



Australia Awards

INFORMATION BRIEF: AUSTRALIA AWARDS

2020– 21 Outcome: **\$185.6 million**

2021 - 22 Estimate: **\$200 million**

Australia Awards are prestigious international Scholarships and Short Courses funded by the Australian Government. They offer the next generation of global leaders an opportunity to undertake study, research and professional development in Australia.

Australia Awards are a whole of Australian government initiative bringing together Scholarships and Short Courses administered by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR).

Why we give aid

Australia Awards, managed by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, contribute to the achievement of development objectives across a range of sectors and are a feature of nearly all of Australia's bilateral aid programs.

The Australia Awards supports the Department's *Partnerships for Recovery* strategy by equipping awardees with specialist skills and knowledge to drive positive change and contribute to addressing the health, economic and social impacts of COVID-19 in their home countries.

The Australia Awards initiative is an investment in new generations of global leaders with strong links to Australia, building on the 70 year legacy of the original Colombo Plan of the 1950's onward.

How we give aid

Australia Awards offered through the Australian aid program consist of Australia Awards Scholarships, Australia Awards Pacific Scholarships, Short Courses and ACIAR awards.

To ensure equity and broad participation, the Australian Government encourages gender equality, people with disability, ethnic minorities, people living in rural areas and members of socio-economically disadvantaged groups to apply.

Australia Awards alumni are important members of the Australian Global Alumni community, representing both the current and next generation of global leaders, with links to Australia.

The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade seeks to grow a global alumni community that understands, engages and promotes Australia and advances our national interests through:

- strengthening diplomatic access and influence;
- growing trade, investment and business linkages;
- promoting capabilities in education, science, research and innovation; and
- showcasing Australia as a contemporary, innovative, open society.

Arrival of Australia Awards scholars onshore in 2022

The reopening of Australia to international students provides an opportunity to revitalise the Australia Awards from 2022 and current data suggest that around 400 awardees are preparing to mobilise to Australia in Semester 1, 2022. This complements the more than 43,000 international students who have arrived in Australia since December 2021*.

