



India

Applying for an Australia Awards Scholarship

Australia Awards Scholarships in India

India and Australia share a commitment to a stable and prosperous Indo-Pacific region. With enduring cultural and people-to-people ties and a strategic and economic relationship which continues to deepen, India is at the front rank of Australia's international partnerships. Education, the flagship sector of Australia's *India Economic Strategy to 2035: Navigating from Potential to Delivery*, is key to this partnership and to stepping up Australia's economic engagement with India. To help build links with the next generation of talented Indian business and community leaders, the Australian Government has now introduced Australia Awards Scholarships in India. From the 2020 academic year, Masters-level scholarships will be offered to exceptional Indian graduate students from high-performing institutions to study at one of Australia's world-class universities.

Australia Awards are prestigious international scholarships offered by the Australian Government. Through coursework and a program of on-award activities designed to develop leadership potential, recipients develop the skills and knowledge to drive change in their chosen field and help build enduring links with Australia.

Applicants must be nominated by their institution to be considered for these scholarships. Institutions may nominate up to four candidates. Applicants will be assessed on their academic excellence, leadership potential and how they intend to use the scholarship in their future plans.

Nominations are strongly encouraged for women, people with disability and other traditionally marginalised groups.

Nominated candidates must identify two preferred courses on their application form and ensure they meet the institution's English language and course requirements.

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 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 the scholarship
- supplementary academic support
- a program of on-award enrichment activities designed to develop leadership potential
- reunion airfare (for unaccompanied scholars whose scholarship period is two years or more).

Detailed entitlements are contained in the Scholarships Policy Handbook.

Eligibility criteria

Students from target institutions in the ten Indian states identified by the India Economic Strategy will be eligible to be nominated. For scholarships commencing in 2020, these institutions are:

- Andhra University
- Banaras Hindu University
- Indian Institute of Science (Bengaluru)
- Indian Institute of Technology Bombay
- Indian Institute of Technology Delhi
- Indian Institute of Technology Gandhinagar
- Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad
- Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur
- Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur
- Indian Institute of Technology Madras
- Manipal Academy of Higher Education
- Savitribai Phule Pune University
- Thapar Institute of Engineering and Technology
- University of Delhi
- University of Hyderabad

Australia Awards applicants must meet all eligibility requirements detailed in the Scholarships Policy Handbook, available at:

<https://dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Documents/aus-awards-scholarships-policy-handbook.pdf>

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

- be nominated by their institution
- be a recent graduate (2018 or later) of one of the target institutions, or be about to graduate
- hold, or be in the final year of, a tertiary-level qualification at least equivalent to an Australian Bachelors degree
- have a relevant academic background in the proposed study program
- meet admission and other specific requirements of universities in Australia. Applicants must comply with entry requirements for the universities and courses they are seeking admission to, including English proficiency requirements.

Applicants shortlisted for interview must:

- achieve a minimum academic IELTS overall score of 6.5 with no individual band below 6.0 or the equivalent TOEFL or PTE score.

Applicants shortlisted for interview who need to take an English Test will be reimbursed upon presentation of an official receipt from the respective test provider.

Applicants shortlisted for interview who are submitting existing English Test scores must ensure that their test results are valid until 1 January 2020.

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 special conditions:

- Scholars are required to return to India after completing their studies.
- Scholarships must commence in 2020. They cannot be deferred to a future year.
- On completion of their scholarship, recipients are expected to actively engage in relevant Australia Awards alumni networks and activities.

Key dates (for study commencing in 2020)

Applications open	February 2019
Deadline for nominated candidates to submit applications to the Australia Awards office	15 May 2019
Eligibility checking and shortlisting	May – June 2019

Interview list released	June 2019
Panel interviews (in New Delhi)	July 2019
Selection process results released	1 August 2019
Visa application and pre-departure preparations	August – November 2019
Mandatory Pre-Departure Briefing (in New Delhi)	November 2019
Departure for Australia	January 2020

The application process

Each institution can nominate up to four candidates. Application forms will be provided. Candidates must submit the nomination letter from the institution and the application materials (completed form, one-page personal statement and supporting documents) to the Australia Awards – Bhutan and India Office at inquiries@australiaawardsindia.org by 15 May 2019. Applications or supporting documents received after this date will not be considered.

Supporting documents

Applicants must submit all of the following supporting documents with their application—these include generic documents requested in the Scholarships Policy Handbook and specific documents required for applicants from India.

Documents requiring certification are specified in the table. If the document is not in English, the translated copy must be certified. See the Scholarships Policy Handbook for certification requirements.

Document type	Certified
Passport (ordinary and valid)	Yes
Identification documents (PAN Card/Voter Card/Aadhaar Card)	Yes
Birth certificate	Yes
Degree certificates (Bachelors and any Post Graduate level), or certified academic transcript if degree is yet to be conferred. Transcripts must show results for each semester as well as overall results, and must clearly show the GPA. Where transcripts are not in English, please provide an English translation	Yes

Document type	Certified
Certificates of special achievements or merit which are relevant to the proposed study program	Yes
Two academic referee reports* (with seal)	No
Nomination letter from the institution	No
Passport size photo	No

* Template for the referee report is available at:

<https://dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Documents/referee.pdf>

Referee reports in formats other than the prescribed template will not be accepted.

Other templates, including the application form, can be requested via email from

inquiries@australiaawardsindia.org

The selection process

Following eligibility checking, applications will be assessed and shortlisted by Australian Government representatives. Shortlisted applicants will be invited to an interview, which will include a writing exercise. Applicants will be assessed against the following criteria:

- academic excellence
- leadership qualities and potential
- ability to demonstrate how the scholarship will contribute to career goals.

Preparatory training

All successful applicants will be required to attend:

- course counselling
- visa and mobilisation briefing
- pre-departure briefing
- the host institution's Introductory Academic Program
- other required preparatory study on arrival in Australia
- on-award engagement activities

Outcomes

All applicants will receive notification as to whether they have been successful by 1 August 2019.

Further information

Further information about the India Economic Strategy can be found at:

<https://dfat.gov.au/geo/india/ies/index.html>

Information about visas and Australia Awards Scholarship entitlements and conditions can be found in the Scholarships Policy Handbook, available at:

<https://dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Pages/australia-awards-scholarships-policy-handbook.aspx>

General information about Australia Awards and studying in Australia can be found at:

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

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