



**Australia Awards**

# Maldives

## Applying for an Australia Awards scholarship

### **Australia Awards scholarships in Maldives**

Australia's international development assistance in Maldives helps promote a peaceful, stable and prosperous future for Australia and in the region.

The Australia Awards program aims to support partner countries in achieving their development goals through education, knowledge exchange, and building enduring relationships with Australia. It equips emerging leaders with the skills, networks, and experience needed to contribute to sustainable development and foster international cooperation.

Applicants are assessed on their professional and personal qualities, academic competence and, most importantly, their potential to exercise leadership and impact on development challenges in eligible countries.

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

### **Priority fields of study**

The priority areas of study for eligible Maldivians are:

#### **Effective and accountable state**

- Aviation and Airports
- Business Administration
- Economics
- Fisheries and Aquatic Resources
- Law and Justice
- Project Management
- Public Administration and Policy
- Public Financial Management
- Statistics and Data Management
- Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (including ICT)
- Tourism and Hospitality (including Culinary Arts)



## **Resilient community and state**

- Animation and Visual Effects
- Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience
- Cultural Studies
- Disability Studies
- Disaster Management and Risk Reduction
- Education (including Education and TVET Management)
- Environmental and Resource Management
- Gender Studies
- Health (including Public and Mental Health)
- Psychology, Social Work and Counselling
- Renewable Energy
- Sports and Fitness
- Sustainable Infrastructure Development
- Youth Studies

The governments of Australia and Maldives 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: [Australia Awards Maldives](#).

## **Level of study**

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

Awards will be offered for commencement in 2027 within the following allocations:

- Master's level qualification by coursework or 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](#)

## **Country-specific conditions**

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

- have a tertiary qualification at least equivalent to an Australian bachelor's degree
- must be applying to follow a program of study, higher than the level of qualification already achieved

- must meet the English language requirements as set out in the Australia Awards Scholarships Policy Handbook. Scores must be valid at 1 January 2027. If an institution requires a different test validity timeframe, applicants must meet the institution’s requirements. English language scores must be submitted no later than 30 June 2026
- have worked in Maldives for at least 24 months preceding the application closing date and after completing their bachelor’s degree (applicants with a disability who have worked for at least 12 months preceding the application closing date and after completing their bachelor’s degree will be considered as meeting the work experience criteria)
- not have held a foreign scholarship in the 24 months preceding the application closing date
- not have obtained an academic qualification outside Maldives in the 24 months preceding the application closing date, calculated from the date of arrival back in the home country.

## Application dates

For study commencing in Australia in 2027:

Opening date: 1 February 2026 (09:00 AEDT)

Closing date: 30 April 2026 (14:00 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](#).

- Applicants must use their full name exactly as it appears on their passport, including first, middle, and last names.
- Applicants must not use nicknames, shortened versions, or abbreviations of their names.

### Supporting documents

Applicants must submit all the relevant supporting documents listed in the *Australia Awards Scholarships Policy Handbook*. Applicants must compile documents into single PDFs by document category, name the files appropriately (e.g. “Certificates”, “Referee Reports”), and ensure that the scanned documents are in colour, legible, in correct page order and orientation.

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

Required document	OASIS document type	Certified
Tertiary degree certificates	Degree Certificate	Yes
Academic grades for university qualifications	Academic Transcript	Yes
Passport/National ID	Proof of citizenship	Yes
Curriculum Vitae (CV)*	Other Document	No
Development Impact and Linkages Plan (DILP) document*	Other Document	No
Certificates of special achievement or merit	Other Document	Yes
English language test results (IELTS Academic, TOEFL or PTE Academic)	Proof of English language proficiency	Yes
Employment Letter*	Other Document	No
<b>FOR COURSEWORK MASTER’S:</b> One academic referee report and one professional referee report (e.g. a work supervisor with referee’s seal)*	Referee Report	No
<b>FOR RESEARCH MASTER’S APPLICANTS:</b> two academic referee reports and one professional referee report (e.g. a work supervisor with referee’s seal) *	Referee Report	No
<b>FOR RESEARCH MASTER’S:</b> a research proposal. This proposal must include a proposed methodology, timeline, and a brief literature review (Guideline available*)	Other Document	No
<b>FOR RESEARCH MASTER’S:</b> Identify 2 supervisors from each of your nominated institutions and include their details with your application	Other Document	No
Any other document you wish to upload ensuring your eligibility	Other Document	No

\*Template/document available at [Australia Awards Maldives](#).

### Notes:

Please refer the [Australia Awards Scholarships Policy Handbook](#) for certification requirements for documents requiring certification. If a document is not in English, the translated copy must also be certified.

- Referee reports in different formats cannot be accepted and may make applications ineligible. Contact the Australia Awards Sri Lanka and Maldives office to clarify referee requirements.

### The selection process

- Applications will be shortlisted after eligibility checking.
- Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted regarding the outcome of the shortlisting process.
- 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 Maldives
  - professional and personal leadership attributes including relevant work experience.
- Successful candidates will be notified in late 2026.
- Awardee travel will be subject to meeting the requirements imposed by the Australian Government, as determined by the federal Department of Home Affairs and 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:

- [Australia Awards Scholarships](#)
- [Study in Australia](#)

Information about visas and Australia Awards scholarship entitlements and conditions can be found in the [Australia Awards Scholarships Policy Handbook](#).

### Contact details

Australia Awards — Sri Lanka and Maldives  
Address: 75 1/1, Kynsey Road, Colombo 08, Sri Lanka  
Telephone: +94 (0) 11 350 9900  
Email: [inquiries@australiaawardsmaldives.org](mailto:inquiries@australiaawardsmaldives.org)  
Website: [Australia Awards Maldives](#)