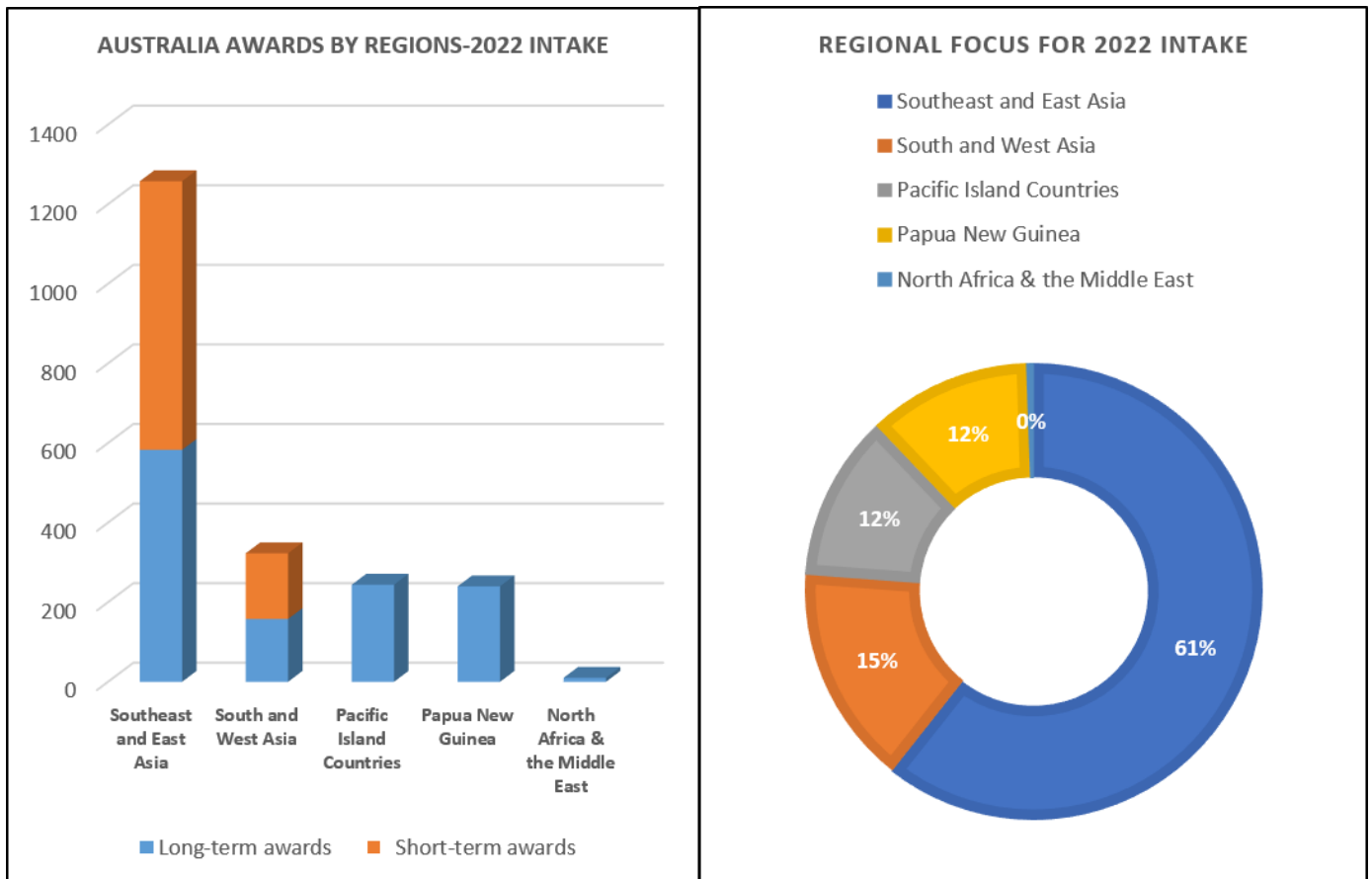
**From 15 December 2021, fully vaccinated eligible visa holders including international students and their dependents have been able to enter Australia*

FOCUS OF AUSTRALIA AWARDS

- For 2022, DFAT offered 2,075 Australia Awards Scholarships and Short Courses to 27 ODA eligible partner countries.
- For 2022, over 88 per cent of Australia Awards went to the Indo-Pacific region.
- Awards offered in 2022 include 983 Australia Awards Scholarships, 252 Australia Awards Pacific Scholarships and 840 Australia Awards Short Courses.

REGIONAL FOCUS OF AUSTRALIA AWARDS 2022

Regions	Long-term awards	Short-term awards	Total
Southeast and East Asia	583	675	1,258
South and West Asia	158	165	323
Pacific Island Countries	244	-	244
Papua New Guinea	240	-	240
North Africa & the Middle East	10	-	10
Total	1,235	840	2,075



COMMITMENTS TO AWARDS (\$m)

Estimates	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
Whole of Agency	290.5	259	185.6	200 (Est)

TOP 10 REPRESENTED COUNTRIES – AUSTRALIA AWARDS SCHOLARS IN AUSTRALIA (3/02/2022)

Rank	Country	# of current scholars	% of total scholars	Female	Male	TVET	Undergrad	Postgrad
1	Indonesia	156	26	84	72	0	0	156
2	Papua New Guinea	46	8	23	23	0	4	42
3	Kiribati	43	7	31	12	5	24	14
4	Samoa	40	7	25	15	0	39	1
5	Solomon Islands	39	7	23	16	0	26	13
6	Myanmar	36	6	23	13	0	0	36
7	Vietnam	31	5	17	14	0	0	31
8	Tonga	22	4	18	4	0	0	22
9	Laos	18	3	12	6	1	0	17
10	Nauru	16	3	8	8	0	13	3
-	All other countries, total	151	24	76	75	0	31	120
-	All countries, total*	598	100	340	258	6	137	455

