

International Rice Congress (IRC) 2018 Media Accreditation

Frequently Asked Questions

Will you accredit me if I don't have a press card?

You need to submit proof that you have a track record of reporting. In the absence of a press card, you must submit additional materials to prove active coverage of agriculture, health, nutrition, food security, climate change, biotechnology and/or rice science research and development.

- Print media representatives should submit two bylined articles published within the past three months and a copy of the publication. These can be scanned PDF files or links to the article published online.
- TV media representatives should submit two recordings of reports broadcast within the past three months.
- Photographers should submit original sheets or photos with credits of the issuing organization. These can be scanned PDF or jpeg files or links to photos online as long as the photos are attributed to the photographer.
- Online media include news outlets, blogs, vlogs and others.
 - The website should belong to a recognized media organization and have a verifiable street address and a telephone number.
 - The website should have been in continuous operation for at least six months and has at least 10,000 visitors per month.
 - The website is updated at least thrice a week.
 - The website should have at least 60% original news content or opinion or commentary or analysis, including coverage of agriculture, health, nutrition, food security, climate change, biotechnology and/or rice science research and development. Websites that do not have original content and only collect and share syndicated web content from other sources will not be accredited.

Can freelance journalists get accreditation?

Freelance journalists are subject to the same requirements and process for accreditation. Freelance journalists, including photographers, should provide a valid and official assignment letter from the news organization or publication or broadcast media.

Are students allowed to get accreditation?

Media accreditation is only for professional members of the press who represent bona fide media organizations. Professional media must be at least 18 years old and have a track record of reporting to qualify.

Do Embassy press officers need press accreditation?

No. Your name should be included on the official list of delegation. You will be registered as part of the delegation.

What is the arrangement for press traveling with a head of state/government and other officials/VIPs?

The press travelling with heads of state or government must be included in the official delegation list and registered as member of the delegation.

Are you going to help me get a visa?

The IRC secretariat is not in a position to give invitation letters for visa purposes. The confirmation of your accreditation and the letter from your media organization can be used when applying for visa.

Do you fund journalists' participation?

No. We do not provide financial support for media.

Do you book travel and make hotel reservations for the media?

No. Press representatives who will be accredited to cover IRC are responsible for their own hotel and travel bookings. Kindly refer to this [list of accommodations](#) near the venue.

After the accreditation, what's next?

After you have received confirmation of your accreditation, the IRC secretariat will send you a confirmation letter via email. Print out the confirmation and bring it with you to the congress to speed up your on-site registration process. You can get your media pass at the registration desk at the conference venue.

What should I do if my media pass is lost or stolen?

You should immediately report the incident to the press registration desk.

What am I allowed to cover at the conference venue?

All accredited media have access to the media center, interview and press conference room/s, exhibit areas, side events, open plenary sessions and any public areas in the conference venue.

The secretariat has the right to deny or withdraw accreditation for activities that violate the principles of IRC, the codes or protocol of behavior, conduct and or/ethics of journalism and/or the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI). The media pass must not be loaned to another person. At any time, the secretariat may revoke accreditation if it has been used improperly; if it has been used to abuse the privileges; or if personal or public conduct is not consistent with the best interest of IRRI and IRC.

For other media concerns or inquiries, please email ricecongress@irri.org.