Myanmar

Applying for an Australia Award Scholarship – 2020 Intake

Australia Award Scholarships in Myanmar

Australia's international development assistance in Myanmar aims to support Myanmar's process of political, social and economic reform. The priorities of the Australian aid program in Myanmar are outlined in the Aid Investment Plan (2015-2020). The objectives of the AIP are to: enhance human development by improving the quality of education; promote peace and stability; address the needs of conflict and disaster affected people; and promote inclusive economic growth and government management.

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.

In Myanmar, Australia Award Scholarships are available for Masters level study only.

Applicants are assessed on their professional and personal qualities, academic readiness and, most importantly, their potential to assume leadership roles upon their return to Myanmar and make significant impact on development challenges.

Applications are strongly encouraged from women, people with disability, people from ethnic minority groups and people who have not previously received a long-term international scholarship.

Priority fields of study

Priority areas of study for Myanmar are linked to the priorities of the Australian aid program and those of the Government of Myanmar. Specifically, this includes areas of study that focus on:

* *Enhancing Human Development*
* *Promoting Peace and Stability*
* *Supporting Inclusive Economic Growth and Government Management*
* *Promoting Gender Equality and Social Inclusion*

Selection of the 2020 intake will give preference to candidates that are pursuing studies in the following fields:

* **Education** (education policy, quality assurance and statistics, student learning assessment, education economics, curriculum studies, technical and vocational education and training (TVET))

* **Human resource development** (public administration, human resource management, organisational management, labour market economics, information management)

* **Trade and private sector development** (economics, international business, trade policy, public policy, tax, energy and mining)

* **Social inclusion** (gender and women's studies, disability studies, community and international development)

* **Regional stability and human rights** (international human rights law, international relations and diplomacy, peace and conflict studies)

* **Environment, agriculture and natural resources** (water resources management, water quality and supply systems, agribusiness management, agricultural economics, rural development, environmental science, sustainability, climate change and disaster risk management, conservation studies).

The governments of Australia and Myanmar regularly review these areas of study and adjust the emphasis of the program. Studies in other fields will be considered on the basis of merit.

Application dates

For study commencing in Australia in 2020:

Opening date: 1 February 2019
Closing date: 30 April 2019 (11:59pm AEST / 8:29pm Yangon time)

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

Australia Award Benefits

Australia Award 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 Award applicants must meet all eligibility requirements detailed in the *Australia Awards Scholarships Policy Handbook*,

The Policy Handbook is available at:

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

As per the Handbook, current serving military personnel are unable to apply for an Australia Award.

In addition to the eligibility requirements outlined in the Policy Handbook, applicants from Myanmar must meet the following conditions:

- be a Myanmar citizen currently residing in Myanmar
- be at least 25 years of age at 30 April 2019
- have at least two (2) years of work experience

(preference will be given to candidates whom are pursuing study that builds on work experience)

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

Australian universities require a high level of English language proficiency for admission. Successful applicants must obtain an IELTS or equivalent score of overall 6.5 (with no bands lower than 6.0) prior to mobilisation – and be available to commence study in 2020.

At the time of application an IELTS or TOEFL score is not required – however an IELTS or equivalent score of 6.5 (with no bands lower than 6.0) will need to be obtained by May 2020.

DFAT will offer support for English language training to successful applicants on a case by case basis through to May 2020. Those eligible to receive the support will be notified post-interview.

If successful applicants require an overall IELTS higher than 6.5 for admission they may also be eligible to receive support for English language training.

The offer of an Australia Award is conditional upon IELTS requirements being satisfied. If an applicant fails to achieve the required IELTS score by May 2020 the applicant's Australia Awards Scholarship offer will be withdrawn.

Application Process

Apply online at: https://oasis.dfat.gov.au

We strongly encourage applicants to apply online and complete their application as early as possible. The online application facility (OASIS) experiences peak usage in the days leading up to the closing date and applicants may experience delays.

Please see the back page for document requirements. Applicants must submit all of the relevant supporting documents with their application.

An electronic copy of the application form can be accessed on the Australian Embassy website

http://myanmar.embassy.gov.au/

Or by emailing **australiaawards.myanmar@dfat.gov.au**

Hard copy applications may be accepted in circumstances where an applicant faces significant difficulty applying electronically. Submit hard copy applications by 30 April 2019 during office hours (8am – 4pm) directly to:

Australian Embassy, 623 Pyay Road (Vantage Tower), Kamaryut, Yangon.

