



# Maldives

## Applying for an Australia Awards Scholarship

### Australia Awards Scholarships in the Maldives

Australia's international development assistance in the Maldives aims to contribute to long term development needs. It aims to promote growth and stability and strengthen human resource capacity in areas that have been mutually agreed by the Government of Australia and the Government of the Maldives.

Australia Awards are prestigious international scholarships 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 will be assessed for their professional and personal qualities, academic competence and, most importantly, their potential to contribute to development in the Maldives in the priority areas listed below.

Applications are strongly encouraged from eligible women and people with disability.

### Priority areas and fields of study

The four priority development areas for 2017 are:

- Economic Development
- Education
- Environmental Management
- Good Governance

Details about eligible fields of study at the Master's level in line with these four priority development areas can be found on the Australia Awards Maldives website:

[www.australiaawardsmaldives.org](http://www.australiaawardsmaldives.org)

### Level of study

### Australia Awards Scholarships

Australia Awards provide citizens of the Maldives with the opportunity to obtain a Master's qualification at an Australian tertiary institution.

Australia Awards enable recipients to develop improved professional and technical knowledge and

build links with individuals and institutions within the region and Australia.

Applicants must research two preferred courses, including information provided on institution websites, and ensure that they satisfy ALL admission requirements for their preferred courses, including the English language requirements.

### Australia Awards Benefits

Australia Awards 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 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 and
- fieldwork allowance—for research students and masters by course work which has a compulsory fieldwork component.

### Eligibility criteria

Australia Awards applicants must meet all eligibility requirements detailed in the Australia Awards Scholarships Policy Handbook, available at:

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

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

- not have held a foreign scholarship in the 24 months preceding the application closing date

- not have obtained an academic qualification outside the Maldives in the 24 months preceding the application closing date, calculated from the date of arrival back in the home country
- have a tertiary qualification at least equivalent to an Australian Bachelor degree
- select a Master's course not longer than two years in duration
- have worked in the Maldives for at least 24 months preceding the application closing date and after completing their Bachelor's degree.

**Applicants must consider course selections carefully before applying.**

### Special conditions

Applicants must also meet the following country specific conditions:

- Applicants return to the Maldives for at least two years after completing their scholarship, to contribute to 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.

### Application dates

**(for study commencing in Australia in 2017)**

Opening date: 1 February 2016

Closing date: 30 April 2016

Applications or supporting documents received after this date will not be considered.

### The application process

#### Online applications

**Apply online at:** <https://oasis.dfat.gov.au/>

We strongly advise applicants to commence their online application well before the closing date. The online application facility (OASIS) experiences peak usage in the days leading up to the closing date and applicants may experience delays. Hard copy applications are not accepted.

#### Supporting documents

Applicants must submit with their application all of the relevant supporting documents listed in the Australia Awards Scholarships Policy Handbook available at:

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

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

Documents requiring certification are specified in the table below. If the document is not in English, the translated copy must be certified. See the Australia Awards Scholarships Policy Handbook for certification requirements.

Required Document	OASIS Document type	Certified
Birth certificate / Passport / National ID	Proof of citizenship	✓
Tertiary diploma / degree certificates	Degree Certificate	✓
Academic grades	Academic Transcript	✓
IELTS/TOEFL/PTE test results certificate (valid at 1 January 2017)	Proof of English language proficiency	✓
Certificate of special achievements or merit - if applicable	Other Document	✓
Employment Letter (stating employment duration) -- if applicable	Other Document	✗
Curriculum Vitae (CV)	Other Document	✗
Development Impact (DIP) document	Other Document	✗
Masters coursework applicants: one academic referee report and one other referee report (e.g. a work supervisor) (with referee's seal)*  If employed, the second referee report MUST be from the immediate supervisor / employer.	*Referee Report	✗
Masters research applicants: two academic referee reports and one other referee report (e.g. a work supervisor) (with referee's seal)*  If employed, the second referee report MUST be from the immediate supervisor / employer.	*Referee Report	✗
Masters research applicants: a research proposal. This proposal must include a proposed methodology, timeline and a brief literature review	Other Document	✗

\* Template available at:

<http://dfat.gov.au/people-to-people/australia-awards/Pages/how-to-apply-for-an-australia-awards-scholarship.aspx>

Notes:

- Referee reports other than the prescribed format will not be accepted and may make applications ineligible. Contact Australia Awards in the Maldives to clarify reference requirements.

- Research applicants shortlisted for a selection interview must submit a well-developed research proposal by the date of the interview.
- Experience shows that it takes time for supervisors to complete referee reports. Please approach supervisors as soon as possible to obtain up-to-date referee reports. References should come from employers, senior colleagues or academics familiar with the applicant's academic, professional skills and achievements. Referee reports from family members or spouses are not acceptable.

## Contact Details

**Mobile:** 7977465  
**Email:** [inquiries@australiaawardsmaldives.org](mailto:inquiries@australiaawardsmaldives.org)  
**Website:** [www.australiaawardsmaldives.org](http://www.australiaawardsmaldives.org)

### The selection process

Following eligibility checking, applications will be assessed and ranked by independent consultants and then short-listed by Australian Government representatives. Only short-listed candidates are contacted for interview. The selection process will also include an interview and a written exercise using a computer. Applicants will be assessed against the following criteria:

- Academic competence.
- Potential outcome, including contribution to development outcomes in the Maldives.
- Professional and personal leadership attributes.

### Preparatory training

All successful applicants will be required to attend a visa mobilisation session and a pre-departure briefing and farewell event.

### Outcomes

All applicants will receive notification as to whether they have been successful by the end of September 2016.

## Further information

Further information about the Australia Awards can be found at:

<http://dfat.gov.au/people-to-people/australia-awards/Pages/australia-awards.aspx>

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

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

More general information about the Australia Awards and studying in Australia can be found at:

<http://australiaawards.gov.au/Pages/default.aspx>

<http://dfat.gov.au>

<http://studyinaustralia.gov.au>