Australia Awards are prestigious international Scholarships and Fellowships funded by the Australian Government. Australia Awards not only develop skills and knowledge but also build enduring people-to-people links between Australia, our regional neighbours and the broader international community.

Australia Awards managed by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT)

Australia Awards continue a long tradition of international education that has been an important component of the Australian Government’s overseas aid program since the 1950s.

The majority of Australia Awards are managed by DFAT and in 2013–14 the Department offered 4450 long and short-term awards to recipients from 117 eligible developing countries—over 77 per cent in Asia and the Pacific.

Australia Awards contribute to the achievement of development objectives across a range of sectors and are a feature of nearly all of Australia’s bilateral aid programs.

The Australian Government’s new development policy Australian aid: promoting prosperity, increasing stability, reducing poverty recognises that tertiary education is an important component of any investment in education.

Australia works closely with its partners in developing countries to ensure that Australia Awards support the economic and social development of each country.
Australia Awards Scholarships Fact Sheet

Who Can Apply?

Australia Awards Scholarships are available for applicants meeting the following eligibility requirements.

Candidates must:

- be a minimum of 18 years of age at the time of commencing the scholarship
- be a citizen of a participating country (as listed on the Australia Awards website)
- not be applying for a visa to live in Australia, or 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 of the application, selection or mobilisation phases (Note: residents of Cook Islands, Niue and Tokelau with New Zealand citizenship are eligible but must apply for a Temporary Visa (subclass 576)
- not be current serving military personnel
- have satisfied any specific criteria established by the applicant’s country or government of citizenship
- be able to satisfy the admission requirements of the institution at which the award is to be undertaken
- be able to satisfy all requirements of the Department of Immigration and Border Protection for a Temporary Visa (subclass 576).

Additional requirements for each country are listed in their Country Profile on the Australia Awards website.

Awards Benefits

Australia Awards Scholarships are offered for the minimum period necessary for recipients to complete the academic program specified by the Australian education institution, including any preparatory training.

The following benefits generally apply:

- return air travel
- on arrival, a one off establishment allowance
- full tuition fees
- contribution to living expenses
- introductory academic program
- Overseas Student Health Cover for the duration of the award
- supplementary academic support, and
- fieldwork (for research students only).

About Australia Awards Scholarships

In 2013–14 Australia Awards Scholarships were offered to approximately 2,200 emerging leaders from eligible countries to undertake full-time undergraduate or postgraduate study at Australian tertiary institutions.

Australia Awards Scholarships contribute to the long term objectives of developing countries by equipping awardees with the skills and knowledge they need to drive change and overcome the hurdles to economic and social development.

How the scholarships work

Around 5,000 Australia Awards are offered annually and almost half are Australia Awards Scholarships.

Scholarship recipients have the opportunity to obtain tertiary qualifications at one of Australia’s world class universities. Awardees study in a variety of fields aligned with the agreed development priorities of their home nation including economics; development studies; education; health; management; engineering and agriculture.

Australia Awards Scholars have the chance to experience life in Australia and build strong links between each other and with Australians—individuals, institutions and organisations.

Award recipients are required to return home for two years after they have completed their studies so they can contribute to the development of their own country or region.

More Information

For more information including the application forms and guidelines see:

www.australiaawards.gov.au

Ashenafi Bahiru Bezabih, an Ethiopian awardee from Curtin University at an Australia Awards Leadership Conference in Canberra, Australia