

Myanmar Applying for an Australia Awards scholarship

Australia Awards scholarships in Myanmar

Australia's international development assistance in Myanmar 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 in developing countries. 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 eligible countries.

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

Priority fields of study

The priority areas of study for Myanmar for commencement in 2026 are:

- Education (e.g. education policy, quality assurance and statistics, student learning assessment, education economics, technical and vocational education, and training (TVET) and curriculum studies)
- Public Health (e.g. epidemiology, public health, health security, health economics, disease control and biosecurity)
- Human Rights and Democratic Governance (e.g. rule of law, political science and transnational crime, countering trafficking, peace, and security)
- Gender Equality, Social Inclusion and Development (e.g. gender, disability, intersectionality, development, international human rights law, peace/conflict, humanitarian leadership, anthropology, and research)
- Environment and Natural Resources (e.g. natural resource management, water resources, climate change, disaster risk management, environment, conservation, food security and livelihoods support)
- Economic Development (e.g. economics, financial analysis, international business, trade policy, public policy, tax, energy engineering).

The Australian Government regularly reviews these areas of study and adjusts the emphasis of the program. Detailed information on priority areas of study can be found at: <u>Home - Australia Awards - Myanmar</u>.

Level of study

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

In Myanmar, Australia Award Scholarships are available for Master's level study only.



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: <u>Australia Awards Scholarships Policy Handbook</u>.

As per the Handbook, military personnel are not eligible to apply for Australia Awards.

Country-specific conditions

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

- be a Myanmar citizen residing in Myanmar at the time of application
- have completed a Bachelor's degree
- have at least four years of work experience. This may include internships, volunteering, part-time or full-time work
- applicants are required to declare all previous study/and or any current, incomplete study. Declarations must include all study regardless of whether it was undertaken in Myanmar or another country. Please note that preference may be given to applicants who do not already have a Master's degree
- don't already have Master's degree in the same field the applicant is applying for
- a valid passport or the ability to apply for, and receive, a passport should the applicant receive a scholarship offer
- satisfy all requirements of the Australian Department of Home Affairs to hold a Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) supported student visa. More information can be found on the Department of Home Affairs website: <u>Subclass 500 Student visa</u>
- be able to legally depart to study in Australia and return to Myanmar upon completion of study.

Applicants are required to provide all mandatory documents listed in the supporting documents section below. Where instructed, applicants must use the templates provided by Australia Awards Myanmar otherwise the application will be deemed ineligible.

Applicants require a valid passport to apply for a visa and to depart Myanmar. Applicants must assess their own situation and consider whether they are confident they could safely and legally depart and return to Myanmar. All offers are conditional pending the granting of a visa through the Australian Government Department of Home Affairs. Visa processing timeframes can range from weeks to months. Given the amount of time required to obtain a Myanmar passport, applicants may want to think about having a current valid passport ready to be able to apply for a student visa as soon as they are awarded a scholarship, if successful.

Applicants are encouraged to demonstrate how their chosen course of study builds on their work experience, and how their study will be applied on return to Myanmar. Any application which shows evidence of plagiarism (copying from other applicants) will be deemed ineligible. This constitutes fraud which is contrary to Australian values and will not be tolerated.

English language requirements

It is an Australia Awards Scholarship policy requirement that applicants must achieve 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 prior to mobilisation.

It is not a requirement of Australia Awards Myanmar for applicants to submit a valid IELTS score as part of their application. However, shortlisted applicants from Myanmar must submit a valid IELTS score of at least 6.0, with no sub-band less than 5.5 (or equivalent English language testing system) prior to interview. The test result must have been obtained after 1 January 2024. The Program will reimburse shortlisted applicants for the cost of the IELTS test if they must complete one prior to interview.

Australia Awards Myanmar will provide English language training to successful applicants with an IELTS score at interview of 6.0 with no sub-band less than 5.5 to help them achieve the IELTS score required for university admission.

