



Australia Awards

# Bhutan

## Applying for an Australia Awards scholarship

### Australia Awards scholarships in Bhutan

**Australia's international development assistance in Bhutan** helps promote prosperity, reduce poverty, and enhance political stability.

Australia Awards scholarships are prestigious international awards offered by the Australian Government to the next generation of global leaders in developing countries. Through study and research, recipients develop the skills and knowledge to drive change and help build enduring people-to-people links with Australia.

Applicants are assessed on their professional and personal qualities, academic competence and, most importantly, their potential to impact on development challenges in Bhutan.

Applications are strongly encouraged from women, people with disability and other marginalised groups.

### Priority fields of study

The priority areas of study for Bhutan are:

- Agricultural Innovation (Production, Processing, Marketing, Storage, Transportation)
- Business Analytics
- Computer Science and Software Engineering (Artificial Intelligence, Big Data, Cyber Security, Data Analytics, Data Science, Machine Learning)
- Creative Arts and Industries (including Film Making and Television Production)
- Design Studies (including Interior Architecture, Sustainable Design, Urban Design)
- Economics (including Development Economics, Financial Economics, International Economics)
- Human Resource Management
- Law (including Dispute Resolution, Environmental Laws, Intellectual Property Laws, International Laws)
- Logistics and Supply Chain Management
- Media and Journalism (including Digital Journalism, Documentary Film Making & Journalism, Multimedia Journalism)
- Mental Health (Rehabilitation Counselling and Mental Health, Wellbeing and Positive Mental Health in Education, etc)
- Mining & Production (including Geophysics and Engineering Geology, Geotechnical Engineering, Ore Deposit Geology)
- Special Education
- Statistics
- Tourism and Hospitality Management

Priority fields of study have been identified by the Royal Government of Bhutan in line with Bhutan's development priorities. Detailed information on priority areas of study can be found at: [Australia Awards Bhutan](#).



## Level of study

Australia Awards scholarships provide citizens of Bhutan with the opportunity to obtain a qualification at an Australian tertiary institution.

Awards will be offered for commencement in 2026 within the following allocations:

- Master's by coursework
- Master's by research

## Australia Awards benefits

Australia Awards scholarships are offered for the minimum period necessary for the individual to complete the academic program specified by the Australian education institution, including any preparatory training.

Scholarship recipients will receive the following:

- return air travel
- a one-off establishment allowance on arrival
- full tuition fees
- contribution to living expenses
- introductory academic program
- overseas student health cover for the duration of the scholarship
- supplementary academic support,
- fieldwork allowance for research students and masters by coursework which has a compulsory fieldwork component.

## Eligibility criteria

Australia Awards applicants must meet all eligibility requirements detailed in the [Australia Awards Scholarships Policy Handbook](#).

## Country-specific conditions

In addition to the eligibility requirements, candidates from Bhutan must also meet the following conditions:

- Qualification and work experience
  - A four-year bachelor's degree and minimum three years' relevant full-time work experience<sup>1</sup> earned after the bachelor's degree; or
  - A three-year bachelor's degree with at least a year of postgraduate diploma with a minimum of three years' relevant full-time work experience. If applicants do not have a postgraduate diploma, a letter of offer from an Australian university is required for a master's program on offer for study commencing in 2026; and
  - Fit the target applicant profile of a field of study advertised for study commencing in 2026; and
  - Provide an employer nomination letter from the Human Resource Officer of the parent organisation/agency. In addition, applicants under the purview of the Ministry of Education and Skills Development must also submit a nomination letter from the Department of Workforce Planning and Skills Development.
- English language test score and validity
  - Applicants must have achieved an Academic IELTS score of 6.5 or higher (with no individual band score less than 6.0), or an equivalent TOEFL or PTE Academic score;
  - English language test scores must be valid on 1 January 2026. However, if an institution requires a different test validity timeframe, applicants must meet the institution's requirements.

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<sup>1</sup> The three-year work experience is inclusive of any probation period.

## Application dates

For study commencing in Australia in 2026:

Opening date: 1 February 2025

Closing date: 30 April 2025 (11:59PM AEST)

Applications and/or supporting documents received after the closing date will not be considered.

## The application process

### Online applications

All applications must be lodged online through [OASIS](#).

### Supporting documents

Applicants must submit all the relevant supporting documents listed in the *Australia Awards Scholarships Policy Handbook*.

Country specific document requirements can be found at: **Australia Awards – Bhutan website**. Applicants are required to compile documents into single PDFs by document category, name the files appropriately (e.g., “Certificates,” “Transcripts,” “Referee Reports”), and ensure scans are complete, legible and in correct page orientation and order.

Where documents are denoted as requiring a specified format, applicants must download the current format available on the **Australia Awards – Bhutan website**. Documents not complying with the specified format or using a format from a previous application round will not be accepted.

## The selection process

- Applications will be shortlisted after eligibility checking.
- Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.
- The selection process includes an interview. Applicants will be assessed against the following criteria:
  - academic competence
  - professional and personal leadership attributes including relevant work experience.
  - potential outcome, specifically the contribution to development outcomes in Bhutan.
- Successful candidates will be notified in August 2025.
- Awardee travel will be subject to meeting the requirements imposed by the Australian Government, as determined by the Australian Government Department of Education and by the relevant Australian State or Territory governments.

## Preparatory training

Successful applicants will be required to attend:

- course counselling
- visa and mobilisation briefing
- pre-departure briefing
- university's Introductory Academic Program
- other required preparatory study on arrival in Australia.

## Further information

More general information about the Australia Awards, Australia's aid program, and studying in Australia can be found at the following links:

- [Australia Awards Scholarships](#)
- [Study Australia](#)

Information about visas and Australia Awards scholarship entitlements and conditions can be found in the Scholarships Policy Handbook: [Australia Awards Scholarships Handbook](#).

### Contact details

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