Australia Awards Scholarships in Nepal

Australia’s international development assistance in Nepal helps promote prosperity, reduce poverty, and enhance political 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 the skills and knowledge to drive change and help 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 on development challenges in Nepal.

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

Priority fields of study

The priority areas of study for Nepal are:

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

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

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 2020 within the following allocations:

- Masters (by coursework or research)

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


Country-specific conditions

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

- All applicants require an IELTS (Academic) score average of 6.5 or above (with no individual band less than 6.0) or an equivalent TOEFL paper-based/internet based or PTE score. Scores must be valid at 1 January 2020.
- 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

Qualifications/Work Experience

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

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 Ministry of Finance.
- Applicants wishing to study for a Masters by Research degree must identify a potential supervisor.
- Scholarship recipients are required to return to Nepal for at least two years after completing their studies.
- Awards for 2020 must be taken in Semester 1 of 2020; the Awards cannot be deferred to the following semesters.

The 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 degree program that may be shorter in duration than what they have originally applied for.

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 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 Nepal
  - professional and personal leadership attributes including relevant work experience.
- Successful candidates will be notified by the end of August 2019.

**Preparatory training**

Successful applicants will be required to attend:

- course counselling
- pre-departure briefing
- university’s Introductory Academic Program
- other required preparatory study on arrival in Australia.

**Further information**

Information about the Australia Awards — Nepal can be found at [www.australiaawardsnepal.org](http://www.australiaawardsnepal.org)

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

- [studyinaustralia.gov.au](http://studyinaustralia.gov.au)


**Contact details**

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