



Bangladesh

Applying for an Australia Awards Scholarship

Australia Awards Scholarships in Bangladesh

Australia’s international development assistance in Bangladesh helps promote prosperity, reduce poverty, and enhance socio-economic stability.

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 necessary skills and knowledge to drive change and to 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 development challenges in Bangladesh.

Applications are strongly encouraged from eligible women, persons with disability and ethnic minorities. At least 50 per cent of the scholarships will be targeted at suitability qualified female applicants.

Target groups

For study commencing in 2020, only the following groups are eligible to apply:

Group 1: Government of Bangladesh officials, limited to Bangladesh cadre officials, officers of the Bangladesh Bank, and Judicial Services officials

Group 2: Workers from development organisations, specifically non-government organisations, civil society organisations, community-based organisations, and international development agencies (e.g. United Nations agencies)

Group 3: Entrepreneurs or employees of private sector organisations

Group 4: Individuals from academia, research institutions (e.g. icddr,b, IEDCR), media, and cultural organisations (e.g. historical museums).

Priority fields of study

Applicants must propose to study at least of the following priority areas to be eligible for a scholarship:

Priority Areas	Specific Fields of Study
Blue economy	Aquaculture Fisheries Marine Studies
Development, Environment/ Sustainability, Governance	Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction Education Emergency and Disaster Management Public Health Water Resources Management
Industry, Innovation, Infrastructure	Entrepreneurship Indigenous Business Management Tourism Transport Management
Public Policy-related	Public Administration Public Finance Power, Energy & Mineral Resources
Science and Engineering	Engineering Technology Management
Security Studies	Cyber Security Counter-Terrorism Police Studies
Sports and Arts (limited to fashion, film, screen, and music)	Fashion Design / Textile Engineering Film, Multimedia Arts Sports
Trade	International Trade and Development

The governments of Australia and Bangladesh jointly and regularly review these areas of study and adjust the emphasis of the program if necessary. Detailed information on priority areas of study can be found at: www.australiaawardsbangladesh.org

Applicants must research courses in *two* participating institutions, including information provided on institution websites, and ensure that they meet the institution's English language and other admission/entry requirements.

In completing their applications, applicants should not simply repeat the university website marketing materials. Justification for course selection must demonstrate direct links with applicant Development Impact Plans, work experience and proposed outcomes of the master's degree study.

Level of study

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

For study commencing in 2020, Scholarships are only available for Master's degrees.

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 applicants must meet all eligibility requirements detailed in the *Australia Awards Scholarships Policy Handbook*, available at: dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Pages/australia-awards-scholarships-policy-handbook.aspx

Country-specific conditions

In addition to these eligibility requirements, candidates from Bangladesh must also meet the following conditions:

- be a citizen of Bangladesh and be residing in and applying for the scholarship from Bangladesh
- have at least four years' full-time relevant work experience
- be able to satisfy admission requirements of the Australian institution where the Award will be undertaken
- be able to satisfy all requirements of the Department of Home Affairs to hold a Foreign Affairs or Defence Sector (subclass 500) student visa

- have an IELTS (Academic) overall score of at least 6.5 with no band less than 6.0 (or TOEFL paper-based test score of at least 580, or computer-based score of at least 237 or an internet-based score of at least 92) (or equivalent PTE score). Scores must be valid at 1 February 2020 and **must** be submitted with the application.
- women, people with disability and those from ethnic minorities are permitted to submit an overall IELTS score of at least 6.0 with no band less than 5.5 (or equivalent TOEFL or PTE score). However, they must meet the English language admission requirement at an Australian institution if awarded. Assistance will be provided to applicants from the above groups if they need to retake an English test.
- have completed a tertiary level qualification at least equivalent to an Australian Bachelor degree
- **not** be married to, engaged to, or a de facto of a person who holds, or is eligible to hold, Australian or New Zealand citizenship or permanent residency, at any time during the application, selection or mobilisation phases
- **not** be currently serving as military personnel
- **not** be a citizen of Australia, hold permanent residency in Australia or be applying for a visa to live in Australia permanently
- **not** be applying for another long-term Australia Award unless they have resided outside of Australia for twice the length of the total time that they were in Australia.

Please note that Bachelor degrees obtained from private universities in Bangladesh are **generally not considered** equivalent to an Australian Bachelor's degree. Applicants should check with their proposed Australian institution whether their Bangladesh qualification is considered equivalent to an Australian Bachelor degree.

Scholarships **will not** be available for courses of study in Australia where the applicant has already achieved that qualification and the qualification is deemed to be equivalent to the Australian qualification.

The Program will request *recognition of prior learning* for all Scholarship recipients from Bangladesh. If this request is granted, the recipient may be placed in a degree program that may be shorter in duration than what they have originally applied for.

Special conditions

Applicants must also submit a **Development Impact Plan** as part of their application.

Application dates

For study commencing in Australia in 2020

Opening date: 1 February 2019

Closing date: 30 April 2019 (11.59pm 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
<https://oasis.dfat.gov.au/>

Supporting documents

Applicants must submit all of the relevant supporting documents listed in the *Australia Awards Scholarships Policy Handbook*.

Failure to provide supporting documents, in English or translated where appropriate; or to have these notarised as detailed below, will result in the automatic ineligibility of the application.

Applicants must also provide the following documents to meet the specific requirements for Bangladesh:

Required document	OASIS document type	Notarised
Passport	Proof of citizenship	Yes
Tertiary degree certificates (bachelor's and master's level)	Degree certificate	Yes
Academic grades (bachelor's and master's level)	Academic transcript	Yes
IELTS, TOEFL or PTE results (valid at 1 February 2020)	Proof of English language proficiency	Yes
Certificate of special achievement or merit	Other document	Yes
Academic referee reports (with seal: two reports for masters by research applicants, and one report for masters by coursework applicants) Template available at: http://dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Documents/referee.pdf MS Word: http://dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Documents/referee.docx	Referee report	No
Employment referee report (same template as academic)	Referee report	No
Proof of cadre service (for applicants from the Government of Bangladesh)	Other document	No
Curriculum Vitae (use prescribed template)	Other document	No

Required document	OASIS document type	Notarised
Government of Bangladesh officials also NEED to indicate any work experience with the private sector or NGOs, if applicable		
Research proposal (for masters by research applicants, use prescribed template)	Other document	No
Agreement of proposed research supervisor (master's by research applicants)	Other document	No
Development Impact Plan (use prescribed template)	Other document	No

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 Bangladesh as outlined in the required Development Impact Plan
 - professional and personal leadership attributes including relevant work experience.
- Successful candidates will be notified no later than **31 August 2019**.

Preparatory training

Successful applicants will be required to attend:

- course counselling and visa application briefing
- pre-departure briefing
- university's Introductory Academic Program
- other required preparatory study in Bangladesh or on arrival in Australia.

Further information

Information about the Australia Awards — Bangladesh can be found at

<https://www.australiaawardsbangladesh.org>

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

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

Contact details

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