



**AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSION
BANGLADESH**

17 February 2024

Mr Md Anwar Hossain
Wing Chief-Asia, JEC and F&F (Additional Secretary)
Economic Relations Division
Ministry of Finance
Block 16, Room 30, Sher-e-Banglanagar, Dhaka

Application for Australia Awards Scholarships Intake 2025

Dear Mr Anwar Hossain

I am pleased to inform you that as part of the Australian Government's ongoing commitment to skills development in Bangladesh, we are offering scholarships for master's level study in Australia, commencing in 2025, under the Australia Awards Scholarship program. The enclosed Bangladesh Country Profile sets out the priority fields of study, target groups, details of the application process and requirements for applicants from Bangladesh.

Applications must be submitted online through <https://oasis.dfat.gov.au/> between **1 February and 30 April 2024**.

I would appreciate the Economic Relations Division's assistance in sharing this information about Australia Awards, including the Country Profile, with all Bangladesh Civil Service officials at various ministries, divisions, departments and offices, at the central and field levels and encourage potential candidates to apply. Female officers, officers from Bangladesh's indigenous communities and persons with disabilities are strongly encouraged to apply.

Through the Australia Awards program, Australia is committed to further strengthening the ties between Australia and Bangladesh and supporting Bangladesh's economic and human development priorities.

Yours sincerely,

Clinton Pobke
Deputy High Commissioner

Encl: Bangladesh Country Profile- Intake 2025

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Bangladesh

Applying for an Australia Awards scholarship

Australia Awards scholarships in Bangladesh

Australia's international development assistance in Bangladesh helps promote prosperity, reduce poverty, and enhance political stability.

The 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 Bangladesh are:

Priority areas	Fields of study
Blue economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fisheries & aquaculture • Marine & maritime studies • Maritime domain awareness • Seaports & shipping
Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health management, leadership, economics • Global & public health • Nutrition • Pharmaceutical science
Gender Development Environment Sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agriculture development • Climate change, adaptation & mitigation • Disaster management and risk reduction • Disability equity and rights • Environmental management • Emergency & humanitarian response management • Gender justice, diversity, and inclusion • Skills and development • Water resources management
Trade Industry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial planning & management • International trade & business • ICT, innovation & entrepreneurship • Small & Medium enterprise • Tourism, particularly sustainable tourism



Priority areas	Fields of study
Public Policy Economics Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human rights & international relations • Foreign policy • Power, energy & mineral resources • Public policy & management • Public administration • Public finance & economics
Infrastructure Science Engineering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Computer science including artificial intelligence & machine learning) • Data cloud, network and management • Engineering • Information technology • Transport & infrastructure • Robotics
Security studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Countering terrorism and violent extremism • Cyber awareness & security • Gender peace and security • Maritime security

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 2025 within the following allocations:

- Master's by Coursework,
- Master's by 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
- 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

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 A:** Cadre Officials from the Government of Bangladesh, officials of the Bangladesh Bank, and Judicial Services officials
 - **Group B:** Workers from development organisations, particularly non-government organisations, civil society organisations, or community-based organisations
 - **Group C:** Entrepreneurs or employees of private sector organisations

- **Group D:** Individuals from research institutions, universities, media, and cultural organisations
- be a citizen of Bangladesh and be residing in and applying for the scholarship from Bangladesh
- not be married, engaged to, or a de facto of a person who holds, or is eligible to hold, Australian or New Zealand citizenship or permanent residency, at any time during the application, selection or mobilisation phases
- not be currently serving as military personnel
- must be able to satisfy all requirements of the Department of Home Affairs to hold a Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade supported student visa
- must have achieved an IELTS (Academic) score of at 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 on 1 January 2025
 - women, people with disability, indigenous people, and persons from any marginalized gender groups will be considered for eligibility with an IELTS (Academic) overall score of 6.0 or above (with no individual band less than 5.5) or an equivalent TOEFL or PTE test score. However, if offered an Australia Awards Scholarship, these applicants must meet general English proficiency requirement to receive the scholarship.

Qualifications / work experience

- Preference will be given to candidates who are applying for courses that build on their previous study and full-time relevant work experience of **three years**.
- Have completed a tertiary level qualification that is at least **equivalent to an Australian Bachelor's degree**.
 - For applicants who completed **all** their degrees in Bangladesh: at least one degree must be from a university recognised by the University Grants Commission (Bangladesh).

Special condition

- The 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 their original preference.

Application dates

For study commencing in Australia in 2025:

- Opening date: 1 February 2024
- Closing date: 30 April 2024 (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 lodged online through OASIS at <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	Attested by notary public
Passport	Proof of citizenship	Yes
Transcript and Certificate of bachelor's and master's (if applicable) degrees	Degree certificate	Yes
IELTS, TOEFL or PTE certificate (valid at 1 January 2025)	Proof of English language proficiency	Yes
Development Impact and Linkages Plan (use prescribed template on australiaawardsbangladesh.org)	Other document	No
Curriculum Vitae (use prescribed template on australiaawardsbangladesh.org)	Other document	No
If employed at the time of application, employment certificate	Other document	No
Proof of work experiences	Other document	No

Required document	OASIS document type	Attested by notary public
For applicants from the Government of Bangladesh, proof of cadre service	Other document	No
Master's by coursework applicants Two reports - one academic - one professional Template: https://www.dfat.gov.au/sites/default/files/referee.docx	Referee report	No
Master's by research applicants Three reports - two academic and one professional. Template: https://www.dfat.gov.au/sites/default/files/referee.docx	Referee report	No
Additional requirements for Master's by research applicants:		
Research proposal (use prescribed template on australiaawardsbangladesh.org)	Other document	No
Evidence of written (email or letter) in-principle support from potential supervisor(s).	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 in late 2024.
- Awardee travel is subject to meeting the requirements of 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

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

- dfat.gov.au/people-to-people/australia-awards/pages/australia-awards-scholarships
- <https://www.studyaustralia.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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