If an applicant fails to achieve the required IELTS within the designated time, the applicant's Australia Awards Scholarship offer may be withdrawn.

Detailed eligibility requirements can be found in the Australia Awards Scholarships Policy Handbook.

Application dates

For study commencing in Australia in 2026:

Opening date: 1 February 2025 Closing date: 30 April 2025 (11:59PM AEST)

Applications and/or supporting documents received after the closing date will not be considered.

The application process

Online applications

All applications must be completed via the online application system OASIS

We strongly encourage applicants to apply online and complete their application as early as possible. Please note the online application facility (OASIS) experiences peak usage in the days leading up to the closing date and applicants may experience delays. An electronic copy of the application form can be accessed on the Australia Awards Myanmar website at <u>Home - Australia Awards - Myanmar</u>

Australia Awards Scholarships are administered by DFAT which has zero tolerance of fraudulent activity or behaviour. DFAT defines fraud as dishonestly obtaining a benefit, or causing a loss, by deception or other means. For example, providing false or misleading information or not providing relevant information could be considered as fraud. This may include failing to declare previous study undertaken, irrespective of whether it is complete, incomplete, or ongoing. Where fraud is detected, the application will be deemed ineligible, and the applicant may be barred from applying for an Australia Awards Scholarship in future rounds.

Supporting documents

Applicants must submit all the relevant supporting documents listed in the <u>Australia Awards Scholarships Policy Handbook</u> through OASIS.

Applicants must also provide the following documents to meet the specific requirements for Myanmar:

Required document	OASIS document type	Certified
National Registration Certificate (NRC) or passport. Passports are preferred and will be required by mobilisation.	Proof of citizenship	Yes
Tertiary degree certificates (Bachelor and Master's level if applicable). You must provide notarised copies if the documents are not in English.	Degree certificate	Yes
Academic transcripts (grades from previous study). You must provide notarised copies if the documents are not in English.	Academic transcript	Yes
IELTS, TOEFL, PTE Academic results. Evidence at the time of interview of a minimum English language proficiency level of:	Proof of English language proficiency	Yes

Required document	OASIS document type	Certified
 an IELTS Academic result with an overall score of at least 6.0, with no band less than 5.5, or 		
 an internet-based TOEFL score of at least 60, or 		
 PTE Academic overall score of 50. 		
The test result must have been obtained after 1 January 2024.		
Referee reports (with official stamp if available): one Academic referee report (if available). one Employment referee report (or two if no academic referee report is available).	Referee Report	No
You must use the template provided on the Australia Awards Myanmar website.		
Curriculum Vitae. You must use the template provided on the Australia Awards Myanmar website.	Other document	No
Development Impact Plan. You must use the template provided on the Australia Awards Myanmar website.	Other document	No
Research proposal and evidence of communication with potential supervisor providing in-principle support for research proposal (only for applicants selecting Master by research).	Other document	No

The selection process

- Applications will be shortlisted after eligibility checking.
- Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted and informed of the outcome of their application.
- The selection process includes an interview. Applicants will be assessed against the following criteria:
 - o academic competence
 - o potential outcome, specifically the contribution to development outcomes in Myanmar
 - o professional and personal leadership attributes including relevant work experience.
- Successful candidates will be notified in late 2025.
- Awardee travel will be subject to meeting the requirements imposed by the Australian Government, as determined by the Department of Home Affairs, Department of Education and by the relevant Australian State or Territory governments.

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 Myanmar can be found at Home - Australia Awards - Myanmar

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

- <u>Australia Awards Scholarships</u>
- <u>Study Australia</u>
- Myanmar Development Cooperation Factsheet

Information about visas and Australia Awards scholarship entitlements and conditions can be found in the <u>Australia</u> <u>Awards Scholarships Policy Handbook</u>

Contact details

Australia Awards Myanmar Email: <u>inquiries@australiaawardsmyanmar.org</u>



Mekong-Australia Partnership

Applying for an Australia Awards Scholarship

Australia Awards Scholarships are prestigious international awards offered by the Australian Government to the next generation of local, national and global leaders. Through study and research, recipients develop the skills and knowledge to drive change and help build enduring people-to-people links with Australia.