*= Total number includes ACIAR scholarships

AUSTRALIA AWARDS SCHOLARS CURRENTLY STUDYING IN THE PACIFIC (3/2/2022)

DESTINATION COUNTRY CAMPUSES

Citizenship Country	FIJI	PNG	SAMOA	VANUATU	Grant Total
PAPUA NEW GUINEA	-	293	-	-	293
TONGA	36	-	2	1	39
KIRIBATI	34	-	-	2	36
MICRONESIA, FEDERATED STATES OF	28	-	1	7	36
SAMOA	26	-	-	-	26
NAURU	21	-	-	-	21
SOLOMON ISLANDS	8	1	2	8	19
TUVALU	17	-	-	-	17
MARSHALL ISLANDS	6	-	-	3	9
VANUATU	8	-	-	-	8
NIUE	5	-	-	1	6
PALAU	2	-	-	-	2
Grand total	191	294	5	22	512

AUSTRALIA AWARDS TOP RESULTS

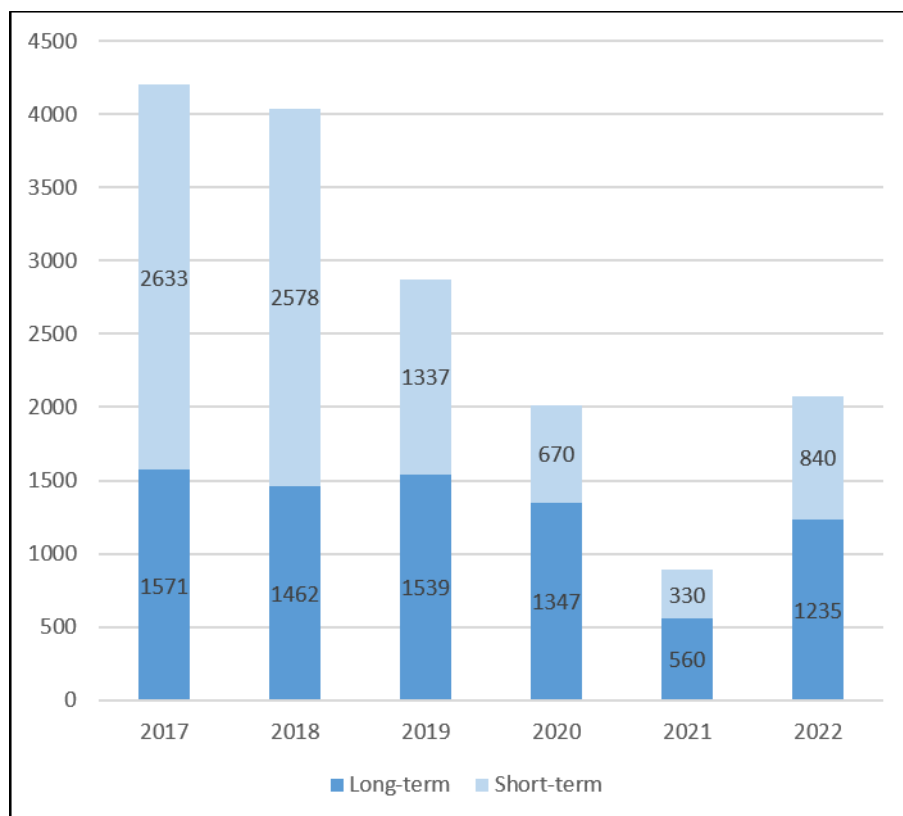
1. In 2021, DFAT offered 890 long and short-term awards. Over 56 per cent of long-term awards went to women; while approximately 3 per cent were awarded to those who identify as living with a disability.
2. DFAT provides three times as many awards to Indo-Pacific region annually, as were provided under the Colombo plan.
3. In 2021, 704 Australia Awards Scholarships recipients successfully completed their award and returned home. All awardees return home on completion of their studies so they can contribute to development in their country for at least two years. Since 2016 Australia Awards Scholarships has had an average successful completion rate of over **95 per cent**.
4. Since 2007, The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (and the then AusAID) have offered 27,279 long-term awards and 20,996 short-term awards.

