



Fully Funded Master's Fellowship Position Announcement

Memo: CVASU/OHI/HEAT11041/07

Date: 09/09/2025

Background

The high and low pathogenic avian influenza viruses (AIV) (H5N1 and H9N2) pose significant public health concerns due to their evolution, risk of zoonotic transmission, and potential pandemic emergence. The dynamic, dense, and complex poultry trade in Bangladesh, particularly through Live Bird Markets (LBMs), serves as a critical hub for AIV transmission. These markets greatly increase the risk of spillover into humans. Moreover, recent reports of AIV infection in both cattle and humans signal a potential shift in transmission dynamics and cross-species spread. The risk may be further amplified by inadequate biosecurity measures on smallholder farms.

The ongoing circulation of AIV underscores the urgent need for strict and innovative surveillance, intervention strategies, stakeholder training, and pandemic preparedness measures along the poultry value chain. Within the project “**Preparedness for Pandemic Potential Zoonotic Influenza in Bangladesh,**” the Master's fellow will employ a multidisciplinary approach to assess the pandemic risk of AIV and evaluate intervention strategies.

MS Degree Granting Institution:

Department of Medicine and Surgery, Chattogram Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (CVASU) and One Health Institute (OHI), CVASU

Supervisors:

Prof. Md. Ahasanul Hoque, CVASU

Position Description:

- (1) **Support the field and laboratory activities:** sample collection from farms and LBMs, data recording, processing of biological samples in the laboratory, analysis, and interpretation of the findings.
- (2) **Conduct specific thesis-based research under the project's theme:** AIV-focused studies on sero-prevalence/ virus detection and molecular characterization/ intervention.
- (3) Collaborate with the research team (including PhD fellows and RAs) to achieve project goals and ensure the smooth implementation of fieldwork.
- (4) Contribute to the preparation of project reports and scientific communications.

Eligibility Criteria:

- (1) DVM (or equivalent) degree with 1-year internship from CVASU or other renowned agricultural and public universities.
- (2) Applicants must meet the MS admission requirement of CVASU (January-June 2026) <https://cvasu.ac.bd/get-file?name=9ae1cf71-dbec-4392-83b0-8fb30c042284.pdf>
- (3) Willingness to conduct fieldwork in LBMs, poultry transport vehicles, and poultry farms.
- (4) Basic knowledge on laboratory techniques and data analysis is preferred.

- (5) Good command of both English and Bengali (written and spoken).
- (6) Ability to work effectively in a team.
- (7) Strong motivation to pursue research and scientific writing.
- (8) Teamwork, adaptability, and willingness to travel to field sites.

Expected Outputs:

- (1) Completion of the MS thesis within the project duration.
- (2) Contribution to project datasets and at least one academic report or publication (co-authorship possible).
- (3) Seminars/conferences presentation.

Monthly Fellowship:

Consolidated **30,000 BDT/month** for **18 months** (No extra benefits; without extension). Salary will be paid on a basis on the last working day of the corresponding month.

Necessary Enclosures and Information to be attached:

- (1) A CV
- (2) Scanned certificates, mark sheets/academic transcripts of all passed examinations, experience letter (if applicable)
- (3) Motivation Letter (one page)

Submission deadline: 30 November 2025

Submission:

Please submit all the necessary enclosures (in a single PDF) via email to

Prof. Md. Ahasanul Hoque, PhD

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