



Australia Awards

Maldives

Applying for an Australia Awards scholarship

Australia Awards scholarships in Maldives

Australia's international development assistance in Maldives 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 eligible countries.

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

Priority fields of study

The priority areas of study for eligible Maldivians are:

Effective and accountable state

- Aviation and Airports
- Business Administration
- Economics
- Fisheries and Aquatic Resources
- Law and Justice
- Project Management
- Public Administration and Policy
- Public Financial Management
- Statistics and Data Management
- Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (including ICT)
- Tourism and Hospitality (including Culinary Arts)

Resilient community and state

- Animation and Visual Effects
- Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience
- Cultural Studies
- Disability Studies
- Disaster Management and Risk Reduction
- Education (including Education and TVET Management)
- Environmental and Resource Management
- Gender Studies
- Health (including Public and Mental Health)
- Psychology, Social Work and Counselling
- Renewable Energy
- Sports and Fitness
- Sustainable Infrastructure Development
- Youth Studies

The governments of Australia and Maldives regularly review these areas of study together and adjust the emphasis of the program. Detailed information on priority areas of study can be found at: [Australia Awards Maldives](#).

Level of study

Australia Awards scholarships provide citizens of Maldives 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 level qualification by coursework or 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 Maldives must also meet the following conditions:

- have a tertiary qualification at least equivalent to an Australian bachelor's degree
- must be applying to follow a program of study, higher than the level of qualification already achieved
- must meet the English language requirements as set out in the Australia Awards Scholarships Policy Handbook. Scores must be valid at 1 January 2026. If an institution requires a different test validity timeframe, applicants must meet the institution's requirements. English language scores must be submitted no later than 30 June 2025
- have worked in Maldives for at least 24 months preceding the application closing date and after completing their bachelor's degree
- not have held a foreign scholarship in the 24 months preceding the application closing date
- not have obtained an academic qualification outside Maldives in the 24 months preceding the application closing date, calculated from the date of arrival back in the home country.

Special Conditions

- Awardees are required to return to Maldives for at least two years after completing their scholarship, to contribute to the economic and social development of the country. Failure to do so will incur a debt to the Commonwealth of Australia for the total value of the scholarship.
- Awardees are required to sign a contract with the Commonwealth of Australia declaring they will comply with the conditions of the scholarship.

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](#).

Applicants must also provide the following documents to meet the specific requirements for Maldives:

Required document	OASIS document type	Certified
Tertiary degree certificates	Degree Certificate	Yes
Academic grades for university qualifications	Academic Transcript	Yes
Passport/National ID	Proof of citizenship	Yes
Curriculum Vitae (CV)*	Other Document	No
Development Impact and Linkages Plan (DILP) document*	Other Document	No
Certificates of special achievement or merit	Other Document	No
English language test results (IELTS Academic, TOEFL or PTE Academic)	Proof of English language proficiency	Yes
Employment Letter*	Other Document	No
FOR COURSEWORK MASTER'S: One academic referee report and one professional referee report (e.g. a work supervisor with referee's seal) *	Referee Report	No
FOR RESEARCH MASTER'S APPLICANTS: two academic referee reports and one professional referee report (e.g. a work supervisor with referee's seal) *	Referee Report	No
FOR RESEARCH MASTER'S: a research proposal. This proposal must include a proposed methodology, timeline, and a brief literature review (Guideline available*)	Other Document	No
FOR RESEARCH MASTER'S: Identify 2 supervisors from each of your nominated institutions and include their details with your application	Other Document	No
Any other document you wish to upload ensuring your eligibility	Other Document	No

*Template/document available at [Australia Awards Maldives](#).

Notes:

- Please refer the [Australia Awards Scholarships Policy Handbook](#) for certification requirements for documents requiring certification. If a document is not in English, the translated copy must also be certified.
- Referee reports in different formats cannot be accepted and may make applications ineligible. Contact the Australia Awards Sri Lanka and Maldives office to clarify reference requirements.

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
 - potential outcome, specifically the contribution to development outcomes in Maldives
 - professional and personal leadership attributes including relevant work experience.
- Successful candidates will be notified in late 2025.
- Awardee travel will be subject to meeting the requirements imposed by the Australian Government Department of Home Affairs and Department of Education and by the relevant Australian State or Territory governments.

Preparatory training

Successful applicants will be required to attend:

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

Contact details

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