
| **Last/Family Names** | **First/Given Name** | **Middle Name(s)** |
| Click or tap here to enter text. | Click or tap here to enter text. | Click or tap here to enter text. |
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| **Gender** | **Date of Birth (Day / Month / Year)** |
| Click or tap here to enter text. | Click or tap here to enter text. |
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| **Optional: Are you part of the LGBTQI+ community, Afro-descendant, a returned migrant, a member of an indigenous community, or do you perceive yourself as underrepresented in your field? If so, please specify.** |
| Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **Optional: Do you have any disability or require disability-related accommodations to participate in the Centroamérica en Ascenso Fellowship if selected? If so, please specify. For any disability-related accommodation requests during the application process, please reach out to** **HRD@iie.org****.**  |
| Click or tap here to enter text. |
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| **Email Address(es)** |
| Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **Cell Phone Number** |
| Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **We will be contacting you to follow up on your application. Please check your preferred instant messaging option below and provide your number if different than the above number.**  |
| * [x]  WhatsApp
* [x]  Signal
* [ ] Telegram
* Instant messaging cell phone number: Click or tap here to enter text.
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| **Nationality** | **Country or Countries of Citizenship** |
| Click or tap here to enter text. | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **What is your current country of residence?** |
| Click or tap here to enter text. |
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| **Do you hold a valid passport?** |
| Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **If yes, from which country and when does it expire?**  |
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| **LOCATION INFORMATION** |
| **Where is your current location (city / country)?** |
| Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **Are you currently in your home country?**  |
| Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **If you are outside your home country, when did you last reside in your home country (month / year)?** |
| Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **If you are outside your home country, when did you arrive in your current location (month / year)?** |
| Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **If you are outside your home country, what is your current immigration status and when will it expire?**  |
| Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **Use this space to include any additional comments related to your location. For example, if you are currently living outside of your home country, please elaborate.** [ ]  **Check this box if this content is or will be covered in your Statement of Threat described in the Application Materials section.**  |
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| **DEPENDENT INFORMATION** |
| **Fellows can request that USAID sponsor their dependent(s) on J2 visas. Per USAID J1 visa policy, legal dependents are defined as one’s spouse and children under the age of 21. Please list information about your dependent(s) in the space below.** **Be aware that although there is no limit to the number of dependents that fellows may request USAID to sponsor, each Fellow is responsible for demonstrating to the U.S. consulate that you have the financial means to entirely support any dependents during your stay in the U.S. Read more about dependents in the FAQ’s** [**here**](https://www.iie.org/programs/centroamerica-en-ascenso/frequently-asked-questions/)**.** |

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| **Relationship (spouse or child)** | **Age** | **Country and Date of Passport Expiration** |
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| * **If you were unable to bring your dependents, would this be a barrier to your participation? If so, please provide an explanation in the space provided.**
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| Click or tap here to enter text. |
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| **ACADEMIC & PROFESSIONAL INFORMATION** |
| **What is your primary academic field, if applicable?** |
| Click or tap here to enter text. |  |
| **What is your primary field of action?** |  |
| Click or tap here to enter text. |  |
| **Do you devote 100% of your time to your primary field of action? If not, explain.** |
| Click or tap here to enter text. |  |
| **Please refer to the** [**Fellowship Tracks**](https://www.iie.org/programs/centroamerica-en-ascenso/fellowship-tracks/)**, and rank your fellowship track preference by typing 1-4 in the boxes below. One (1) means it is your top choice, and 4 means it is your last preference. We will make every effort to accommodate your preference, but it is not guaranteed.**  |
| **Track 1, Non-Degree Program:** Start: September 2024\* – University of Notre Dame  Start: January 2025 – University of Notre Dame Start: January 2025 – University of Florida**Track 2, Degree Program:** Start: January 2025 – American University **\* Applicants planning to begin their fellowship in September 2024 at University of Notre Dame should note the following considerations:*** You should not have any dependents initially, but dependents may join you at any point after your arrival in the U.S. depending on the visa process.
* You must be able to transition quickly from work or other commitments to the fellowship in the United States.
* There will likely be limited housing available during September.
* It is important for you to know that classes, campus orientations, lectures, presentations, and registration for some benefits will have started by September. The support team at Notre Dame is equipped and dedicated to supporting you navigate access to any resources or events as much as possible.
* Note that if visa processing times are extended, you may need to start your fellowship in January 2025.
