



Nepal

Applying for an Australia Awards Scholarship

Australia Awards Scholarships in Nepal

Australia's international development assistance in Nepal aims to alleviate poverty and support human development with a focus on education, governance and micro-entrepreneurship development. Most of Australia's assistance to Nepal is delivered through the Government of Nepal and in partnership with other donors and multilateral organisations.

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 will be assessed based on their professional and personal qualities, academic competence and, most importantly, their potential to impact on development challenges in Nepal.

Applications are strongly encouraged from eligible women, people with disability and people from traditionally marginalised groups and remote regions of Nepal. At least 50 percent of the awards will be given to qualified women applicants.

Priority Areas of study

The priority areas of study for Nepal for 2018 Intake are:

Education
Health
Livelihoods and Economic Development
Governance (for Government of Nepal applicants only)
Gender, Inclusion and Disability
Water Resource Management

Applicants must research two preferred courses, including information provided on institution websites, and ensure that they meet the institution's English language and other course related requirements. Detail information is available at: www.australiaawardsnepal.org

Level of study

Australia Awards Scholarships

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

Australia Awards Scholarships 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 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.
- 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 including English Language. All applicants require an IELTS (Academic) score average of 6.5 or above (with no individual band less than 6.0) or a paper-based TOEFL overall score of at least 580, with a minimum of 4.5 in the test of written English, or an internet-based TOEFL score of at least 92, with a minimum of 21 in all subtests, or PTE Academic overall score of 58 with no communicative skill score less than 50. Details of eligibility criteria can be found in the Australia Awards Scholarships Policy Handbook, available at:

<http://dfat.gov.au/Publications/Pages/scholar-handbook.aspx>

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

English language

- Women, people with disability, members of traditionally marginalised groups and nominated public servants will be considered for eligibility with an IELTS (Academic) overall score of 6 or above (with no individual band less than 5.0) or an equivalent TOEFL paper-based/internet based or PTE test score. However, if offered an Australia Awards Scholarship, these applicants must meet the English language requirements of their course.
- English language support funded by the Australian Government *may* be available to a few selected eligible women, members of traditionally marginalised groups, nominated public servants and people with a disability who do not have an overall IELTS test score of 6.5 and individual band scores of at least 6.0 at the time of recommendation for an Award.

Qualifications/Work Experience

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

Special conditions

Applicants must also meet the following country-specific conditions:

- Applicants from the public sector, who are nominated by the Government of Nepal, must submit their nominations to the Australian Embassy in Kathmandu through the Nepalese Ministry of Finance.
- Applicants wishing to study for a Masters by Research degree must identify a supervisor.
- Scholarship recipients are required to return to Nepal for at least two years after completing their studies.
- Awards for 2018 must be taken in Semester 1 of 2018; the Awards cannot be deferred to the following semesters.
- Scholarships recipients must meet the specific requirements of academic institutions in each proposed course (including English language proficiency, grade point average, and academic experience or statistics).

Supporting documents

Applicants must submit all of the relevant supporting documents listed in the Scholarships Policy Handbook with their application.

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

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

Required Document	OASIS Document Type	Certified
Passport and citizenship certificate	Proof of citizenship	Yes
Degree certificates including School Leaving Certificate (SLC) or equivalent	Degree certificate	Yes
Academic transcripts specifying divisions/ grades from SLC onwards	Academic transcript	Yes
IELTS, TOEFL or PTE certificate (valid at 1 January 2018)	Proof of English language proficiency	Yes
Certificates of special achievement or merit	Other document	No
Three referee reports* (two academic and one professional)	Referee report	No
Development Impact Plan*	Other document	No
Curriculum Vitae*	Other document	No
Employment Letter (if employed)	Other document	No
Nomination letter from the Ministry of Finance for nominated public servants (applying from the public sector)	Other document	No
Police or security clearance certificate (if offered an Award)	Other document	No
Research proposal and evidence of communication with potential supervisor providing in-principle support for research proposal (for applicants selecting Masters by research courses only)	Other document	No

* Referee reports, Development Impact Plan and CVs must be submitted in the format provided.

Notes:

- All applications, including supporting documents must be submitted online by the closing date. Late applications will not be assessed.
- Experience shows that it takes time for supervisors to complete referee reports. Approach supervisors as soon as possible to obtain up-to-date referee reports.
- Research applicants short-listed for a selection interview must submit a well-developed research proposal by the date of the interview.
- All templates are available at: www.australiaawardsnepal.org.

Application dates (for study commencing in Australia in 2018)

Opening date: 1 February 2017

Closing date: 30 April 2017

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>

All applications must be submitted online well before the closing date through Online Australia Awards Scholarships Information System (OASIS). The online application facility (OASIS) experiences peak usage in the days leading up to the closing date and applicants may experience delays.

The selection process

Following eligibility checking, applications will be assessed by independent consultants and then short-listed by Australian Government Representatives. The selection process will 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 Nepal.
- Professional and personal leadership attributes.

Applications will be assessed independently for academic qualifications, work-experience, English language proficiency, commitment to development and social inclusion.

Only short-listed candidates will be contacted for interview.

Preparatory training

All successful applicants will be required to attend a visa and mobilisation information session and a pre-departure briefing/farewell event before they leave for Australia.

Outcomes

All applicants will receive notification as to whether they have been successful by the end of September 2017.

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 Scholarships Policy Handbook, available at:

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

Other useful websites:

<http://www.australiaawards.gov.au>

<http://www.dfat.gov.au>

<http://studyinaustralia.gov.au>

<https://oasis.dfat.gov.au>

<http://cricos.education.gov.au>

<https://www.border.gov.au>

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