



Australia Awards



Make a difference  
with an  
**Australia Awards  
Scholarship**

Intake 2026





# Australia Awards Cambodia

Australia's international development assistance in Cambodia 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 Cambodia.

## Level of study

Australia Awards Scholarships are long-term awards that provide Cambodians with the opportunity to obtain a postgraduate qualification at an Australian tertiary education institution at:

- **Masters level**, by coursework or research
- **Doctoral level (PhD)**

## What can I study?

In recognition of the genuine development challenges across all sectors in Cambodia, applicants from all fields of study are encouraged to apply. Applications for climate-related study are strongly encouraged.

Applicants should select courses that align with their experience and qualifications or provide a strong justification for courses that represent a shift in career focus or direction.

Please note that scholarships are not available for general management degrees, such as a Master of Business Administration.

Candidates are advised to check the Australia Awards Cambodia website for further information:

[www.australiaawardscambodia.org](http://www.australiaawardscambodia.org)

## Who can apply?

**Cambodians from all walks of life are invited to apply for an Australia Awards Scholarship.** The application process is open and competitive.

Australia Awards Scholarships are open to applicants from all sectors in Cambodia, including public sector agencies, academia and think tanks, civil society organisations, the media and the private sector.

Applications are strongly encouraged from women, people with disability, people living and working outside of Phnom Penh, indigenous and ethnic minorities, LGBTIQA+ and other marginalised groups. A support scheme is available to assist equal participation for these applicants.

## Benefits of an Australia Awards Scholarship

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.

## Application dates for study commencing in Australia in 2026

Applications open: 1 February 2025

Applications close: 30 April 2025 (11:59pm AEST)

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

## Eligibility criteria

Australia Awards applicants must meet all eligibility requirements detailed in the *Australia Awards Scholarships Policy Handbook* available at: <https://www.dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/australia-awards-scholarships-policy-handbook>

### Cambodia – specific conditions

In addition to these eligibility requirements, candidates from Cambodia must also meet the following country-specific conditions:

- be a citizen of Cambodia, with no dual or additional citizenship
- be a resident in Cambodia for a period of 24 months immediately prior to 30 April 2025 (i.e. the day applications close) other than for short absences related to employment, professional development or holidays
- have at least 24 months full-time (or part-time equivalent) work experience as at 30 April 2025 (i.e. the day applications close)<sup>1</sup>
- declare all previous study undertaken irrespective of whether it is complete or incomplete or undertaken within Cambodia or another country<sup>2</sup>
- provide all the required supporting documents – see Table 1: Supporting Documents.

### In addition, Masters (by Coursework) level applicants must:

- have English language proficiency of at least the following (with strong preference given to applicants with higher English language proficiency), at the time of application:
  - an IELTS Academic result with an overall score of at least 6.0, with no band less than 5.5,<sup>3</sup> or
  - an internet-based TOEFL score of at least 60, or
  - PTE Academic overall score of 50.
- obtain an English language test result after 1 January 2024, and
- satisfy the admission requirements of the selected university of study:
  - in most cases, the applicant must hold a Bachelor degree, considered equivalent to an Australian Bachelor degree, or
  - in some exceptional circumstances, an applicant may be able to satisfy admission requirements without a Bachelor degree. If this is the case, the applicant must provide a Letter of Offer (for study in 2026) for their first preferred course and university. This must be submitted as part of their Australia Awards Scholarships application.<sup>4</sup>

### In addition, Masters by Research and PhD level applicants must:

- have an English language proficiency of at least:
  - an IELTS Academic result with an overall score of at least 6.5, with no band less than 6.0,<sup>5</sup> or
  - an internet-based TOEFL score of at least 84, with a minimum of 21 in all subtests, or
  - PTE Academic overall score of 58 with no communicative skill score less than 50
  - obtain an English language test result after 1 January 2024; and
- provide evidence (e.g. letter or email communication) of extensive correspondence with the proposed supervisor or faculty, demonstrating serious progress on thesis development over a period of time and that the applicant has received in-principle support for their research topic from a potential supervisor.
- provide two referee reports (refer to requirements under the supporting documents section).

