

## ABOUT THE FSN-IL TRAVEL FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

### Opportunity Overview

The Feed the Future **Food Systems for Nutrition Innovation Lab** (FSN-IL), led by Tufts University and supported by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), is pleased to announce **five FSN-IL travel fellowships for 2024**. These are aimed at emerging scholars and students from Bangladesh, Malawi, Mozambique, Nepal, as well as Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs) in the United States. Funding can be used to support travel and expenses associated with attending conferences or undertaking internships focused on food systems and nutrition (e.g. specifically relating to nutrient-rich foods, food loss and waste, and food safety). The maximum amount per award will be **\$3000 USD**.

### Award Details

- Travel fellowships will help support travel and expenses associated with attending conferences or undertaking internships hosted by local or international institutions focused on improving food systems in Bangladesh, Malawi, Mozambique, or Nepal.
  - Examples of conferences eligible for reimbursement include but are not limited to the [Africa Future Food Summit](#), [International Conference on Food Safety and Management System \(ICFSMS-24\)](#), or [Global Food Security Conference](#).
- Travel fellowships may be used for conference registration fees and expenses related to travel to/from an in-person conference or internship. Please note the following:
  - Economy airfare must be booked through Tufts' [Travel Collaborative](#) to be compliant with the Fly America Act, as required by USAID.
  - The fellowship award amount of \$3000 USD is inclusive of economy airfare costs and is only considered a qualified expense if the conference or internship is far from the applicant's town, city, or country of residence.
  - An advance will be sent to the fellow upon execution of the agreement. The advance will be based on the U.S. Department of State maximum per diem rates according to location (foreign per diem rates by location look-up tool: [link](#)).
- **Conferences or internships must focus on one or more of FSN-IL's technical areas:**
  - Prevention of food loss and waste
  - Enhancing food safety
  - Improving the availability of, and access to, nutrient-dense foods
  - Metrics permitting a better monitoring of food systems impacts on nutrition
- Priority will be given to applicants who can also demonstrate that their activity will consider the following cross-cutting themes:
  - New or validation of existing metrics on food systems for nutrition
  - Support for improvements in the nutritional status of vulnerable populations, with a specific emphasis on gender and youth
- Funding will be awarded for activities between **April 2024 to December 2024**.
- In 2024, a maximum of five travel fellowships will be awarded.

## Who is an FSN-IL Travel Fellow?

- Emerging scholars working in food systems or health and nutrition in Bangladesh, Malawi, Mozambique, or Nepal; or students (undergraduate, graduate, PhD, post-doc) enrolled in a food systems or health and nutrition program at an accredited university in Bangladesh, Malawi, Mozambique, or Nepal; or students enrolled in a food systems or health and nutrition program at an institution designated as Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs) by the United States government ([list](#)).
- Individuals who will be attending a conference OR individuals that will be completing an internship in Bangladesh, Malawi, Mozambique, or Nepal. Activities and the accompanying applicant narrative must demonstrate substantive engagement with key food systems and innovation concepts.

## Deliverables

Upon completion of the funded activity, applicants will be expected to submit a 750-word report summarizing key takeaways, lessons learned, and how the experience contributed to their professional goals.

## Additional Information

Fellows will be invited to participate in additional engagements like policy and academic seminars, webinars, and scientific symposia hosted by the FSN-IL team. Awards must be spent prior to **December 31, 2024**.

## Application Instructions

Applications must be submitted through the online application portal, Piestar, by **March 30, 2024**. To start your application, you will need to create a user ID and password in Piestar: ([link](#) to Piestar).

## Review Process

Applications will undergo evaluation by an internal team of technical experts from Tufts University. We will match reviewers with applications based on their expertise to ensure an informed review.

## Contact Information

For any inquiries, please email [foodsystemsnutrition@tufts.edu](mailto:foodsystemsnutrition@tufts.edu) and address your message to Nour Elshabassi.

## Timeline Summary

- Deadline for application submission: **March 30, 2024**
- Selected Fellows can be expected to be notified by: **April 30, 2024**
- The first disbursement of funds will be 85% of the award and issued prior to the applicant's timeline of events. The second and final installment will consist of the remaining 15% of the award and be issued upon receipt and approval of the final report.
- Final date to expend funds: **December 31, 2024**

\*Fellowships are not renewable or deferrable.

\*All travelers must adhere to their respective university's travel guidelines.

## FSN-IL FELLOWSHIP APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Checklist to be included with the application:

- A letter of recommendation from either an academic advisor or work supervisor who can speak to the candidate's expertise in food systems and nutrition and articulate how this opportunity aligns with their skills, knowledge, and career goals.
- CV/Resume
- Proof of employment in a relevant field, enrollment in a health and nutrition or food systems program at an accredited university in Bangladesh, Malawi, Mozambique, or Nepal, or enrollment in a food systems or health and nutrition program at an MSI.
- Conference agenda or overview of the intended food systems innovation internship opportunity
- FSN-IL Travel Fellowship template downloaded from the website, completed, and submitted with the electronic application.
- Electronic application