People living with a disability requiring support for the application process should contact the Scholarships team directly.

Please do not submit more than one application.

Selection Process

The Australia Award Scholarships are highly competitive. Applicants will be informed at each stage in the selection process if their application is proceeding to the next stage.

Applicants will be assessed throughout the selection process against the following criteria:

- academic readiness (can demonstrate an ability to undertake critical thinking and student-led learning)
- professional and personal leadership attributes including relevant work experience.
- realistic plans for return to Myanmar that articulate what contribution the applicant will make to development outcomes

Applications are first checked against the eligibility criteria. Following an eligibility check and assessment of written application, applicants may be shortlisted for interview.

Interviews will take place in July/August 2019 and successful applicants will be notified of their award by October 2019.

Preparatory training

- All successful applicants will be required to attend a mandatory pre-departure briefing.
- All Australia Award Scholarship students are required to attend an Introductory Academic Program on arrival in Australia. This is also mandatory

Outcomes

Please note that the offer of an Australia Award Scholarship is _provisional_ until the following requirements are met:

- applicant meets the minimum IELTS score of 6.5 with no sub-band less than 6.0 (or equivalent)
- applicant is admitted to an eligible course at an Australian university, and
- applicant is issued with the relevant visa by the Australian Department of Home Affairs.

Australia Global Alumni

When Australia Award Scholars return to Myanmar at the completion of their study, they have the opportunity to join the Alumni network to build professional networks and stay connected with friends.

The Australian Embassy in Myanmar supports professional development opportunities and hosts regular networking events for Alumni. Please visit **https://globalalumni.gov.au** to find out more.

Further information

Information about the Australia Awards in Myanmar and Australia's Aid Program in Myanmar:

- **http://myanmar.embassy.gov.au/**
- **http://myanmar.embassy.gov.au/rang/cooperation.html**
- **www.facebook.com/AustralianEmbassyMyanmar**

General information about the Australia Awards, Australia's aid program, and study in Australia:

- **www.australiaawards.gov.au**
- **www.dfat.gov.au**
- **www.studyinaustralia.gov.au**

Scholarships Policy Handbook:

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

Contact Details

Australian Embassy
623 Pyay Road (Vantage Tower)
Yangon, Myanmar

Telephone: 0 1 230 7410 (extension 116 or 233)

Email: **australiaawards.myanmar@dfat.gov.au**

Application Tips

➢ In Myanmar, Australia Awards Scholarships are for **Masters level study** only.

➢ At the time of application an IELTS or TOEFL score is not required – however an **IELTS score of 6.5** (or equivalent) will need to be obtained prior to mobilisation.

➢ Please **do not submit more than one application**. For instance, if you have submitted an electronic application on OASIS, do not submit a hard copy or email application.

➢ **Electronic applications through OASIS are preferred**, although applicants will not be penalised for email or hard copy applications. Please note that OASIS is best used with Internet Explorer browsers.

➢ The **CRICOS code** is a **7-digit code** specific to a Masters degree at a university. It is different from the 6-digit CRICOS provider code. If you are unsure, search for the course name and "CRICOS".

➢ **Please submit all the required documents** with your application. Details of these documents and their certification are below.

➢ Remember that **copying or plagiarism is not tolerated** and may result in ineligibility.

➢ When answering the application questions, **consider what the question is asking** and **be specific in your answers**. For example, if asked about your role in solving a challenge, try to outline your own contribution to the situation, the skills you used and how you helped to solve the challenge.

Supporting Documents Required	Need to be Certified?
Proof of citizenship i.e. birth certificate or National Registration Certificate (NRC) or passport.	Need to be certified
Tertiary degree certificates (Bachelors and Masters level)	Need to be certified
Academic transcripts (grades from previous study)	Need to be certified
IELTS, TOEFL, PTE Academic results (if available) *Note that these results are not necessary to submit application.*	Need to be certified
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) *Please use provided template (from the Embassy website and Facebook page).*	**No need** to be certified
Curriculum Vitae *Please use any CV format.*	**No need** to be certified

Applicants must submit with their application **all of the relevant supporting documents** listed in the Scholarships Policy Handbook. **Document certification can be completed by any public notary.**