

**IRISH AID FELLOWSHIP  
TRAINING PROGRAMME  
EMPLOYER ENDORSEMENT  
FORM**

 [www.irishaid.ie](http://www.irishaid.ie)

**2018 ENTRY**

## **IRISH AID**

The Government of Ireland's official programme of assistance to developing countries is managed by Irish Aid, a division within the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. The aid programme focuses on the fight against poverty and hunger in some of the world's least developed countries, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa. The programme works in partnership with governments and communities in the developing world in their attempts to alleviate poverty through helping them meet basic needs and through strengthening their capacity to help themselves. It provides assistance to over 80 countries worldwide, including eight partner countries where there is a commitment to long term strategic assistance.

## **IRISH AID FELLOWSHIP TRAINING PROGRAMME (IAFTP)**

The IAFTP – [www.irishaidfellowships.ie](http://www.irishaidfellowships.ie) – is part of Irish Aid's broad programme of support to capacity building in developing countries. The programme aims to address capacity deficits that hinder the attainment of long-term development goals in Irish Aid partner countries through the training and development of key individuals, generally drawn from the public service and NGO sectors.

Irish Aid invites applications from organisations working in priority areas for the Irish Aid programme in-country as well as from the individuals in organisations of strategic relevance to the work of the mission in that country.

Fellowships are awarded to enable applicants to further their education in areas relevant to Irish Aid priorities. Applications are accepted for study at master's degree level, in Ireland or in region. Study at postgraduate diploma level may also be considered on an exceptional basis.

## **EMPLOYER ENDORSEMENT**

Applicants requires formal endorsement.

The reference letter should explain why the applicant is being nominated, what specific skills the nominee is expected to gain from participation in the proposed master's degree programme and how the nominee's newly acquired knowledge and skills would build capacity within the organisation.

## EMPLOYER REFERENCE LETTER

Please provide a reference letter, written on your organisation's official letter head and bearing an official stamp and signature of supervisor, which answers the following questions:\*

- Why is your organisation nominating this candidate?
- What specific skills do you expect the nominee to gain from participation in the master's degree programme?
- Describe how the nominee's newly acquired knowledge and skills will build capacity within your organisation.

**\* Only applications with this information in full will be considered.**

## EMPLOYER ENDORSEMENT FORM

**This section must also be completed (in English) and signed overleaf by the nominee's supervisor. The electronic version of this form can be completed in Microsoft Word before being printed and signed.**

1. Endorsed by Department/Organisation:

Address (please include city and country):

Telephone:

Fax:

E-mail:

*>> continues overleaf*

**EMPLOYER ENDORSEMENT FORM (continued)**

**2. CAPACITY BUILDING**

A. Please list courses of study chosen by your nominee:

B. How do the courses of study either a) fill gap in terms of skills available in your organisation or b) build on the existing strengths in your organisation?

C. Why has the organisation identified this nominee for future training?

3. Name of authorising official:

Job Title:

Signature:

Date:        /        /        (Day/Month/Year)

Official Stamp