At the ASEAN-Australia Special Summit in March 2024, the Minister for Foreign Affairs announced a further five-year commitment to support the resilience and prosperity of the Mekong subregion through the **Mekong-Australia Partnership** (MAP). MAP aims to support a resilient and inclusive Mekong subregion that pursues joint solutions to shared and transboundary challenges.

From 2026, MAP will offer Scholarships for Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam, Laos and Myanmar at postgraduate (Masters) level to undertake coursework or research in MAP thematic areas. Recipients will have exclusive access to the Mekong-Leaders Network. The priority areas of study include:

MAP thematic areas	Priority areas of study	
Water Security	 Water resources and sustainable management Catchment science Integrated water management 	Hydrology/HydrogeologyAquacultureFisheries
Climate Action	 Climate/environmental adaptation and resilience Renewable energy Sustainable development Rural development Disaster management Forest and wildlife conservation 	 Natural resource management Infrastructure and transport Mineral resources Environmental management Sustainable agriculture and food stability Sustainable tourism Construction management
Transnational Crime	 International/criminal law Criminology Prosecution and Judicial system 	 Maritime security/sustainability Criminal Law Digital and Forensic Science
Economic Resilience and Subregional Integration	 Economics Economic governance Agricultural economics International trade Agribusiness Public financial management Food science and technology Logistics and supply chain management Regional stability Critical technology 	 Al and robotics Digital transformation Digital communication Information technology Multi-media communication Entrepreneurship and innovation Hospitality management Quality and standard management Construction and infrastructure management Public administration and policy

MAP thematic areas	Priority areas of study	
Gender Equality, Disability and Social Inclusion (GEDSI)	Gender studiesDisability policy and practicesDisability service	 Human rights, gender-based health care Social work Social policy and social protection

MAP on-award enrichment: the Mekong-Leaders Network

The MAP-funded scholarships offer exclusive access to an on-award enrichment program: the **Mekong-Leaders Network**. This dynamic program will include activities, events and development opportunities that foster enduring connections between MAP scholars across the Mekong subregion to cultivate a collaborative cohort and set the foundations for a strong future alumni network.

Level of study

MAP-funded scholarships provide an opportunity for citizens of Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam, Laos and Myanmar to obtain a Masters by research or Masters by coursework qualification at an Australian tertiary institution.

Award benefits

The MAP-funded scholarship benefits remain the same as the Australia Awards program with additional exclusive access to on-award enrichment, through the Mekong-Leaders Network.

The application process

The application process and online portal for MAP-funded scholarships will be the same as for the Australia Awards Scholarships. Applicants can apply for a MAP-funded scholarship if the choice of study or research falls within one of the key thematic areas outlined above. Applicants can also choose to apply for both an Australian Awards Scholarship and a MAP-funded scholarship in their respective countries.

Applicants interested to become a MAP scholar should highlight their eligibility for a MAP-funded scholarship in their written application.

Applicants are assessed on their professional and personal qualities, academic competence, relevance of study to the key thematic areas and their potential to contribute to joint solutions to current and emerging challenges in the Mekong subregion.

Applications are strongly encouraged from women and people living with disability.

Online applications:

Citizens from Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos and Myanmar should follow the same application procedure for the Australia Awards Scholarships for your country. For further information, please visit the Australia Awards website: www.dfat.gov.au/people-to-people/australia-awards/australia-awards-scholarships

Citizens from Thailand please visit the Thailand Australia Awards intake information website: www.dfat.gov.au/people-to-people/australia-awards/participating-countries/thailand-australia-awards-intake-information