



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, leadership potential, academic competence, and their ability to contribute to Bhutan's inclusive and sustainable development.

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

Priority fields of study

The priority areas of study are:

- Construction/Infrastructure Management Engineering
- Education (Educational Leadership/Management)
- Energy and Natural Resources (Alternate Energy, Bioenergy, Bioprospecting, Energy Management, Green Hydrogen, Hydrogen Fuel Cell, Water Resource Management and Systems, Sustainable Energy)
- Entrepreneurship and Innovation Studies
- Finance & Accounting
- Food and Packaging Innovation
- Graphic Design
- Health Management
- Hospitality & Tourism Management
- Human Resource Management/Analytics
- International Development Economics
- Mining and Production (Geotechnical Engineering, Geophysics, Engineering Geology, Ore Deposit Geology)
- Software Engineering (Artificial Intelligence, Big Data, Coding, Data Analytics/Science, FinTech, Information Systems)
- Supply Chain and Logistics 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: <https://australiaawardsbhutan.org/>



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 2025 within the following allocations:

- Master by coursework in any of the priority fields of study
- Advanced Diploma in tourism/hospitality or graphic design

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 Master 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*, available at: dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Pages/australia-awards-scholarships-policy-handbook.aspx

Country-specific conditions

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

- Qualifications and work experience
 - for applicants for a Master by coursework/research
 - a four-year Bachelor's degree and minimum three years' relevant full-time work experience¹ earned after the Bachelor's degree; or
 - a three-year Bachelor's degree with at least a one-year postgraduate diploma with a minimum of three years' relevant full-time work experience earned after the postgraduate diploma. 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 2025.
 - for applicants for an Advanced Diploma of tourism/hospitality programs
 - have completed Year 12 qualification plus a diploma from the Royal Institute for Tourism and Hospitality and minimum of two years' relevant full-time work experience to apply.
 - for applicants for an Advanced Diploma of graphic design program
 - have completed Year 12 qualification plus a critical skills training certificate in graphic design and minimum of two years' relevant full-time work experience to apply.
 - fit the target applicant profile of a field of study advertised for study commencing in 2025.
 - 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.

¹ The three-year work experience is inclusive of probation period.

- English Language Test Score
 - Applicants applying for a Master's program 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. Scores must be valid till January 2025.
 - Applicants applying for an Advanced Diploma program must have achieved an Academic IELTS score of 6.0 or higher (with no individual band score less than 5.5), or an equivalent TOEFL or PTE Academic score. Scores must be valid until January 2025.

Application dates

For study commencing in Australia in 2025:

Opening date: 1 February 2024

Closing date: 30 April 2024 (11:59 PM 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 at <https://oasis.dfat.gov.au/>.

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 2024.
- Awardee travel is subject to meeting the requirements of the Australian Government, as determined by the Department of Home Affairs, 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
- institutions 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:

- dfat.gov.au/people-to-people/australia-awards/pages/australia-awards-scholarships
- studyaustralia.gov.au

Information about visas and Australia Awards scholarship entitlements and conditions can be found in the Scholarships Policy Handbook: dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Pages/australia-awards-scholarships-policy-handbook.aspx

Contact details

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