



# Nepal

## Applying for an Australia Awards Scholarship commencing in 2019

### Australia Awards Scholarships in Nepal

Australia's international development assistance in Nepal helps promote prosperity, reduce poverty, and enhance political stability.

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 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 2019 within the following allocations:

- Masters by coursework
- Masters by 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

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](http://dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Pages/australia-awards-scholarships-policy-handbook.aspx)

### Country-specific conditions

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

### English language

- 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 2019.

- 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 potential supervisor.
- Scholarship recipients are required to return to Nepal for at least two years after completing their studies.
- Awards for 2019 must be taken in Semester 1 of 2019; 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).

### Application dates

For study commencing in Australia in 2019.

**Opening date:** 1 February 2018

**Closing date:** 30 April 2018

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

### Supporting documents

Applicants must submit all of 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 documents   | 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 2019)  | Proof of English language proficiency | Yes       |
| 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        |
| 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        |

### 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 2018.

### **Preparatory training**

Successful applicants will be required to attend:

- visa and mobilisation information seminar
- pre-departure briefing
- university's Introductory Academic Program
- other required preparatory study on arrival in Australia.

## **Further information**

Further information about the Australia Awards—Nepal can be found at:

**<https://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:

**<http://www.dfat.gov.au/people-to-people/australia-awards/pages/australia-awards-scholarships>**

**<http://studyinaustralia.gov.au>**

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>**

## **Contact Details**

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