

National Defense University, College of International Security Affairs International Combating Terrorism Fellowship (AY 2014-15)



DESCRIPTION

The International Combating Terrorism Fellowship (ICTF) Program is a rigorous, 10-month in-residence academic program which will lead to a Master of Arts in Strategic Security Studies and a War College Diploma from the National Defense University (NDU), College of International Security Affairs (CISA) in Washington D.C. The Office of the Secretary of Defense for Policy (SO/LIC) calls the ICTF program the “flagship” of its worldwide combating terrorism educational portfolio.

During their stay, Counterterrorism Fellows gain an in-depth understanding of American democracy and national security through seminars and lectures from military and government leaders. Students attend CISA from across the international, interagency and interservice communities. CISA graduates include alumni from more than 90 countries and every major U.S. federal executive agency.

CISA's mission is to educate and prepare civilian and military national security professionals and future leaders from the United States and partner nations for the strategic challenges of the contemporary security environment. CISA is the Department of Defense flagship for education and the building of partnership capacity in combating terrorism and irregular warfare at the strategic level. CISA prepares students for high-level policy and command and staff responsibilities through a graduate, interagency, and joint professional military education program.

For Academic Year 2014-15, the ICTF program will be delivered in three phases starting 4 August 2014 and ending with graduation on 11 June 2015. During their course, Fellows participate in seminars and elective courses alongside American counterparts from the military services, DOD, and other government agencies. As part of the academic curriculum, students write a thesis and combating terrorism plan to address a specific national security challenge. Fellows also take part in Academic Counterterrorism Visits and travel to key U.S. government agency headquarters that deal with combating terrorism and international security.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Experience: This is a “war college”-level program and candidates should have experience in matters related to combating terrorism and national security. Upon completion, students return to key national security and combating terrorism positions. Military officers typically attend at the Colonel (O-6) rank, although CISA accepts students at the Lieutenant Colonel (O-5) rank as well. Civilians typically have a comparative status or rank and at least 15 years of work experience.

Educational Level: In order to receive the Master's Degree, Fellows must meet U.S. university baccalaureate degree requirements (4 years of post-secondary education). To qualify for graduate credit, candidates must submit a copy of their undergraduate and/or graduate academic transcript(s), as well as one translated into English, to the Ms. Kelly Hart, NDU Registrar at: hartk@ndu.edu. Transcripts will be reviewed to verify that candidates have successfully graduated from a U.S.-equivalent baccalaureate (BS/BA) program. If academic requirements are not met, Fellows will receive a war college diploma/certificate upon completion of program.

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English Requirements: Fellows must meet a minimum English Comprehension Level (ECL) of 90. They also must obtain a Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) score of 83 to qualify for the M.A. degree. The TOEFL will be administered locally by NDU; however, if an individual has taken the TOEFL and retains his current scores, he should bring this document with him. Please use the TOEFL reporting code 7026 if the student has taken the test prior to arrival at NDU.

FELLOW ARRIVAL

NDU Orientation: Prior to beginning their academic coursework, Fellows will take part in an NDU orientation to ensure that they are well-adjusted to both their personal and academic life in Washington D.C. They will receive information concerning their children's schooling, banking, and other programs at their disposal. Orientation includes issuance of Military ID cards and NDU IDs. Late reporting is not authorized.

Fellows should arrive in Washington, DC on Friday, July 11, 2014 and report to NDU on Monday, July 14, 2014. Early arrival is only authorized on a case by case basis, generally based on availability of housing. Early communication between the Fellow and the ISMO staff is very important.

Transportation: Transportation from the airport to the Fellows' residence will be provided and will depend on arrival information. Please provide arrival information as soon as possible. Fellows and their families will be met at the baggage claim area by the transportation company and will have a sign for NDU Fellows. You will be given a phone number prior to your report date in case of any travel delays.

The SCO/Fellow should notify the ISMO office ismo@ndu.edu of flight arrival information and add this information to the SAN. Airport pickup must be coordinated prior to travel.

