



Australia Awards

# Nepal

## Applying for an Australia Awards scholarship

### Australia Awards scholarships in Nepal

Australia's international development assistance in Nepal promotes a peaceful, stable and prosperous future for Australia and in the region.

The Australia Awards program aims to support partner countries in achieving their development goals through education, knowledge exchange, and building enduring relationships with Australia. It equips emerging leaders with the skills, networks, and experience needed to contribute to sustainable development and foster international cooperation.

Applicants are assessed on their professional and personal qualities, academic competence and, most importantly, their potential to exercise leadership and impact on development challenges in eligible countries.

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

### Priority fields of study

The priority areas of study for eligible Nepal are:

- Climate Change
- Disaster Risk Reduction
- Economic Development
- Education
- Gender Equality, Disability and Social Inclusion
- Governance
- Mental Health and Rehabilitation Therapies
- 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 [Australia Awards Nepal](#).

### 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 2027 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 master's 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:
  - four-year bachelor's degree and at least three years of relevant full-time work experience after the bachelor's degree
  - three-year bachelor's degree plus at least a one-year master's degree and a minimum of three years of relevant full-time work experience after the bachelor's degree
  - two-year bachelor's degree plus at least a two-year master's degree and a minimum of three years of relevant full-time work experience 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 2027. If an institution requires an extended test validity timeframe, applicants must meet the institution's requirements:
  - International English Language Testing System (IELTS) academic score of 6.5 or higher with all band scores 6.0 or higher
  - Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) internet-based score of 84 or higher with all subtest scores 21 or higher
  - Pearson Test of English (PTE) academic score of 58 or higher with all communicative skill scores 50 or higher.

Women, people with disability, members of traditionally marginalised groups and public servants can be considered eligible with one of the following:

- IELTS academic score of 6.0 or higher with all band scores 5.5 or higher
- TOEFL internet-based score equivalent
- PTE academic score equivalent.

If offered an Australia Awards scholarship, these applicants must meet the English language requirements of their chosen university and degree before starting study.

## Application dates

For study commencing in Australia in 2027:

Opening date: 1 February 2026 (09:00 AEDT)

Closing date: 30 April 2026 (14:00 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](#).

- Applicants must use their full name exactly as it appears on their passport, including first, middle, and last names.
- Applicants must not use nicknames, shortened versions, or abbreviations of their names.

### 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 <b>original or provisional degree</b> certificates issued by examination boards including School Leaving Certificate (SLC) / Secondary Education Examination (SEE) or equivalent and above (not character or migration certificates).	Degree certificate	Yes
Academic transcripts specifying divisions / grades from SLC / SEE or equivalent onwards.	Academic transcript	Yes
IELTS, TOEFL or PTE certificate (validity as detailed above).	Proof of English language proficiency	Yes
<i>Master's by coursework applicants only:</i> two referee reports (one academic and one professional) <b>(in specified format)</b> . <i>Master's by research applicants only:</i> three referee reports (two academic and one professional) <b>(in specified format)</b> .	Referee reports	No
Development Impact and Linkages Plan <b>(in specified format)</b>	Other document	No
Curriculum Vitae* <b>(in specified format)</b> .	Other document	No
Employment letter (if currently employed) and all past employment experience letters.	Other document	No
<i>Master's 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 that do not comply with the specified format or that use a format from a previous year will not be accepted and will result in applicant ineligibility.

\*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 regarding the outcome of the shortlisting process.
- 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 2026, 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, as determined by the federal Department of Home Affairs and Department of Education and by the relevant Australian State or Territory governments.

### **Preparatory training**

Successful applicants will be required to attend:

- 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**

Australia Awards – Nepal

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