## Before you apply

### Researching university courses

Go to the Commonwealth Register of Institutions and Courses for Overseas Students (CRICOS) to find comprehensive information about all Australian universities and the courses available to international students.

Applicants are advised to use the CRICOS website <https://cricos.education.gov.au/> and individual university websites to undertake research about proposed courses of study and clarify:

- if a course is available to international students
- the details of the course content and topics covered
- the English language requirements for selected courses



*Australia Awards Scholarships Intake 2026 Ambassador, Mrs Sok Monirattana, Master of Public Policy, The University of Adelaide.*

<sup>1</sup> Irrespective of when work experience was attained. Paid internships are considered as work experience/employment. Work experience can be a combination of part-time and full-time experience/employment, so long as the full-time equivalency (of 24 months) can be readily calculated.

<sup>2</sup> Preference may be given to applicants who do not already have a masters degree from university overseas.

<sup>4</sup> Applicants holding a Bachelor degree are NOT required to provide a Letter of Offer.

<sup>3,5</sup> IELTS One Skill Retake (OSR) is accepted for AAS eligibility purposes, but placement is subject to the university acceptance.

## The application process

### Online applications

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

Applicants must upload all supporting documents to meet the specific eligibility requirements for Cambodia as set out in Table 1 (on next page). Applicants are strongly advised to complete and submit their online application well before the closing date. The online application facility (OASIS) experiences peak usage in the days leading up to the closing date and applicants may experience delays.

### Four steps to apply online

#### Step 1: Check your eligibility

Detailed eligibility criteria are listed in the section Eligibility Criteria. These must be met in order to be eligible to apply.

Please check these carefully before you proceed to the next step.



#### Step 2: Create a login to access OASIS

All online applications must be submitted at:  
<https://oasis.dfat.gov.au>

An OASIS Applicant User Guide can be downloaded at the OASIS home page.



#### Step 3: Complete all the data entry requirements and upload your supporting documents

When responding to the questions in the application form, make sure that you take time to really think about your answer and make every word count.

Applicants are expected to have clear ideas about how they will contribute to development in Cambodia upon their return. Applicants are encouraged to consider the relationship between their academic and professional goals and their country's economic growth and poverty reduction needs.

When applying online, you must upload all supporting documents to meet the specific requirements for Cambodia. Refer to the following Table: Supporting Documents for the list of all documents that you must upload based on your selected course.

The maximum document size (per document) for uploading is 2 MB.

Assistance is available on request for people with disability who require help to upload their application and/or supporting documents.



#### Step 4: Check and submit your application before the closing date

Before you submit, go back and double check that you have filled in all fields in the application, and uploaded all required supporting documents.

Applicants are strongly advised to complete and submit their online application well before the closing date. The online application facility (OASIS) experiences peak usage in the days leading up to the closing date and applicants may experience delays.



#### IMPORTANT NOTE:

**Reducing barriers for women, people with disability, people from provincial locations, Indigenous and ethnic minorities, LGBTIQA+ and other marginalised groups to meet the English language eligibility criteria**

Australia Awards Scholarships are granted on the basis of strict eligibility criteria and through a competitive, merit-based selection process. For women, people with disability, people from provincial locations, Indigenous and ethnic minorities, LGBTIQA+ and other marginalised groups ('equity' groups) we understand that meeting eligibility criteria, such as English language, can be difficult to achieve and present a barrier to application.

To reduce barriers to access, Australia Awards Cambodia offers an **Equity Pathways Program (EPP)** designed to support members of equity groups to access high quality English language training. Through the support of the EPP, potential AAS applicants from equity groups can work toward raising their English language skills and become eligible to apply for an Australia Awards Scholarship.

