



# Applying for an Australia Awards scholarship

#### Australia Awards scholarships in Vietnam

Australia's international development assistance in Vietnam 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 Vietnam.

Applications are strongly encouraged from women, people with disability and other marginalised groups. A support scheme is available to assist equal participation by people with disability and from other marginalised groups.

## **Priority fields of study**

The priority areas of study for Vietnam are listed below noting that examples provided are not limited to the fields available for an Australia Awards Scholarship:

- Agriculture, Fisheries, Forestry (i.e. Agricultural economics, Aquacultural/Fisheries, Forestry, Rural Development)
- Digital transformation (i.e. Cyber security, Digital Business and Innovation, Digital communications)
- Information Technology (for applicants with disability only)
- Education (i.e. Education studies/management, Vocational Education and Training, Special Education)
- Environment, Climate Change and Energy (i.e. Environment studies including Water Resources, Mineral Resources, Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation, Infrastructure and Transport, Sustainable/Renewable Energy Solutions and Innovation, Sustainable Tourism)
- Governance and Economic Growth (i.e. Public Policy Administration, Entrepreneurship and Innovation, Economics)
- Gender Equality, Disability (i.e. Women and Gender Studies, Disability Services, Social policy and social protection)
- Health (i.e. Health policy and services, Public health, Mental Health)
- Regional stability and Human Rights (i.e. International law, Criminology, Maritime security/sustainability, Journalism and media)

Studies in other fields (except Business Administration, Medicine, Pharmacy) will be considered based on merit.

The governments of Australia and Vietnam 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 https://australiaawardsvietnam.org/

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.

Applicants are recommended to use the Commonwealth Register of Institutions and Courses for Overseas Students (CRICOS) https://cricos.education.gov.au/ for course selection.

# Level of study

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

Awards will be offered for master's degree commencing in 2025 within the following allocations:

- central/city/provincial/district-level agencies
- vocational education and training colleges
- universities
- Vietnamese/state research institutions
- Vietnamese companies
- Vietnamese NGOs
- international NGOs
- foreign companies (for people with disabilities).

## 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.

If recognition of prior learning is granted, the recipient may be placed in a degree program that is shorter in duration than for which they have originally applied for.

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 Vietnam must also meet the following conditions:

- have completed a formal undergraduate degree
- have at least 24-month full-time relevant work experience in Vietnam as of 30 April 2024 (except disadvantaged applicants – see below)
- not apply for a second master's degree (except disadvantaged applicants applying for a different field of study).

Candidates must declare all previous study undertaken (including status) irrespective of whether it is complete, incomplete, or ongoing and/or undertaken in Vietnam or another country<sup>1</sup>

Group	GPA	English language requirement
<ul> <li>Central/city/provincial/ district-level agencies</li> <li>Vocational education and training colleges</li> <li>Research institutions</li> </ul>	6.5	<ul> <li>English language test results optional for application:</li> <li>IELTS Academic 5.0 (no sub-band below 4.5) or</li> <li>TOEFL iBT 35 (Reading and Listening 3, Writing and Speaking 12 or above) or</li> <li>PTE Academic 29 (no sub-band below 23)</li> </ul>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Candidates who have commenced but not completed Master level study will be considered on a case-by-case basis

<ul> <li>Provincially based universities</li> </ul>	7.0	<ul> <li>English language test results optional for application:</li> <li>IELTS Academic 5.5 (no sub-band below 5.0) or</li> </ul>
universities		<ul> <li>TOEFL iBT 46 (Reading and Listening 4, Speaking and Writing 14 or above) or</li> </ul>
		PTE Academic 36 (no sub-band below 29)
<ul> <li>Universities in Hanoi, Hai Phong, Danang, Can Tho, Ho Chi Minh City</li> </ul>	7.0	English language test results optional for application:
		IELTS Academic 6.0 (no sub-band below 5.5) or
		<ul> <li>TOEFL iBT 60 (Reading 8, Listening 7, Speaking 16, Writing 18 or above) or</li> </ul>
		PTE Academic 46 (no sub-band below 36)
	7.0	English language test result required for application:
<ul> <li>Vietnamese NGOs</li> </ul>	7.0	IELTS Academic 5.5 (no sub-band below 5.0) or
Vietnamese companies		• TOEFL iBT 46 (Reading and Listening 4, Speaking and Writing 14 or above)
		or
		PTE Academic 36 (no sub-band below 29)
International NGOs	7.0	English language test result required for application:
		<ul> <li>IELTS Academic 6.5 (no sub-band below 6.0) or</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>TOEFL iBT 84 (no sub-band below 21) or</li> </ul>
		PTE Academic 58 (no sub-band below 50)
<ul> <li>Foreign companies (for</li> </ul>	6.0	English language test result optional for application:
people with disabilities)		IELTS Academic 5.0 no sub-band below 4.5)
		TOEFL iBT 35 (Reading and Listening 3, Writing and Speaking 12 or above)
		<ul> <li>PTE Academic 29 (no sub-band below 23)</li> </ul>

\* IELTS, TOEFL iBT or PTE Academic certificates will be valid if the tests have been on or after 1 January 2023.

## **Disadvantaged applicants**

Below provisions apply for the following disadvantaged applicants:

- persons with disability
- disadvantaged rural applicants, (for details, refer to https://australiaawardsvietnam.org/).

GPA	English language requirement	Work experience
6.0	<ul> <li>English language test results optional for application:</li> <li>IELTS Academic 5.0 (no sub-band below 4.5) or</li> <li>TOEFL iBT 35 (Reading and Listening 3, Writing and Speaking 12 or above) or</li> <li>PTE Academic 29 (no sub-band below 23)</li> </ul>	12-month full-time relevant work experience

# **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 submit all the relevant supporting documents listed in the Australia Awards Scholarships Policy Handbook.

Applicants must also provide the **additional** documents to meet the specific requirements for **Vietnam**. Please refer to **https://australiaawardsvietnam.org/** for a full list of required supporting documents.

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.

## 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 Vietnam.
  - professional and personal leadership attributes including relevant work experience.
- Successful candidates will be notified in August 2024.
- Awardee travel will be subject to meeting the requirements imposed by the Australian Government, as determined by the federal Department of Education and by the relevant Australian State or Territory governments.

## **Preparatory training**

Successful applicants will be required to attend:

- English Language Training program in Vietnam of up to 12 months (depending on your English level), if you do not achieve an IELTS Academic overall score of at least 6.5, with no band less than 6.0 or an equivalent TOEFL iBT or PTE Academic score.
- 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
- studyinaustralia.gov.au

Information on Australia's Southeast Asia Economic Strategy to 2040 can be found at https://www.dfat.gov.au/southeastasiaeconomicstrategy

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**

#### Aus4Skills

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