



# **MSAI Orientation Booklet**

A 2019 edition to help you slay in MSAI. Enabling you to make a difference, together

# About MSAI

*Medical Students' Association of India (MSAI) is a non-governmental organization founded by medical students in October 2011 to provide a unique platform for medical students all across India. It is India's first both, nationally & internationally recognized organization for representing the medical student community.*

*MSAI was adopted as the 100th National Member Organization (NMO) to the International Federation of Medical Students' Associations (IFMSA) on March 6th, 2012 in Accra, Ghana.*

## Our Vision

*To empower medical students in India acting on the prevalent global and local public health, sexual and reproductive health and rights, human rights and peace, and medical education issues.*

*In alignment with our maxim - **Making a difference, together**, MSAI is one of the leading medical student organisations in the country. But, what makes us different is that we are truly a Pan India organisation with roots in every state & union territory in the country.*

# Why MSAI?

*In MSAI, we have the best national & international opportunities for medical students studying in India and the most sought after exchange programmes. Becoming a full member in IFMSA in 2016, entitles us to the full range of opportunities in IFMSA, discussed in detail later.*

*MSAI is open to all medical, dental and paramedical undergraduates. If your interest lies in Public Health, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights, Medical Education, Human rights and Peace, Global Health and Advocacy, Policy Making, organisational management, going for an exchange or attending our various partner international meetings, MSAI is a place for you.*

*Feel like your medical curriculum or campus life isn't enough? We understand.*

*Feel like you could be doing more with your life? We understand.*

*Don't know what to do about it? Don't worry and keep reading. MSAI has got you covered.*

*Work with the best of the best and expand your horizons on what is possible. You don't have to wait for five years to make a change, youth indeed can be a catalyst for innovation.*

# Introduction to



**IFMSA**

International Federation of  
Medical Students' Associations

*IFMSA was founded in 1951 as an organization of medical students, for medical students and by medical students. For more than 60 years, the Federation has not only been a dynamic platform of opportunities for the future physicians but has also served as their voice at the international level.*

*IFMSA is the world's oldest and largest independent organization representing associations of medical students internationally. It currently has about 133 NMOs from more than 123 countries and areas with over one million students represented worldwide. IFMSA is recognized as a non-governmental organization within the United Nations system and the World Health Organization, and also works with the World Medical Association.*

*IFMSA offers medical students a taste of the real and pressing health issues worldwide. IFMSA has inspired generations of medical students to develop the leadership abilities and skills to take on challenges and to improve the world around them in an early yet crucial period of their career.*

*Engaging in IFMSA encourages both professional and personal collaboration irrespective of geographical, social, cultural, religious, racial, sexual and political differences. As a result, future doctors are becoming more culturally aware and sensitive physicians.*

*In IFMSA, the emphasis is placed on students returning to their local environments with new ideas and the skills to implement them. As the doctors of tomorrow and future leaders of health, we feel confident that our students will carry this spirit with them throughout their professional lives so that they positively impact the communities they serve.*

## **IFMSA's Objectives**

- *To give medical students the opportunity to take part in clinical and research exchanges worldwide;*
- *To provide a network that links active medical students across the globe, including student leaders, project managers, and activists, so that they can learn from and be motivated by each other;*
- *To provide an international framework in which medical student projects can be initiated, developed and implemented;*
- *To empower and train medical students to take a role in bringing about the necessary changes to improve the health of all global citizens.*



# Standing Committees



*MSAI works on local and national levels mainly via six standing committees, each of them focusing on varied health and medical student-related interests:*

**SCOPH** *Standing Committee on Public Health*

**SCORA** *Standing Committee on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights including HIV & AIDS*

**SCOME** *Standing Committee on Medical Education*

**SCORP** *Standing Committee on Human Rights & Peace*

**SCOPE** *Standing Committee on Professional Exchanges*

**SCORE** *Standing Committee on Research Exchanges*

*All Standing Committees in the organization are frequently referred to as their abbreviations mentioned above. Each Standing Committee is headed by two National Officers, who are supported by their National teams. National Officers are elected for every new term at each National General Assembly. On a local level, the work is executed by one or more Local Officers. Keep reading to know more about each committee!*



**SCOPH**  
Public Health

## Who we are

We believe in empowering the youth with knowledge and skills to **take small steps towards improving lives, millions at a time.**

## What we fight for

Public Health is vast topic and at SCOPH we try to address majority of the Public Health issues in our country. Our work usually focuses on:

- Infectious Diseases
- Non-Communicable Diseases
- Climate Change and its Impact on Health
- Antimicrobial Resistance
- Easy Access to Healthcare
- Mental Health

## What we do

### **Design and implement activities**

Find out about the local problems in an area and learn to design an effective activity to tackle it.