If you think that you are not eligible to apply for a scholarship because of your English language proficiency and want to find out if you can join the Equity Pathways Program, please contact the Australia Awards Cambodia office for more information.



### Hardcopy applications

Application forms can be downloaded at: [www.australiaawardscambodia.org](http://www.australiaawardscambodia.org)

Completed hardcopy applications (including all supporting documents to meet the specific eligibility requirements for Cambodia as set out in Table 1 (on next page) must be hand delivered or mailed to the Australian Embassy, No 16B National Assembly St. Phnom Penh, and received by the closing date.



## Supporting documents

Table 1 (below) lists the documents that **must** be provided with your application to ensure your application is eligible for consideration. The maximum document size (per document) for uploading is 2 MB.

**Table 1: Supporting documents**

Document	Document type	Document	Document type
<b>ALL APPLICANTS MUST PROVIDE:</b>		<b>IN ADDITION, MASTERS BY RESEARCH AND PHD APPLICANTS MUST PROVIDE:</b>	
All official university degree certificate(s), with English translations	Degree certificate/s	Minimum of two academic referee reports	Referee Reports (the Referee Report template is available on the Australia Awards Cambodia website)
All official university transcripts of results for complete and incomplete courses of study, with English translations	Academic transcript/s	Evidence of extensive correspondence with the proposed supervisor or faculty, demonstrating serious progress on thesis development over a period of time and in-principle support for the proposed research topic	Other document
Evidence of personal identification and date of birth, with English translations (e.g. passport personal information pages, national ID card, birth certificate)	Proof of citizenship	Evidence at the time of application of a minimum English language proficiency level of:	Formal test result
Evidence or a statement(s) from workplace(s) (either current or previous) confirming position held, duration of employment and full-time or part-time status.  Statements must be dated and signed by the employer/s. This evidence must be sufficient to satisfy the 24-month employment eligibility requirement	Employer/Ministry Statement/s  (a template is available on the Australia Awards Cambodia website that outlines details required)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>an IELTS Academic result with an overall score of at least 6.5, with no band less than 6.0,<sup>6,7</sup> or</li> <li>an internet-based TOEFL score of at least 84, with a minimum of 21 in all subtests, or</li> <li>PTE Academic overall score of 58 with no communicative skill score less than 50</li> </ul>	
Curriculum Vitae. Applicants <b>must</b> use the CV template which is available on the Australia Awards Cambodia website	CV	A test result must have been obtained after 1 January 2024	
<b>IN ADDITION, MASTERS BY COURSEWORK APPLICANTS MUST PROVIDE</b>			
Evidence at the time of application of a minimum English language proficiency level of:	Formal English language test result		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>an IELTS Academic result with an overall score of at least 6.0, with no band less than 5.5,<sup>6</sup> or</li> <li>an internet-based TOEFL score of at least 60, or</li> <li>PTE Academic overall score of 50</li> </ul>			
A test result must have been obtained after 1 January 2024			

Note that documents presented in Khmer or any other language must be translated to English. Documents requiring English translation do not have to be certified at the time of application and translations by the applicant are acceptable.

**If any of the relevant supporting documents are not provided as specified, the application is incomplete and will be deemed ineligible.**

Australia Awards Scholarships are administered by the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (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 or incomplete**.

Where fraud is detected, the application will be deemed ineligible, and the applicant will be barred from applying for an Australia Awards Scholarship in future rounds.

<sup>6-7</sup> IELTS One Skill Retake (OSR) is accepted for AAS eligibility purposes, but placement is subject to the university acceptance.



## The selection process

At the close of applications, all eligible applications will be assessed and shortlisted. The selection process is based on the principles of merit and equity and includes an interview. Applicants are assessed against the following criteria:

- academic competence
- potential outcome, including contribution to development outcomes in Cambodia
- professional and personal leadership attributes including relevant work experience.