AUSTRALIA AWARDS INTAKE AND EXPENSE DATA

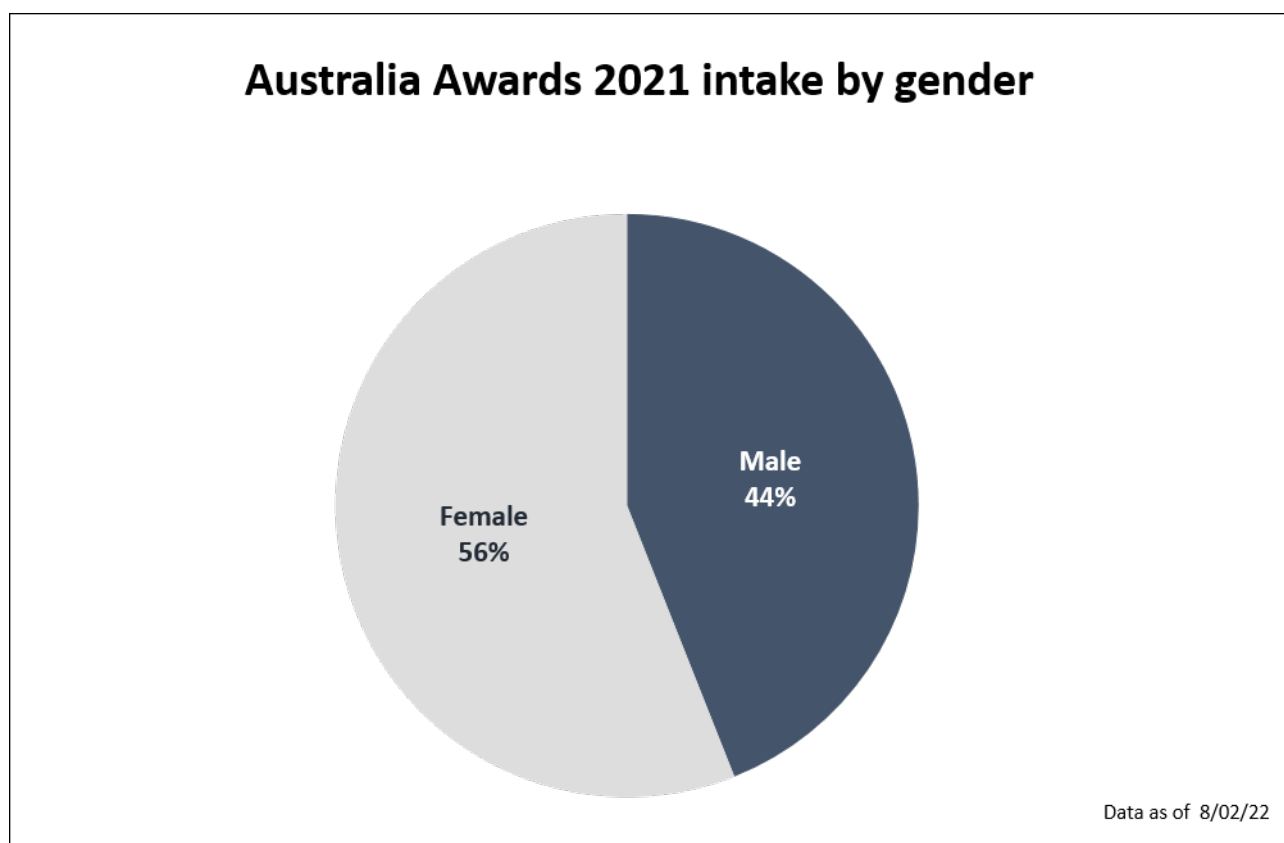
Intake Year	Financial Year	Intake Number (new awards)	Long-term	Short-term	Total Cost (\$m)
2017	2016-17	4,204	1,571	2,633	303.3
2018	2017-18	4,040	1,462	2,578	300.5
2019	2018-19	2,876	1,539	1,337	290.5
2020	2019-20	2,017	1,347	670	259.0
2021	2020-21	890	560	330	185.6
2022	2021-22*	2,075	1,235	840	200.0