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| **Please list any academic coursework that you have done, and the name and level of the degree.**  |
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| **Name of University / Institution** | **City, Country** | **Degree Name:** **B.A., M.A., Ph.D.** | **Date Earned MM/DD/YYYY** | **Unfinished** |
| *Example: Universidad del Oriente* | *Tegucigalpa, HN* | *B.A. in Social Science* | *06/15/2023* |[ ]
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| **Use this space for any observations related to your coursework, if applicable.** |
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| **Please list your most recent professional positions.** |
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| **Organization / Institution** | **Position / Title** | **Dates of Employment / Involvement** |
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| **Please indicate how many relevant publications you have, if applicable. In addition to books, book chapters, journals, papers, and reports, published work may also include creative work, case studies, newspaper articles, legal briefs, training manuals & toolkits, advocacy initiatives, multimedia projects & documentaries, etc. Information may be used to share with universities to better tailor university / fellowship experience. You may include hyperlinks to any digital publications in this and the Materials Section below.**  |
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| **Title** | **Year Published** |
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| **Please provide a list of any awards, honors, or notable achievements you have received, if applicable. Include the name of the award, the presenting organization or institution, and the date received. Focus on those awards that are most relevant to your qualifications and experience.** |
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| **Name / Organization or Institution** | **Date Received** |
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| **What is your native language(s)?** |
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| **Please list each language that you speak and indicate your skill level (basic, intermediate, advanced, fluent).** |
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| **Language** | **Level** |
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| **If you have taken the TOEFL iBT or Duolingo English proficiency exams in the past 24 months, mention which exam and the score you obtained.**  |
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| **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION** |
| **How did you learn about the Centroamérica en Ascenso Fellowship? If it was through an organization, please specify.**  |
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| **Please list any other programs or professional opportunities you have received recently or to which you have applied or plan to apply, including any United States Government (USG) funded opportunities. For those to which you have already applied, please provide the name and indicate when you expect to receive a decision.**  |
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| **APPLICATION MATERIALS** |
| **You may submit materials in English or Spanish. Please note that, if selected for a degree-seeking university track, materials (except for publications) may need to be translated to English if written in any other languages. To submit your application, please send this completed application and the below materials via email to** **HRD@iie.org** **before June 7th, 11:59 p.m. ET. See the** [**Fellowship Tracks**](https://www.iie.org/programs/centroamerica-en-ascenso/fellowship-tracks/) **page to check requirements by each university.**  |
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| **1.** | **Academic Transcripts** Provide all academic transcripts (GPA included) beyond high school. Note that although you are able to submit materials which are not originals, you will need to have original documents in order to be accepted by a university.  |
| **If you do not have original documents with you currently, please explain if you foresee any issues with securing them by the beginning of the fellowship if you’re selected.**  |
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| **2.** | **Current CV**  |
|  | Your CV should include the following information: |
|  | * 1. Academic degrees (degree-granting institution, field, and date of award)
 |
|  | * 1. Current position (employer/institution, professional title, location, dates of employment, and responsibilities)
 |
|  | * 1. Previous positions (in chronological order: organization/institution, professional title, location, dates of employment, and responsibilities)
 |
|  | * 1. A detailed list of your publications with full citations, if applicable.
 |
|  | * 1. Any relevant professional accomplishments or awards (supervision of master’s and Ph.D. theses, conference presentations, grants / honors / awards, professional affiliations, etc.)
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| **3.** | **Statement of Social Impact**  |
|  | Please provide a thorough statement connecting the work you have undertaken. Make sure you outline your goals, objectives, and strategies aimed at creating positive change and improving the well-being of individuals or groups affected by the issue(s) you are addressing. Your statement of social impact / contribution should be a minimum of one page.  |
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| **4.** | **Statement of Threat** |
|  | Please provide a thorough statement explaining why you are applying to the Centroamérica en Ascenso Fellowship for support. Include a clear and detailed account of the threats or risks that you have been facing, and the reasons that you cannot continue your work in your home country. Your personal statement should be a minimum of one page. |
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| **5.** | **Reference letters** |
|  | The Centroamérica en Ascenso Fellowship requires two (2) non-generic reference letters from professional and academic contacts. Referees should not be relatives or friends and should speak to the applicant's academic background and circumstances, if known. Letters should be on official letterhead, signed, and sent directly to HRD@iie.org by the referee **before June 7th, 11:59 PM ET**. |
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| **6.** | **Publication Samples (If applicable)**  |
|  | Please send copies of your recent and/or most significant publications. In addition to books, book chapters, journals, papers, and reports, published work may also include creative work, case studies, legal briefs, training manuals & toolkits, advocacy initiatives, multimedia projects & documentaries, etc. **You may send up to three (3) samples.**  |
| **7.** | **TOEFL iBT or Duolingo English proficiency exam results (if available)**Your scores should not be older than 2 years. |
| **To begin assessing an application, the Centroamérica en Ascenso Fellowship must receive the application form, a current CV, statement of social impact, and statement of threat.** |
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| **Please note that all application materials submitted to the Centroamérica en Ascenso Fellowship must be original and unique to an applicant’s particular academic/professional background and circumstances. The Centroamérica en Ascenso Fellowship will not accept statements that share identical language with the statements of other applicants to the Centroamérica en Ascenso Fellowship. Any language or background information borrowed from the internet or other outside source should be cited to credit the original source.** |
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