## How will I know if I am selected?

Applicants will be informed at each stage of the selection process if their application is not proceeding further.

Applicants who are interviewed will be notified of the outcome shortly after the selection process concludes.

## Special conditions that apply to Australia Awards Scholarships

Please note that Australia Awards Scholarships are provisional until the following requirements are met:

- the applicant attains a minimum English language proficiency level of:
  - an IELTS Academic result with an overall score of at least 6.5, with no band less than 6.0,<sup>8</sup> or
  - an internet-based TOEFL score of at least 84, with a minimum of 21 in all subtests, or
  - PTE Academic overall score of 58 with no communicative skill score less than 50

irrespective of any lesser English language requirements of their chosen university. A failure to achieve the prescribed English language proficiency level, after completion of English language training will result in the provisional Australia Awards Scholarship being withdrawn. The applicant will not progress to undertake their scholarship in Australia

- the applicant is placed at an Australian university, and
- the applicant is issued with the relevant visa by the Australian Government Department of Home Affairs (including meeting medical requirements).

Successful applicants are required to sign a contract with the Commonwealth of Australia accepting the scholarship conditions. One of the conditions of Australia Awards Scholarships is that recipients leave Australia for a period of two years following completion of their course of study. It is expected that recipients will return to Cambodia to apply the skills and knowledge gained through their scholarship.

A full list of the scholarship conditions are contained in the Australia Awards Scholarships Policy Handbook available at <https://www.dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/australia-awards-scholarships-policy-handbook>

The Australian Government does not provide any financial or other support for the dependents of Australia Awards Scholarships recipients who accompany them to Australia. The Australia Awards Scholarship recipient is responsible for the financial and material support of family members while in Australia.

## Pre-Departure Training

Prior to departure to Australia, all provisional Australia Awards Scholarships recipients are required to undertake full-time pre-departure training (of approximately three weeks duration). Awardees of Masters by Coursework yet to achieve the prescribed English language proficiency levels above, are required to undertake part or full-time English language training (up to six months) to assist them meet the English proficiency requirements<sup>9</sup>.

During these training periods, a monthly stipend is paid: for Phnom Penh based awardees - \$270 per month for non-government and \$210 per month for government awardees. For awardees based outside of Phnom Penh – \$370 per month for non-government and \$330 per month for government awardees.

Applicants should carefully consider the financial implications of the compulsory pre-departure training, in particular, any full-time English language training required and the stipend payable, when applying for a scholarship.



<sup>8-9</sup> IELTS One Skill Retake (OSR) is accepted for AAS eligibility purposes, but placement is subject to the university acceptance.

## Key dates

<b>Information Session/s in Phnom Penh and provinces</b> Please keep watching our website and follow us on Facebook for details.	December 2024 to April 2025
<b>Promotions in Phnom Penh and provinces and via social media</b>	January – April 2025
<b>Applications open</b>	1 February 2025
<b>Applications close</b>	30 April 2025 (11:59pm AEST)
<b>Advise applicants shortlisted for interview</b>	June 2025 (indicative only)
<b>Interviews for shortlisted applicants</b>	July 2025 (indicative only)
<b>Advise successful applicants (provisional awardees)</b>	August/September 2025 (indicative only)

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Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Australia.Awards.Kh/>  
Telegram: <https://t.me/australiaawardscambodia>

### Further information

Information about Australia Awards Cambodia can be found at [www.australiaawardscambodia.org](http://www.australiaawardscambodia.org)

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

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

Information about visa and Australia Awards Scholarship entitlements and conditions can be found in the *Australia Awards Scholarships Policy Handbook*:

<https://www.dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/australia-awards-scholarships-policy-handbook>



*Australia Awards Scholarships Intake 2026 Ambassador, Mr Seng Moonpanha, Master of Engineering Science, The University of New South Wales.*

Apply today

[www.australiaawardscambodia.org](http://www.australiaawardscambodia.org)