### **Improve accessibility to health services through health camps**

Organise and volunteer at Health Check up camps in rural and urban settings for a first hand experience of the Public Health scenario.

## **Conduct Seminars and Sessions**

*Participate in a variety of nationwide activities ranging from group discussions and surveys to awareness sessions and competitions.*

## **Conduct trainings and workshops**

*Learn to devise solutions to public health issues through our intensive but fun training sessions.*

## **Why work with us**

### **Think Global Act Local**

*We provide an opportunity to take action at a local level to have a better understanding of the global scenario.*

### **Make an Impact**

*Through volunteering for sessions and camps, get a chance to make an impact on the lives of the people you meet.*

### **Learn the skills of analysis**

*Through problem oriented activity designing, learn how to analyse a Public Health concern and design an activity to remedy it.*

### **Unleash your Inner Beast!**

*Just like Sheru, our mascot! Join us and Sheru in our efforts to fight the Public Health issues in India through fun yet impactful activities and trainings.*







# SCORA

Sexual & Reproductive Health  
and Rights including HIV & AIDS

## Who we are

We scream in **support of rights-based, sex-positive, consent-based, informed decision making** about our bodies and our sexual and reproductive health.

## What we fight for

We address everything related to Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) including but not limited to

- Sex Education
- Access to Safe Abortion
- Sexuality and Gender Identity
- HIV & AIDS and other Sexually Transmitted Infections
- Gender Based Violence

## What we do

### **Organize on-ground events**

Year round we have events that address the different SRHR issues we work on, and you can volunteer for our events or even organise them in your locality!

### **Attend trainings and workshops**

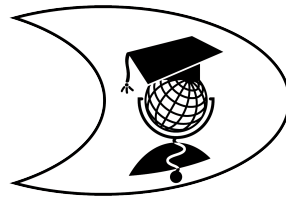
At various MSAI events, we conduct intensive trainings that will enlighten you with SRHR issues and provide tools to advocate for/against them.

## Conduct The Trumpet Project

The Trumpet Project is a week long capacity building programme by SCORA launched in 2019 which brings to you volunteering opportunities, trainings, sessions and guest speakers to give you a truly wholesome SCORA experience!

## Why work with us

- We address the elephant in the room - **'SEX'**. Rightly so, our mascot is an elephant too. Their name is Hearty and they already love you!
- We're a judgment free zone and **anyone and everyone is welcome to work with SCORA**. All it takes is a bit of passion and motivation for SCORA to offer you a world of opportunities.
- **We create safe spaces** where sex is an open book and anybody can talk about it comfortably and free of shame. Hearty assures you that what happens in SCORA, stays in SCORA!
- Our love for our work is as huge as Hearty! We work on issues that affect all our lives, both personally and professionally. Therefore, **working with SCORA makes you a better human being**.
- **Talking about sex has never been this much fun**. SCORA is the perfect balance of work and play. We make sure to make a significant difference while always smiling through it all. Hearty hugs all around!



# SCOME

Medical Education

## Who we are

*Not so lazy pandas who strive to **improve the Medical Education system** in our country, **empower** medical students and try to make med school **cool!***

## What we fight for

- *Social Accountability*
- *Enhance skills of students*
- *Quality and Mode of Delivery of Medical Education*
- *Create platforms for sharing up to date advances*
- *Ethics and soft skills development*

## What we do

### **Launch On Ground Events**

*We create and collect content to design activities for medical students which aim to enhance skills and/or build knowledge on subjects not covered by the existing curriculum.*

### **Online Discussion Forum**

*We discuss important topics for national and international exams on platforms such as WhatsApp groups to revise and reinforce topics which were read long before and are now forgotten.*

