

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)– Training Programs at Aravind

Visa

1. I have been selected for a training program at Aravind? What type of visa should I apply?

Following types of visa are suggested based on the training duration as well as the rules and regulations of the Indian High Commission of each country

- i) Student Visa - applicable for long term training programs
- ii) X-Entry Visa, Internship Visa & Misc. Visa - applicable for short term training programs

Tourist visa is strictly prohibited since the purpose of your visit is to attend training programs

2. Will I get any documents from Aravind to facilitate my visa application?

Once your candidature to a training program is confirmed, an **admission letter** will be sent to you. You will also get a **visa invitation letter** addressed to the Indian High Commission of your country as a supportive document. No other supportive document is given for visa purpose.

3. Is the visa invitation directly sent to the Embassy or to me?

Visa invitation letter will be sent to you on an email. If the embassy insists a visa invitation letter from the host institution (Aravind), we will directly send the same to the embassy by email.

4. Will you provide visa invitation letter for my spouse who will be accompanying me during my training at Aravind?

No

5. Are the short term training programs at Aravind approved by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Govt of India?

The short term training programs offered at Aravind Eye hospitals / Lions Aravind Institute of Community Ophthalmology (LAICO) are **Certificate**

courses and not affiliated with any university or the Govt. of India. Aravind/LAICO has been conducting these certificate courses since 1990.

6. I have been selected for a non-clinical training program (paramedical course). Is NMC (National Medical Commission) temporary license mandatory to apply visa?

It is not mandatory to get NMC temporary licence for non-clinical paramedical courses / management courses.

7. I have been granted a 6 month student visa despite the fact that the training is for a year. Will it be possible to extend my visa period while I am in India?

According to the rules and regulations of FRRO (Foreigners Regional Registration Office), we do not have option to extend the visa period in India.

8. I have obtained Business visa. Since I have been enrolled for training program at Aravind, do I need to change the type of visa in India? Will Aravind assist to get it?

According to the rules and regulations of FRRO, it is not possible change the type of visa. Aravind will not be able to assist this process.

9. I got one year visa to attend fellowship training at Aravind. Do I need to report to the FRRO office personally after my check-in at Aravind?

If the duration of the visit is more than 180 days (6 months), you should register with the FRRO within 14 days of your arrival to India and this is applicable for all international trainees. Usually, the requirement of registration in India will be given at the visa page. Aravind will assist you with this process.

10. Once I reach Aravind, is there any formality that I need to fulfil?

After you check-in to Aravind's accommodation facility, you are required to fill up **Form-C** through an online portal within 24 hours of your arrival.

11. What are the documents required for Form C online registration?

The following documents are required for Form C online registration:

- Passport size Photo
- Passport copy
- Visa copy
- Travel itinerary (Arrival and departure details)

12. Why “Form-C” is mandatory for foreigners?

A copy of Form-C should be available with the foreigner wherever he goes along with his original passport. At any time and at any place, the police officers verify the original passport with C-Form.

During your departure, the airport authorities will verify the C-Form.

13. I have been enrolled for a training program at Aravind. My spouse accompanies me and we will not be staying in Aravind’s accommodation. Will Aravind assist in the FRRO process?

No. The hotel where you are staying will help you in the FRRO process.

14. Am I allowed to attend a training program at Aravind with a tourist visa if I am not staying in Aravind’s accommodation?

Irrespective of your place of stay, Tourist visa is strictly not applicable to attend training programs in India.

15. Are there any health insurance policies in India that I can use for the one year I will be studying? What are their charges are?

There are no health insurance options for foreigners who stay for a shorter period of time in India.