Housing: Fellows (receiving TLA) will receive housing in corporate (fully furnished) apartments depending on family size in the Crystal City area of Arlington, VA. Families must accompany Fellows for the entire duration of the program. Visiting members do not apply to the selection of apartments. Large families (with more than 4 children) are a big concern; as there is a maximum of three (3) bedrooms per apartment designed to accommodate 7 individuals.

Fellows will be provided with a schedule of events when they check in at the apartments. The entire group will be met at their apartment buildings on Monday, July 14, at 8:00a for transportation to NDU to begin orientation.

Self-funded (FMS-funded) Fellows should arrive at least two weeks prior to July 11 in order to secure housing/utilities/vehicles, etc. Accommodations at a local hotel can be arranged through the NDU International Student Management Office (ISMO) if desired. The cost of the hotel must not exceed the military per diem rate.

Self-funded (FMS-funded) Fellows who will not stay in corporate apartments must contact the ISMO staff by early Friday July 11 for further details regarding the following week's schedule. They will join the other Fellows on Monday, 14 July at 8:00a for transportation from the group's corporate residence to NDU or arrive to Marshall Hall (building 62), National Defense University (Ft. McNair), Room 154 by 830am to join the class.

Dependents: Family members are authorized to join the Fellow throughout the duration of their academic program. Authorized dependents are spouse and children. The Invitational Travel Order (ITO) should contain names of authorized dependents. Dependents should be granted A2 visa

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status. The U.S. government does not sponsor costs of the family's presence in the U.S. *Family members are required to present approved medical insurance to the U.S. SCO before visa approval.* Fellows receive the same per diem/living allowance amount regardless of whether they are accompanied by their family. Families with up to 4 children will be accommodated in the apartments. Apartment sizes are arranged based on dependents joining the Fellow for at least 75% of the course. Holidays and short visits do not qualify for larger apartments.

***Please let the ISMO know if the Fellow has a child who is 4 years old or younger in order to make arrangements for preschool. Day care is not provided by the U.S. government for children under 4 years old. Daycare in the Washington D.C. area is very expensive (\$10,000+).

Medical Insurance for Dependents (Spouse/Children): Only dependents will require medical insurance. Fellows are covered through the U.S. government (CTFP and IMET/RCHA/SOFA/PFP). Global Security medical insurance is the only medical policy that fully meets DSCA requirements. You may view the terms on the website: www.myglobalinsurance.com. This insurance also has a program for countries that are allowed reduced maximum because of NATO/PFP or RCHA agreements (\$50,000 max). Officers should bring the completed DD 2808 and DD 2807-2 medical exam forms with them for dependents. The Arlington School System requires physical examinations and these qualify.

Uniforms: Fellows should bring Class A and B uniforms for various functions. The dress for the majority of classroom activities is business attire (coat and tie).

IMPORTANT INFORMATION TO BRING ON DAY 1

Fellows must bring these items from their home country (in English-if possible):

1. CHILDREN'S SCHOOL RECORDS AND BIRTH CERTIFICATES (If applicable). These records are especially important for students who will be in 6th grade and up.
2. MEDICAL RECORDS – if there exists a significant illness (Yours and Dependents)
3. IMMUNIZATION RECORDS (Dependents - especially those with school age children)
4. VALID COUNTRY'S DRIVER'S LICENSE
5. INTERNATIONAL DRIVERS LICENSE for all who plan to drive in the US (including spouse). These can only be obtained in your country for the US.
6. CREDIT CARDS (VISA, MasterCard, or American Express) if you possess a credit card.
7. BIRTH CERTIFICATE (Original birth certificate for school age children)
8. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER CARD (if applicable) - or previous SSN card (if you previously lived in U.S.)

TO CONTACT ISMO:

Mailing Address:

International Student Management Office
National Defense University
300 5th Ave, Bldg 62, room 154
Washington, DC 20026-4805

Email: Ms. Bette Franken, Director of Administration, frankens@ndu.edu
or Dionne Whitby, Program Specialist, whitby@ndu.edu

ISMO Telephone: Commercial line outside the U.S.: office: 011-1-202-685-4240