## ***Trainings for Medical Education***

*Making leaders of tomorrow? Yes! Training medical students to lead advocacy projects to bring changes to the medical system and focussing on making it more socially accountable i.e to create and sustain a healthcare system which teaches its students what is relevant to the current and changing needs of the population.*

## ***Workshops***

*Hands on workshops like Basic Surgical Skills, CPR etc are conducted locally to enhance skills of medical students.*

## **Why work with us**

### ***Be the Change you want to see***

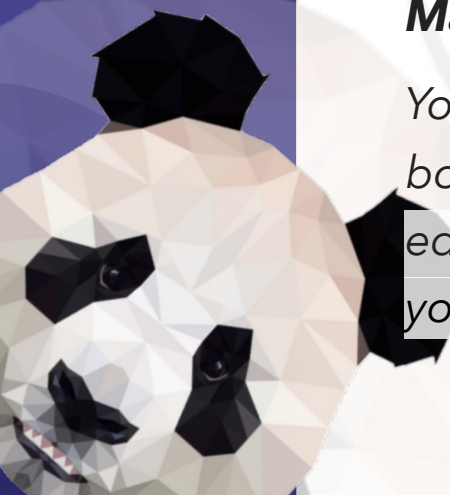
*If you feel your medical college is not what you expected it to be, this is your chance to make it how you want it to be!*

### ***Enhance your skills***

*Leadership, communication, managerial and clinical skills.*

### ***Make learning fun!***

*Your neurons are stubborn to learn when things get boring right? So let's work together to make medical education more interesting and involving and give your hippocampus a treat!*







**SCORP**  
Human Rights & Peace

## Who we are

We call ourselves **SCORPIONS**. We sting the problems of the world and work to **maintain peace, piece by piece**.

## What we fight for

- Violation of all human rights
- Stigma and Abuse
- Disaster medicine and management
- Extremism and Hate speech

## What we do

### ***Increase awareness about Human rights***

We conduct Regular Online campaigns on SCORP related days to spread awareness on the hollow systems of the society.

### ***Design and execution at a ground level***

We work towards making a difference which starts at ground level. Hence we identify the problems and design activities to have a substantial outcome.

### ***Meeko (our mascot) flies international***

SCORP exchanges: GoSCORP gives an opportunity to dig deeper into the problems across the world and find possible solutions to them

## ***Workshops and Trainings***

*We conduct regular, interactive, activity based workshops and trainings nationally and internationally.*

## **Why work with us**

### ***Doraemon's window to the big world***

*Through SCORP, we give you an opportunity to participate in the greatest, still the most heartbreaking realities, giving you a magic wand to be a part of the change.*

### ***A trained SCORPion stings harder***

*Grab the opportunity of acquiring international training, becoming a Human Rights Advocate or Trainer. What better power than the one to empower the world?*

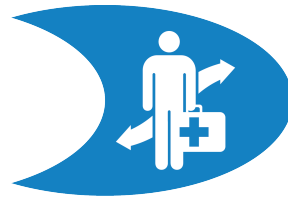
### ***It starts with You***

*We give you an opportunity to identify the local problems, and design activities highlighting the issues and providing possible outcomes.*

### ***Being Human***

*Unfortunately in this developing world, ignorance blankets over humanity. SCORP gives you an opportunity to be the voice for those who have none.*





**SCOPE**  
Professional Exchange

## **Who we are**

We are the *portal that brings together students from around the world* with the aim of making them proficient global health professionals of the future.

## **What we fight for**

### ***Multifaceted learning***

*Exposure to various technologies and expertise from around the world.*

### ***Cultural Diversity***

*Exchanges promote and season you to be a culturally sensitive physician.*

### ***Defying Boundaries***

*We don't let geographical boundaries dictate our limitation in learning.*

### ***Being a doctor of the world***

*It encourages you to look at the world as a single place diminishing all biases and differences.*

## **What we do**

### ***Exchanges for you!***

*Conduct international preclinical and clinical exchanges for medical students.*

## ***Exchanges for everyone else!***

*Host Incoming exchange students from around the world in India*

## ***Trainings and Workshops***

*We help students learn more about how to run the world of exchanges and use the power of exchanges to revolutionise learning*

## ***Why work with us***

### ***Be a global health professional***

*Interactions with students and doctors from other countries to broaden your horizons*

### ***Culturally sensitive future physicians***

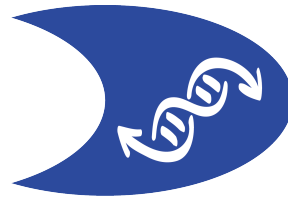
*Through exchanges, learn and experience how the influence of culture and society on healthcare and how doctors can play an important role in bridging these differences*

### ***Explore the world***

*Exposure to a new and vast world of medicine not just through going on exchanges but also through hosting international students right here, in India.*







**SCORE**  
Research Exchange

## **Who we are**

We aim to *educate medical students about research* through international exchanges and educational activities.

