



Australia Awards

Maldives

Applying for an Australia Awards Scholarship

Australia Awards Scholarships in Maldives

Australia's international development assistance in Maldives 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 Maldives.

Applications are strongly encouraged from women and people with disability.

Priority fields of study

Applicants may select an appropriate field of study in line with the following development sectors:

- Economic Development
- Education
- Environmental Management
- Good Governance
- Gender Equality
- Social Inclusion

The governments of Australia and Maldives regularly review priority areas together and adjust the emphasis of the program. Detailed information on priority areas of study can be found at:

www.australiaawardsmaldives.org

Level of study

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

Awards will be offered for commencement in 2021 within the following allocations:

- Master's level qualification (by coursework or research)

Applicants must research two courses in 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 provide sound justification for course selection and demonstrate direct links with their Development Impact Plans, work experience and proposed outcome of study.

Australia Awards Benefits

Australia Awards 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 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.

English language proficiency

Applicants must have achieved an IELTS (Academic) score of 6.5 or higher (with no individual band score of less than 6.0) or an equivalent TOEFL or PTE score. Scores must be valid at 1 January 2021.

Commencement of study

All scholarships must be taken up in the year for which they are awarded. Should an awardee not be able to commence their study by November in the year of the award, the scholarship will be cancelled.

Country Specific Conditions

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

- **not** have held a foreign scholarship in the 24 months preceding the application closing date.
- **not** have obtained an academic qualification outside the Maldives in the 24 months preceding the application closing date, calculated from the date of arrival back in the home country
- have a tertiary qualification at least equivalent to an Australian Bachelor degree
- select a Master's course not longer than two years in duration
- have worked in the Maldives for at least 24 months preceding the application closing date and after completing their Bachelor's degree.
- Public sector employees selected for an Australia Awards scholarship will be required to provide a copy of their official leave approval document to the Australia Awards office prior to departure.
- Awardees are required to return to the Maldives for at least two years after completing their Scholarship, to contribute to the economic and social development of the country. Failure to do so will incur a debt to the Commonwealth of Australia for the total value of the Scholarship.
- English proficiency scores must be valid at 1 January 2021 and should be submitted no later than 31 May 2020.

Generally, 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 Maldives. 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 2021:

Opening date: 1 February 2020

Closing date: 30 April 2020

Applications and/or supporting documents received after this 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 provide the following documents to meet specific requirements for the Maldives:

Required document	OASIS document type	Certified
Tertiary degree certificates	Degree Certificate	Yes
Academic grades for university qualifications	Academic Transcript	Yes
Passport/National ID/Driving licence	Proof of citizenship	Yes
Birth certificate	Proof of place of birth	Yes
Curriculum Vitae (CV)*	Other Document	No
Development Impact Plan (DIP) document	Other Document	No
Certificates of special achievement or merit	Other Document	No
English language test (IELTS, TOEFL or PTE) results certificate valid at 1 January 2021	Proof of English language proficiency	Yes
Masters coursework applicants: One academic referee report and one professional referee report (e.g. a work supervisor with referee's seal) *	Referee Report	No
Masters research applicants: two academic referee reports and one professional referee report (e.g. a work supervisor with referee's seal) *	Referee Report	No
Masters research applicants: a research proposal. This proposal must include a proposed	Other Document	No

methodology, timeline and a brief literature review		
Employment Letter*	Other Document	No
Any other document you wish to upload ensuring your eligibility	Other Document	No

*Template available at:
<https://australiaawardsmaldives.org/>

Notes:

- All documents must be certified. If the document is not in English, the translated copy must be certified. See the Australia Awards Scholarships Policy Handbook for certification requirements.
- Referee reports in different formats cannot be accepted and may make applications ineligible. Contact the Australia Awards Sri Lanka & Maldives office to clarify reference requirements.

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, including contribution to development outcomes in the Maldives
 - professional and personal leadership attributes.
- Successful candidates will be notified no later than 31 August 2020

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

Further information

Information about the Australia Awards—Maldives can be found at www.australiaawardsmaldives.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

Australia Awards - Sri Lanka & Maldives Office
 Address: 75 1/1, Kynsey Road, Colombo 08, Sri Lanka
 Telephone: +94 115 772 977 – 80
 Email: inquiries@australiaawardsmaldives.org