*=estimated costs

AUSTRALIA AWARDS 2017-2022



GENDER RATIO OF 2021 INTAKE AUSTRALIA AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS' SCHOLARS



STATISTICS FOR AUSTRALIA AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS (AAS) IN AUSTRALIA (3/02/2022)

CURRENT AAS BY LEVEL OF STUDY AND AVERAGE COST

Level of Study	No. of current awardees	Percentage of total awardees	Average cost per awardee (AUD)	Average length of study
Doctoral Degree	180	30	350,250	4 years
Masters Degree (Coursework)	268	45	148,800	2 years
Masters Degree (Research)	7	1	167,000	2 years
Bachelor Degree	137	23	285,250	4 years
Diploma (TVET)	6	1	120,000	1-2 years

CURRENT AAS BY SCHOLARSHIPS KEY SECTOR

Scholarship key sector	Female	Male	Current total	Percentage of total scholars
Education	143	101	244	41
Governance	62	41	103	17
Health	53	27	80	13
Rural Development & Food Security	33	26	59	10
Infrastructure	16	30	46	8
Other	17	23	40	7
Environment & natural resource management	16	10	26	4
Grand Total	340	258	598	100

AUSTRALIA AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION (%)

Year of completion	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Per cent successful*	96	95	96	97	97.5	97.4

*=by main course result (pass rate)

AUSTRALIA AWARDS FUNDING TO AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTIONS: TOP 10 IN FY 2020-21

Rank	Australian institutions	\$m
1	The Australian National University	13.2
2	The University of Queensland	11.8
3	The University of Melbourne	11.7
4	Flinders University	10.1
5	The University of Sydney	8.9
6	Monash University	6.1
7	The University of Adelaide	4.3
8	RMIT University	3.9
9	Curtin University	3.4
10	The University of New South Wales (including ADFA)	3.2
11	Total for 41 Australian institutions	\$111.4

Source: OASIS expense report for FY 2020-21 as of 6 Oct 2021

AUSTRALIA AWARDS PROGRAM INFORMATION

LONG-TERM AUSTRALIA AWARDS

- **Australia Awards Scholarships** are offered on a bilateral basis, in line with priority sectors identified by each country program. Australia Awards Scholarships have been funded by DFAT (and the former AusAID) for over 70 years. They are for long-term vocational, undergraduate, Masters or PhD level study at Australian institutions. Each bilateral program identifies priority areas of study for scholarships to support development objectives.
- **Australia Awards Pacific Scholarships** have been offered by DFAT for over 20 years. They provide opportunities for citizens of Pacific countries to study at selected educational institutions in the Pacific and are awarded on merit and other selection and eligibility criteria.

SHORT-TERM AUSTRALIA AWARDS

Australia Awards Short Courses are targeted programs of intensive training provided for selected cohorts of awardees. Best used to address specific technical or soft skills gaps, they are formal study or training opportunities, generally less than three months in duration. They are delivered by an approved Australian higher education provider or an Australian Registered Training Organisation either in Australia or in partner countries. They are currently offered in Indonesia, Philippines, Vietnam, Papua New Guinea, and selected countries from South and West Asia, and Africa.

DATA AND INFORMATION SOURCES

- AidWorks for budget actuals and estimates
- Long-term Awards – Online Australia Awards Scholarships Information System (OASIS) and Suva Post (for Pacific Scholarships only).
- Short-term Awards – Smarty Grants database, Microsoft Access database, short course spreadsheet.
- Australia Awards Office Excel worksheet with core dataset for graphs/tables as of December 2021.
- Australia Awards 2011 & 2012 Annual Progress Reports – Australia Awards website