## **What we fight for**

### ***Education beyond borders***

*Giving medical students learning opportunities that are not constrained by borders so they become doctors of global standards.*

### ***Providing medical research opportunities***

*Providing research opportunities for Indian Medical students that are not always available to them in their universities.*

### ***Creating awareness on research***

*Promoting research and simplifying research processes for medical students.*

## **What we do**

### ***International research exchange program***

*Organise research exchanges from India to many other countries abroad.*

## ***Medical research education***

*Promote, discuss and spread knowledge about research by and for medical students.*

## ***Trainings and Workshops***

*Conduct workshops to educate students on research studies.*

## ***Why work with us***

### ***Join our international family***

*Get a chance to be a part of the functioning body of the largest student run exchange programs in the world.*

### ***Experience and learn beyond the curriculum***

*Get an insight to a part of healthcare that you will not have much exposure to in your curriculum.*

### ***Intercultural exposure and interpersonal growth***

*Get exposed to various cultures, attain interpersonal growth and Leadership skills.*

# Team Structure

## MSAI Officials

*MSAI has a very dynamic team structure ranging from local, state and national level positions. The MSAI administration can be categorised into two main bodies i.e. The Executive Board and the Team of Officials (collectively called the EBTO and/or MSAI Officials). The EBTO members have voting privileges for bylaw amendments and also appoint the National Team during their term. They have a very clear demarcation of work, each necessary for the running of the organisation.*

*The **Executive Board** deals mainly with administration in daily working and long term strategy for MSAI. The individual duties and tasks are referred to in our [bylaws](#). It includes the following members:*

- *President ([msai-india@ifmsa.org](mailto:msai-india@ifmsa.org))*
- *Vice President - External Affairs ([vpe@msaindia.org](mailto:vpe@msaindia.org))*
- *Vice President - Internal Affairs ([vpi@msaindia.org](mailto:vpi@msaindia.org))*
- *Vice President - Capacity Building ([vpcb@msaindia.org](mailto:vpcb@msaindia.org))*
- *Vice President - Activities ([vpa@msaindia.org](mailto:vpa@msaindia.org))*
- *Vice President - Exchanges ([vpv@msaindia.org](mailto:vpv@msaindia.org))*
- *Vice President - Finances ([vpf@msaindia.org](mailto:vpf@msaindia.org))*

The **Team of Officials** includes **two** National Officers on each standing committee and **one** Official each for other positions.

**NPOs** National Officers on Public Health  
([scoph@msaindia.org](mailto:scoph@msaindia.org))

**NORAs** National Officers on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights including HIV & AIDS  
([scora@msaindia.org](mailto:scora@msaindia.org))

**NOMEs** National Officers on Medical Education  
([scome@msaindia.org](mailto:scome@msaindia.org))

**NORPs** National Officers on Human Rights and Peace ([scorp@msaindia.org](mailto:scorp@msaindia.org))

**NEOs** National Officers on Professional Exchange  
[NEO - Incoming and NEO - Outgoing]  
([scope@msaindia.org](mailto:scope@msaindia.org))

**NOREs** National Officers on Research Exchange  
[NORE - Incoming and NORE - Outgoing]  
([score@msaindia.org](mailto:score@msaindia.org))

