



Australia Awards

# Opportunities for all Equity Pathways to an Australia Awards Scholarship

## Background

The Equity Pathways Program provides support to qualifying Cambodians to help them meet certain Australia Awards Scholarships eligibility requirements.






The purpose of the Equity Pathways Program (EPP) is to improve social inclusion outcomes in relation to Australia Awards Scholarships so that Australia Awards Cambodia (AAC) effectively progresses the equity, equality, and social inclusion goals of the Australian Aid program. The EPP focusses on Equity Target Groups (ETGs) – sub-groups in Cambodian society who have typically experienced the effects of social, educational, and structural barriers and disadvantage which has effectively limited their access to opportunity, including access to scholarships.


**The EPP therefore has the following goal:**

To support the achievement of social inclusion outcomes in Australia Awards Cambodia by increasing the capacity of high quality, current and future applicants who are members of equity target groups, to meet English language and eligibility standards and successfully compete in a merit-based selection process.





EPP supported me to improve my English skills and access a workplace internship opportunity. Finally, I was awarded an Australia Awards Scholarship in 2022, and I am doing my master degree in Australia, nowadays.



## **Equity target groups (ETGs)**

Equity Target Groups (ETGs) refer to subgroups of Cambodian society who have been identified as being more likely to have experienced disadvantage due to multiple factors: social or cultural standards, expectations and bias, geographic or social isolation, financial and economic disadvantage, institutional discrimination or limited access to opportunity.

Equity support is offered on the basis that past disadvantage has limited opportunity and adversely affected the ability of individuals in these groups to complete on an equal basis, alongside their peers. In this way, equity support offers ‘catch up’ opportunities with the aim of enabling individuals from ETGs to successfully compete in merit-based processes.

## **AAC recognises five equity target groups:**

1. Women
2. People with disability
3. Men who live and work in the provincial areas of Cambodia
4. Indigenous and Ethnic minorities
5. Other Marginalised groups such as LGBTQIA+

## Eligibility criteria

To qualify for support applicants must be assessed as being eligible and qualified to apply for or have the potential to become eligible to apply for, an Australia Awards Scholarship. Therefore, applicants **MUST:**

1. Be a citizen of Cambodia (only)
  2. Be a resident of Cambodia for a period of 24 months prior to application to join the EPP
  3. Possess a bachelor’s degree considered equivalent to an Australian bachelor’s degree
  4. Have at least 24 months full-time (or part-time equivalent) work experience (this doesn’t apply to applicants for a workplace internship. At AAC, Internship Program is available to prospective Australia Awards Scholarships with disability who do not meet the minimum 24 months work experience requirement. It facilitates a placement of up to 24 months in high quality paid professional employment in an inclusive and predominantly English language host organisations)
  5. Be proposing to apply for an Australia Award Scholarship in the future
  6. Be competent at an intermediate level in English (if applying for English language training support). An English Language Test will be provided.

**Entry into the EPP requires applicants to have a basic minimum level of English language competence.**

People with Disability, Indigenous/Ethnic Minority	Other ETGs
Overall entry IELTS 5 (sub-band requirements are assessed on a case-by-case basis)	Overall entry IELTS 5.5 (no sub-band less than 5.0)





“EPP provided me an incredible opportunity to upgrade my English capacity, increase self-confidence and become an independence learner.”

### Benefits of the EPP:

- Improve your English Language Skills with the aim that you meet Australia Awards Scholarships eligibility requirements
- Build your skills and confidence to apply for an Australia Awards Scholarship through EPP Professional Development training and make connections with support from EPP and Australia Awards Scholarships alumni



“ EPP Professional Development Workshops have helped EPP students to improve their writing and critical thinking skills. ”

### **Benefits, what cost will EPP cover and contribute?**

- 100% English placement Fee
- 100% IELTS test fee (2 times)
- 100% English Training Course Fee
- Transportation fee (calculate/km, provincial based candidates only)
- Accommodation fee (provincial based candidates only)

