



India

Applying for an Australia Awards Scholarship

Australia Awards scholarships in India

India and Australia share a commitment to a stable and prosperous Indo-Pacific region. With enduring cultural and people-to-people ties and a strategic and economic relationship which continues to deepen, India is at the front rank of Australia's international partnerships. Education, the flagship sector of Australia's *India Economic Strategy to 2035: Navigating from Potential to Delivery*, is key to this partnership and to stepping up Australia's economic engagement with India. To help build links with the next generation of talented Indian business and community leaders, the Australian Government has introduced a Masters-level Australia Awards Scholarship program for India. These Awards are offered to exceptional Indian graduate students from specific high-performing institutions for study in priority fields of study at one of Australia's world-class universities. For the 2021 academic year these are:

- Agribusiness
- Agriculture
- Construction
- Energy and Resources
- Engineering
- Security and Strategic Studies

Australia Awards scholarships are prestigious international awards offered by the Australian Government. Through coursework and engagement with Australian private and public sector institutions, recipients develop the skills and knowledge to drive change in their chosen field and help build enduring links with Australia.

Applicants must submit a letter of endorsement from their institution to be considered for these Scholarships. Applicants will be assessed on their academic excellence, leadership potential and how they intend to use the Scholarship in their future plans to help strengthen Australia-India linkages.

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

Applicants must identify two preferred courses on their application form and ensure they meet the Australian institution's English language and course requirements.

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 generally 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
- reunion airfare (for unaccompanied scholars whose Scholarship period is two years or more).

Detailed entitlements are contained in the Australia Awards Scholarships Policy Handbook.

Eligibility criteria

Students or recent graduates from target institutions in the ten Indian states identified by the India Economic Strategy will be eligible to apply. For scholarships commencing in 2021, these institutions are:

- Andhra University
- Banaras Hindu University
- Calcutta University
- Indian Institute of Science (Bengaluru)
- Indian Institute of Technology Bombay
- Indian Institute of Technology Delhi
- Indian Institute of Technology Gandhinagar
- Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad
- Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur



- Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur
- Indian Institute of Technology Madras
- Jadavpur University
- Jawaharlal Nehru University
- Manipal Academy of Higher Education
- National Institute of Technology Tiruchirappalli
- Savitribai Phule Pune University
- Tata Institute of Social Sciences (Mumbai)
- Thapar Institute of Engineering and Technology
- University of Delhi
- University of Hyderabad

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.

In addition to these basic eligibility requirements, candidates from India must also meet the following country-specific requirements:

- be a recent graduate (2018 or later) of one of the target institutions; or be in the final year of a tertiary-level qualification (at least equivalent to an Australian Bachelor Degree) from one of the target institutions have achieved a minimum Cumulative Grade Point Average of 7.5
- have an endorsement letter from one of the target institutions/universities in India.

Applicants must have achieved an IELTS (Academic) score of 6.5 or higher (with no individual band score below 6.0) or an internet-based TOEFL (iBT) score of at least 84, with a minimum of 21 in all subtests or a Pearson Test of English Academic (PTE Academic) overall score of 58, with no communicative skill score less than 50. Scores must be valid until 1 January 2021.

Scholarships will not be available for courses of study in Australia where the applicant has already achieved that qualification and the qualification is deemed to be equivalent to the Australian qualification.

Special conditions

Applicants must also meet the following special conditions:

- scholars are expected to return to India after completing their studies.
- scholarships must be taken up in 2021. Should an awardee not be able to commence study in 2021, the scholarship will be withdrawn.
- on completion of their scholarship, recipients are expected to actively engage in relevant Australia Awards alumni networks and activities.

Key dates (for study commencing in 2021)

Applications open	1 February 2020
Applications close	30 April 2020

Eligibility checking and shortlisting	May – June 2020
Interview list released	June 2020
Panel interviews (in New Delhi)	July 2020
Selection process results released	1 August 2020
Visa application and pre-departure preparations	August – November 2020
Mandatory Pre-Departure Briefing (in New Delhi)	November 2020
Departure for Australia	January 2021

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 of the following supporting documents with their application—these include generic documents requested in the Scholarships Policy Handbook and specific documents required for applicants from India. These specific documents are:

- A personal statement of no more than 500 words
- A letter of endorsement from your institution.

Documents requiring certification are specified in the table. All certified documents must be in colour and properly scanned and not scanned using phone applications. If the document is not in English, the translated copy must be certified. See the Scholarships Policy Handbook for certification requirements.

Document type	Certified
Passport (ordinary and valid)	Yes
Identification documents (Aadhaar Card PAN Card/Voter Card/)	Yes
Birth certificate	Yes
Degree certificates (Bachelor and any Post Graduate level), or certified academic transcript if degree is yet to be conferred. Transcripts must show results for each semester as well as overall	Yes

Document type	Certified
results, and must clearly show the GPA. Where transcripts are not in English, please provide an English translation	
Certificates of special achievements or merit which are relevant to the proposed study program	Yes
A brief CV	No
A personal statement (of no more than 500 words) describing your suitability to be offered a Scholarship	No
Two academic referee reports* (with seal)	No
Letter from the institution endorsing your application	No
Passport size photo	No

* Template for the referee report is available at:

<https://dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Documents/referee.pdf>

Referee reports in formats other than the prescribed template will not be accepted.

Other templates can be downloaded from <https://australiaawardsindia.org>.

The selection process

Following eligibility checking, applications will be assessed and shortlisted by Australian Government representatives. Shortlisted applicants will be invited to an interview, which will include a writing exercise. Applicants will be assessed against the following criteria:

- academic excellence
- leadership qualities and potential
- ability to demonstrate how the scholarship will contribute to building linkages between Australia and India.

Preparatory training

All successful applicants will be required to attend:

- course counselling
- visa and mobilisation briefing
- pre-departure briefing
- the host institution's Introductory Academic Program

- other required preparatory study on arrival in Australia
- on-award engagement activities.

Outcomes

All applicants will receive notification as to whether they have been successful by 1 August 2020.

Further information

Further information about the India Economic Strategy can be found at:

<https://dfat.gov.au/geo/india/ies/index.html>

Information about visas and Australia Awards Scholarship entitlements and conditions can be found in the Scholarships Policy Handbook, available at:

<https://dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Pages/australia-awards-scholarships-policy-handbook.aspx>

General information about Australia Awards and studying in Australia can be found at:

- <https://australiaawardsindia.org/>
- <https://dfat.gov.au/people-to-people/australia-awards/Pages/australia-awards-scholarships.aspx>
- <https://www.studyinaustralia.gov.au>

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