**DPRC** Director on Public Relations and Communications ([dprc@msaindia.org](mailto:dprc@msaindia.org))

**RD North** Regional Director - North  
([rd.north@msaindia.org](mailto:rd.north@msaindia.org))

**RD South** Regional Director - South  
([rd.south@msaindia.org](mailto:rd.south@msaindia.org))

**RD East** Regional Director - East  
([rd.east@msaindia.org](mailto:rd.east@msaindia.org))

**RD West** Regional Director - West  
([rd.west@msaindia.org](mailto:rd.west@msaindia.org))



# National General Assembly

*The MSAI National General Assembly (NGA) is an annual event held in India usually in the month of April where MSAI members from across the country come together. The NGA is open to all our members to participate in a variety of workshops and events organized by certified IFMSA trainers and keep them updated with the work of MSAI. All attendees get an exposure on bylaw change procedures, candidature presentations and election of the next Executive Board and Team of Officials. This orients them about the functioning of MSAI and keeps the faith in the transparency of organisation's functioning.*

*Since no event is complete without a social program, MSAI organizes social events during the NGA to ensure that members have an open informal space to express themselves. MSAI conducts NGAs annually and opens calls during July-August for interested members to form an organizing committee in their respective cities and submit applications to host this exciting event.*

# Asia-Pacific Regional Meeting

*Asia Pacific Regional Meeting (APRM), an IFMSA event, is an annual gathering of medical students from countries across Asia-Pacific, usually held in the month of June every year. Attended by hundreds of medical students, this event is crucial to engage in discussions and action on region-specific issues through sessions on every standing committee, inspiring activities and project presentations, as well as plenary sessions. MSAl sends a delegation to the APRM every year, call for applications for which open in April, two months before the grand event.*

*APRM is preceded by a three-day event - PreAPRM, during which IFMSA conducts trainings and workshops on various aspects with special emphasis on Asia-Pacific issues. This event is open to all general members to give them an opportunity to become internationally certified IFMSA Trainers. Interested MSAl members can apply to be selected for these trainings and workshops and attend PreAPRM even if they aren't a part of the Indian delegation at the APRM.*

# IFMSA General Assemblies

*MSAI is the only NMO from India in the IFMSA. Being an NMO within IFMSA gives MSAI members the opportunity to participate in the biggest biennial medical students' event around the world. The IFMSA General Assemblies (GAs) are attended by over 1000 medical students from 120+ countries! All GAs are held at a different location twice a year - once in March (hence called **March Meeting**), and then in August (hence called **August Meeting**). GAs hope to inspire the next generation of health professionals to become leaders and advocates through exchange of ideas, networking and learning from the various sessions offered during its course.*

*The GA gives an opportunity to understand global health through sessions on each Standing Committee, regional sessions, trainings on soft skills development, inspiring activities, and project presentations. Delegates get to observe candidature presentations of the prospective IFMSA Executive Board and Team of Officials candidates, and attend plenary sessions where delegations make important decisions about IFMSA's work. All days of the GA conclude with a unique social program.*

MSAI sends a delegation to both General Assemblies, calls to application for which typically come out in **November/December** for the March Meeting and **April/May** for the August Meeting. Keep a keen eye out for applications to be a part of the Indian delegation for the General Assemblies.

In addition, General Assemblies are preceded by PreGAs. Just like preAPRM, PreGA is a three-day event during which all general members have the opportunity to attend trainings and workshops from every standing committee.

These trainings and workshops empower members with the knowledge, skills and confidence needed to efficiently carry out the tasks required in each of the different standing committees, organisational management and other relevant activities, and life in general. This event is open to all general members to give them an opportunity to become internationally certified IFMSA Trainers. Interested MSAI members can apply to be selected for these trainings and workshops, and be a part of the PreGA even if they aren't a part of the Indian delegation at the GA.

After successfully completing and graduating a training, MSAI members can conduct those trainings in India and MSAI associated events to empower fellow medical students.



# External Opportunities in MSAI

*MSAI brings you a range of external opportunities. From special sessions from our external partners, to participation at high level UN and WHO meetings, there's something for everyone! Some external events MSAI has sent representatives to in the past years are:*

## **World Health Organization**

- *World Health Assembly, Geneva, Switzerland*
- *World Health Organisation Executive Board Meeting, Geneva, Switzerland*
- *WHO Regional Committee Meeting*
- *WHO SEARO Youth Town Hall, Jakarta, Indonesia*

## **United Nations**

- *High-Level Political Forum, United Nations, New York, USA*

## **YP Foundation**

- *Youth Insight Conclave, New Delhi, India*
- *Youth Consultations across India*

## **Others**

- *World Healthcare Students' Symposium, Cape Town, South Africa*
- *University Scholars' Leadership Symposium, Thailand*

- World Rural Health Conference, New Delhi, India
- Workshops with TARSHI, UMA for Survivors, etc

The list doesn't end here, MSAI members also get the opportunity to apply for WHO and WFME internships around the world!

