Philippines
Applying for an Australia Awards Scholarship

Australia Awards scholarships in the Philippines

Australia’s international development assistance in the Philippines 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 for development. 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 the Philippines.

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

Priority fields of study

The priority areas of study for the Philippines are:

- Trade and Economics
- Infrastructure and Smart Cities
- Digital Economy and Cyber Security
- Peace and Development
- Education
- Governance and Public Policy, including Civil Society, Media and Foreign Relations
- Natural Resource Management, including Mining and Energy
- Humanitarian and Disaster Risk Management

The governments of Australia and the Philippines 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:

www.australiaawardsphilippines.org

Level of study

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

Scholarships will be offered for commencement in January and June 2021 within the following categories:

- Open - for individuals who intend to pursue graduate studies in the identified priority areas of study
- Targeted - for partner Philippine government agencies with mandates that support mutual priorities of Australia and the Philippines as reflected in Australia’s Aid Investment Plan and the Philippine Development Plan 2017-2022. The proposed scholars for these awards are nominated by their respective agencies.

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 scholarships information for study commencing in 2021
English language proficiency
Applicants offered a scholarship must have achieved an IELTS (Academic) score of 6.5 or higher (with no individual band score of less than 6.0) or an equivalent TOEFL or PTE score. Scores must be valid at 1 January 2021.

Commencement of study
All scholarships must be taken up in the year for which they are awarded. Should an awardee not be able to commence study in 2021, the scholarship will be withdrawn.

Country-specific conditions
In addition to the eligibility requirements, candidates from the Philippines must also meet the following conditions:

- be residing in the Philippines for at least the last 12 months
- have at least two years cumulative work experience
- not hold another scholarship
- be a holder of a masters degree (for PhD applicants)

Application dates
For study commencing in Australia in 2021:
Opening date: 1 February 2020
Closing date: 30 April 2020 (11:59pm Canberra Time)
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 www.australiaawardsphilippines.org

Re-Entry Action Plan (REAP)
Applicants are required to submit a REAP as part of the application process and implement this in their workplace or proposed area upon return.

The REAP outlines a project where the newly acquired knowledge and skills will be used to contribute to development in the Philippines.

REAP implementation is closely monitored and evaluated.

Supporting documents
Applicants must submit their application together with all the relevant supporting documents listed on the Australia Awards Philippines website, including:

- Curriculum Vitae (online)
- Affidavit of citizenship, residency and employment
- Certification of the Grade Point Average/General Weighted Average

For applicants from the Philippine Government applying through the targeted category or intending to take official leave to undertake their studies:

- Certificate of no scholarship obligation
- Letter from the head of agency endorsing the scholarship application

- Certificate of no pending case signed by the Human Resource Manager (or relevant officer)
- Clearance from the Office of the Ombudsman certifying that the applicant has no pending criminal and/or administrative case.
- Signed service agreement for continuing employment, as required by the agency

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 the Philippines
  - professional and personal leadership attributes including relevant work experience.
- Successful candidates will be notified no later than August 2020.

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
Information about the Australia Awards - Philippines can be found at www.australiaawardsphilippines.org

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

- studyinaustralia.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

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