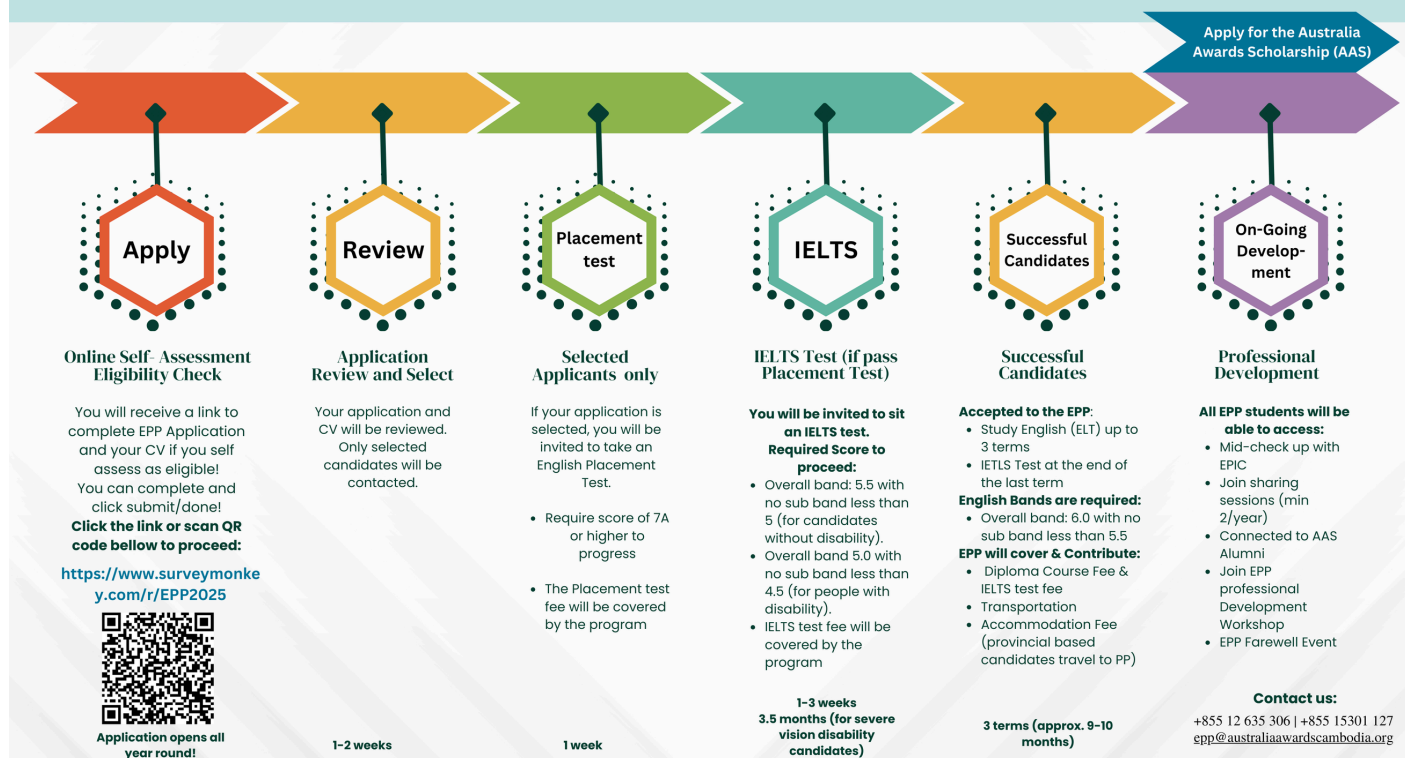


“  
My journey to Australia would not have been possible without support from EPP. EPP is beyond an English program, it put me in the Australia Awards Alumni circle which kept inspiring me to move forward and successfully win my scholarship to Australia.  
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## Application Process Summary

# Equity Pathways Program (EPP) Roadmap



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