



Australia Awards

Nepal

Applying for an Australia Awards scholarship

Australia Awards scholarships in Nepal

Australia's international development assistance in Nepal 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.

Applicants who want to accept an Australia Awards Scholarship will need to sign a contract with the Commonwealth of Australia declaring that they will comply with the conditions of the Australia Awards Scholarship. Scholars are required to leave Australia for a minimum of two years after completing their Scholarship.

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

Priority fields of study

The priority areas of study for Nepal are:

- Climate Change
- Disaster Risk Reduction
- Economic Development
- Education
- Gender Equality, Disability and Social Inclusion
- Governance
- Natural Resource Management
- Sustainable Infrastructure Development.

The governments of Australia and Nepal 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: [Home - Nepal - Australia Awards](#).

Level of study

Australia Awards scholarships provide citizens of Nepal 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.

The Australia Awards scholarships program will request *recognition of prior learning* for all scholarship recipients from Nepal. If this request is granted, the recipient may be placed in a study program shorter in duration than originally applied for.

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 Nepal must also meet the following conditions:

- Qualifications and work experience:
 - A minimum four-year Bachelor's degree and minimum three years' relevant full-time work experience earned after the Bachelor's degree; or
 - A three-year Bachelor's degree with at least a one-year Master's degree with a minimum of three years' relevant full-time work experience earned after the Bachelor's degree; or
 - A two-year Bachelor's degree with at least a two-year Master's degree with a minimum of three years' relevant full-time work experience earned after the Bachelor's degree.

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

- English Language Test Score
 - Applicants must possess one of the following English language test scores valid on 1 January 2026. If an institution requires an extended test validity timeframe, applicants must meet the institution's requirements:
 - IELTS (Academic) 6.5 or higher (with all band scores 6.0 or higher), or
 - TOEFL (Internet-based) 84 or higher (with all subtest scores 21 or higher), or
 - PTE (Academic) 58 or higher (with all communicative skill scores 50 or higher).
 - Women, people with disability, members of traditionally marginalised groups and public servants will be considered for eligibility with IELTS (Academic) score of 6.0 or higher (with all band scores 5.5 or higher) or an equivalent TOEFL (Internet-based) or PTE (Academic) test score. However, if offered an Australia Awards scholarship, these applicants must meet the English language requirements of their preferred university and degree before commencing study.

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 at oasis.dfat.gov.au.

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 Nepal:

Required document	OASIS document type	Certified
Passport	Proof of citizenship	Yes
Copy of original degree certificates issued by examination boards including School Leaving Certificate (SLC) or equivalent and above (not character, migration, or provisional certificates)	Degree certificate	Yes
Academic transcripts specifying divisions/ grades from SLC or equivalent onwards	Academic transcript	Yes
IELTS, TOEFL or PTE certificate (validity as detailed above)	Proof of English language proficiency	Yes
<i>Master's degree by coursework applicants only:</i> two referee reports (one academic and one professional) (in specified format)	Referee reports	No
<i>Master's degree by research applicants only:</i> three referee reports (two academic and one professional) (in specified format)		
Development Impact and Linkages Plan (in specified format)	Other document	No
Curriculum Vitae* (in specified format)	Other document	No
Employment letter (if currently employed) and all past employment experience letters	Other document	No
<i>Master's degree by research applicants only:</i> research proposal and evidence of communication with potential supervisor providing in-principle support for research proposal	Other document	No

Applicants are requested to compile documents into single PDFs by document category, appropriately name files (e.g., 'Degree 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—Nepal website](#). Documents not complying with the specified format or using a format from a previous application round will not be accepted.

*For awards, honours, commendations, and achievements listed, please upload supporting evidence compiled in a single PDF as 'other document'.

The selection process

- Only applications that meet eligibility criteria will be assessed
- 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 Nepal
 - professional and personal leadership attributes including relevant work experience
- Successful candidates will be notified in late 2025, barring unforeseen circumstances
- A scholarship is offered subject to a confirmed place at a university and candidates meeting visa requirements to study in Australia
- The selection process and planned schedule may change, depending on the operating environment and other conditions
- Awardee travel will be subject to meeting the requirements imposed by the Australian Government Department of Education and Department of Home Affairs and by the relevant Australian State or Territory governments.

Preparatory training

Successful applicants will be required to attend:

- course counselling
- preparatory workshops and 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 [Australia Awards Scholarships Policy Handbook](#)

Contact details

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