



Bangladesh

Applying for an Australia Awards Scholarship

Australia Awards scholarships in Bangladesh

Australia's development assistance to 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.

In Bangladesh, Australia Awards focus on supporting Bangladesh to strengthen government systems, enhance policy-making in priority sectors, improve economic governance, and build trade and business capabilities.

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.

Priority fields of study

The priority areas of study for Bangladesh are:

Priority Areas	Fields of Study
Blue Economy	Fisheries & Aquaculture Marine Studies Seaports & Shipping
Development Environment Sustainability	Climate Change & Disaster Risk Reduction Environment Sustainability & Development Emergency & Humanitarian Response Management Water Resources Management Agriculture
Trade Industry	International Trade & Business Financial Planning & Management Tourism, Art & Culture

Priority Areas	Fields of Study
Public Policy Economics Governance	Public Policy & Administration Public Finance & Economics Governance Power, Energy & Mineral Resources Human Rights & International Relations
Infrastructure Science Engineering	Engineering & Technology Information Technology Transport & Infrastructure
Security Studies	Cyber Security Counter-Terrorism Police Studies & Intelligence

The governments of Australia and Bangladesh 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.australiaawardsbangladesh.org

Level of study

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

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

- 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,
- field work 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 study in 2021, the scholarship will be withdrawn.

Country-specific conditions

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

- Must be from one of the following target groups:
 - Group 1:** Cadre Officials from the Government of Bangladesh, officials of the Bangladesh Bank, and Judicial Services officials
 - Group 2:** Workers from development organisations, specifically non-government organisations, civil society organisations, community-based organisations
 - Group 3:** Entrepreneurs or employees of private sector organisations
 - Group 4:** Individuals from academia, research institutions, media and cultural organisations
- Have at least two (2) years' full-time relevant work experience (preference will be given to candidates who are applying for fields of study that builds on their work experience)
- Women, people with disability, members of traditionally marginalised groups and nominated public servants have achieved an IELTS (Academic) score of 6.0 (with no individual band score of less than 5.5) or an equivalent TOEFL or PTE score, valid at 1 January 2021, are eligible to apply. If selected, these awardees will have to retake the English language test to achieve the required score. Awardees who do not achieve IELTS 6.5 or equivalent by 15 November 2020 required will forfeit their scholarship

- Have completed a tertiary level qualification at least equivalent to an Australian Bachelor's degree

Please note that Bachelor's 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's 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.

- Applicants wishing to study for a Masters by Research degree must identify a potential supervisor and must show proof of correspondence with their university/ research supervisor

Australia Awards Scholarships 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.

Application dates

For study commencing in Australia in 2021:

Opening date: **1 February 2020**

Closing date: **30 April 2020 (11:59pm Canberra Time)**

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 provide the following documents to meet the specific requirements for Bangladesh:

Required document	OASIS document type	Certified
Passport	Proof of citizenship	Yes
Copy of Original 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 2021)	Proof of English language proficiency	Yes
Masters coursework applicants: two referee reports (one academic and one professional); Masters	Referee report	No

Required document	OASIS document type	Certified
by research applicants: three referee reports (two academic and one professional)		
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	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 Bangladesh
 - professional and personal leadership attributes including relevant work experience.
- Successful candidates will be notified no later than 30 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 in Australia.

Further information

Information about the Australia Awards — Bangladesh can be found at 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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