



Australia Awards

Vietnam

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 study¹ for eligible Vietnam citizens are:

- 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.

¹ Examples provided are for reference only

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 masters' degree (coursework/research). Studies **commence from Semester 2, June 2026, subject to approval of Government of Australia and Government of Vietnam**, 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: <https://www.dfat.gov.au/sites/default/files/aus-awards-scholarships-policy-handbook.pdf>

Country-specific conditions

In addition to the global 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 2025 (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 country²

Group	GPA	English language requirement
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Central/city/provincial/district-level agencies▪ Vocational education and training colleges	6.5	English language test results optional for application: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• IELTS Academic 5.0 (no sub-band below 4.5) or• TOEFL iBT 35 (Reading and Listening 3, Writing and Speaking 12 or above) or• PTE Academic 29 (no sub-band below 23)

² Candidates who have commenced but not completed Master level study will be considered on a case-by-case basis

• Research institutions		
• Provincially based universities	7.0	English language test results optional for application: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IELTS Academic 5.5 (no sub-band below 5.0) or • TOEFL iBT 46 (Reading and Listening 4, Speaking and Writing 14 or above) or • PTE Academic 36 (no sub-band below 29)
• Universities in Hanoi, Hai Phong, Danang, Can Tho, Ho Chi Minh City	7.0	English language test results optional for application: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IELTS Academic 6.0 (no sub-band below 5.5) or • TOEFL iBT 60 (Reading 8, Listening 7, Speaking 16, Writing 18 or above) or • PTE Academic 46 (no sub-band below 36)
• Vietnamese NGOs • Vietnamese companies	7.0	English language test result required for application: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IELTS Academic 5.5 (no sub-band below 5.0) or • 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 style="list-style-type: none"> • IELTS Academic 6.5 (no sub-band below 6.0) or • TOEFL iBT 84 (no sub-band below 21) or • PTE Academic 58 (no sub-band below 50)
• Foreign companies (for people with disabilities)	6.0	English language test result optional for application: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IELTS Academic 5.0 no sub-band below 4.5) • TOEFL iBT 35 (Reading and Listening 3, Writing and Speaking 12 or above) • PTE Academic 29 (no sub-band below 23)

* IELTS, TOEFL iBT or PTE Academic certificates will be valid if the tests have been on or after 1 January 2024.

Disadvantaged applicants

Below provisions apply for the following disadvantaged applicants:

- People with disabilities
- disadvantaged rural applicants, (for details, refer to <https://australiaawardsvietnam.org/>).

GPA	English language requirement	Work experience
6.0	English language test results optional for application: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IELTS Academic 5.0 (no sub-band below 4.5) or • TOEFL iBT 35 (Reading and Listening 3, Writing and Speaking 12 or above) or • PTE Academic 29 (no sub-band below 23) 	<p>People with disabilities: 12-month full-time/24-month part-time relevant work experience</p> <p>Disadvantaged rural applicants: 12-month full-time relevant work experience</p>

Application dates

For study commencing in Australia in 2026:

Opening date: 1 February 2025

Closing date: 30 April 2025 (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 <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 late 2025.
- **For Australia Awards in Vietnam Intake 2026, studies commence from June 2026 and be subject to approval of Government of Australia and Government of Vietnam.**
- 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:

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

Information about visas and Australia Awards scholarship entitlements and conditions can be found in the Scholarships Policy Handbook: <https://www.dfat.gov.au/sites/default/files/aus-awards-scholarships-policy-handbook.pdf>

Contact details

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Australia Awards

Mekong-Australia Partnership

Applying for an Australia Awards Scholarship

Australia Awards Scholarships are prestigious international awards offered by the Australian Government to the next generation of local, national and global leaders. Through study and research, recipients develop the skills and knowledge to drive change and help build enduring people-to-people links with Australia.

At the ASEAN-Australia Special Summit in March 2024, the Minister for Foreign Affairs announced a further five-year commitment to support the resilience and prosperity of the Mekong subregion through the **Mekong-Australia Partnership (MAP)**. MAP aims to support a resilient and inclusive Mekong subregion that pursues joint solutions to shared and transboundary challenges.

From 2026, MAP will offer Scholarships for Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam, Laos and Myanmar at postgraduate (Masters) level to undertake coursework or research in MAP thematic areas. Recipients will have exclusive access to the Mekong-Leaders Network. The priority areas of study include:

MAP thematic areas	Priority areas of study
Water Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Water resources and sustainable managementCatchment scienceIntegrated water managementHydrology/HydrogeologyAquacultureFisheries
Climate Action	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Climate/environmental adaptation and resilienceRenewable energySustainable developmentRural developmentDisaster managementForest and wildlife conservationNatural resource managementInfrastructure and transportMineral resourcesEnvironmental managementSustainable agriculture and food stabilitySustainable tourismConstruction management
Transnational Crime	<ul style="list-style-type: none">International/criminal lawCriminologyProsecution and Judicial systemMaritime security/sustainabilityCriminal LawDigital and Forensic Science
Economic Resilience and Subregional Integration	<ul style="list-style-type: none">EconomicsEconomic governanceAgricultural economicsInternational tradeAgribusinessPublic financial managementFood science and technologyAI and roboticsDigital transformationDigital communicationInformation technologyMulti-media communicationEntrepreneurship and innovationHospitality management



MAP thematic areas	Priority areas of study
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Logistics and supply chain management ▪ Regional stability ▪ Critical technology ▪ Quality and standard management ▪ Construction and infrastructure management ▪ Public administration and policy
Gender Equality, Disability and Social Inclusion (GEDSI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Gender studies ▪ Disability policy and practices ▪ Disability service ▪ Human rights, gender-based health care ▪ Social work ▪ Social policy and social protection

MAP on-award enrichment: the Mekong-Leaders Network

The MAP-funded scholarships offer exclusive access to an on-award enrichment program: the **Mekong-Leaders Network**. This dynamic program will include activities, events and development opportunities that foster enduring connections between MAP scholars across the Mekong subregion to cultivate a collaborative cohort and set the foundations for a strong future alumni network.

Level of study

MAP-funded scholarships provide an opportunity for citizens of Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam, Laos and Myanmar to obtain a Masters by research or Masters by coursework qualification at an Australian tertiary institution.

Award benefits

The MAP-funded scholarship benefits remain the same as the Australia Awards program with additional exclusive access to on-award enrichment, through the Mekong-Leaders Network.

The application process

The application process and online portal for MAP-funded scholarships will be the same as for the Australia Awards Scholarships. Applicants can apply for a MAP-funded scholarship if the choice of study or research falls within one of the key thematic areas outlined above. Applicants can also choose to apply for both an Australia Awards Scholarship and a MAP-funded scholarship in their respective countries.

Applicants interested to become a MAP scholar should highlight their eligibility for a MAP-funded scholarship in their written application.

Applicants are assessed on their professional and personal qualities, academic competence, relevance of study to the key thematic areas and their potential to contribute to joint solutions to current and emerging challenges in the Mekong subregion.

Applications are strongly encouraged from women and people living with disability.

Online applications:

Citizens from Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos and Myanmar should follow the same application procedure for the Australia Awards Scholarships for your country. For further information, please visit the Australia Awards website: www.dfat.gov.au/people-to-people/australia-awards/australia-awards-scholarships

Citizens from Thailand please visit the Thailand Australia Awards intake information website: www.dfat.gov.au/people-to-people/australia-awards/participating-countries/thailand-australia-awards-intake-information