Feel like you aren't experienced enough? Worry not! MSAI conducts workshops to teach you about Global Health and Advocacy; all members are encouraged to join and apply for the opportunities offered!

For updates on MSAI external opportunities ensure that you are subscribed to the **MSAI email list**! When you start receiving emails, you will come across the term **candidature forms** quite frequently. A candidature form is a document by means of which MSAI authorises you - an MSAI member to officially represent MSAI within the IFMSA system. When required, download the candidature form, fill in your details and send the document in word & pdf format to MSAI president at [msai-india@ifmsa.org](mailto:msai-india@ifmsa.org) before the mentioned MSAI deadline (if not mentioned, it should be sent a minimum of 24 hours before the official submission deadline). MSAI President typically adds the signature with an MSAI stamp and sends the form back to you for your submission (note that in certain cases MSAI President/ MSAI VPE can ask for some questions or documents before approving your candidature, kindly cooperate). When you receive the candidature form, ensure that all details are appropriately filled. Finally, submit your application according to the mentioned procedure (always remember that applications sent even one second post 23:59 GMT/IST deadlines are not considered)!

# Opportunities within MSAI

*MSAI has a wide spectrum of domestic opportunities, so be sure to find the ones that suit your taste. MSAI conducts a plethora of activities under all standing committees, which can be accessed using the [Domestic Activities Application Form](#) (also known as DAF).*

*MSAI also has a large number of Small Working Groups (SWGs) which work on various time bound projects within standing committees and MSAI Administration. Eg. GoSCORP SWG, Anti Sexual Harassment SWG etc.*

*MSAI also has a UNESCO Bioethics Unit (MSAI-UNESCO Bioethics Unit), a part of the of the International Network of UNESCO Chair in Bioethics. We regularly send out information on opportunities concerning these and many more via our mailing list, WhatsApp groups and Facebook page. We encourage you to keep checking these portals from time to time because an opportunity missed is an opportunity lost.*

*If you are an existing member and are not subscribed to our mailing list, please fill [this](#) form.*

*In case of other queries and further information, please contact any of the following officials:*

### **RD Assistants (North)**

**Punjab** : Amolpreet Kaur (+91 95920 47004)

**Uttar Pradesh** : Pratham Kumar (+91 99994 75229)

**Haryana** : Vidhu Goel (+91 97737 73524)

**Delhi** : Yash Rathi (+91 98689 28962)

### **RD Assistants (East)**

**Sikkim** : Renuka Dhaka (+91 99836 69955)

**Meghalaya** : Sakshi Batra (+91 79881 12576)

### **RD Assistants (West)**

**Maharashtra** :

Reyna Mehta (+91 87673 54793)

Mohit Bhadra (+91 83088 27903)

**Gujarat** :

Shlok Shah (+91 95370 06670)

Vidhi Bhatt (+91 99749 39205)

Charchit Shah - LC President (+91 88661 15333)

**Rajasthan** : Bhartesh Garg (+91 85449 02156)

### **RD Assistants (South)**

**Puducherry** : Rueben Toi (+91 88703 02384)

**Tamil Nadu** : Prashanth (+91 86081 59566)

**Karnataka** : Darshan Sai

(+91 99450 99087 / +91 91136 91167)

**Andhra and Telangana** : Meghna Ceetakoru  
(+91 95731 07209)

**Andaman and Nicobar Islands** : Akhil  
(+91 96336 60741)



# Official Portals

## **Facebook**

<https://www.facebook.com/msai.india/>

## **Instagram**

<https://www.instagram.com/msaindia/>

<https://www.instagram.com/msaindiaexchanges/>

## **Twitter**

[https://twitter.com/msai\\_india/](https://twitter.com/msai_india/)

## **Email**

[vpi@msaindia.org](mailto:vpi@msaindia.org)

To Subscribe to our mailing list, please fill [this](#) form.

We hope you have an amazing experience here in MSAI!

Wishing you the best,

MSAI Executive Board and Team of Officials  
(2011- present)



**MSAI**