



Australia Awards

Make a difference with an Australia Awards Scholarship

Australia Awards Laos – Intake 2025



Australia Awards Laos Intake 2025



Do you want to be a leader in your field and join an inspiring network of changemakers?

Australia Awards Scholarships in Laos

Australia's international development assistance in Laos helps promote prosperity, reduce poverty, and enhance political stability.

Australia Awards Scholarships (AAS) 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 eligible countries.

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

Applicants living with a disability and people living in the provinces are entitled to additional support and are strongly encouraged to contact the Laos Australia Institute (LAI) Awards Team (contact details are on the last page) for additional information.

Fields of study supported by the AAS

In recognition of the genuine development challenges across all sectors in Laos, applications are encouraged from all fields of study, **except for general business courses (business, business administration and business management), and education management.**

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.

Priority fields of study

The governments of Australia and Laos regularly review priority fields of study together and adjust the emphasis of the program. For Intake 2025, the following fields of study are human resource development priorities:

- **Climate change and environment:** environmental adaptation and resilience, waste management, renewable energy, sustainable tourism management, sustainable development, disaster management, forest and wildlife conservation, natural resource management, environmental management, sustainable agriculture and food stability.
- **Digital economy:** cyber security, critical technology (AI, robotics, etc), information technology, digital transformation and multi-media communication.
- **Economic growth:** public financial management, economic governance, entrepreneurship and innovation, hospitality management, international trade, agribusiness, food science and technology, logistics and supply chain management, quality and standard management.
- **Gender, disability and social inclusion:** gender studies, disability policy and practices, inclusive education, and human rights.
- **Health:** public health, allied health, emergency operation management, communicable disease, epidemiology, linkages between human and animal health, gender-based health care, medical technology, nutrition and dietetics, food safety, occupational health and safety, mental health and psychology.
- **Infrastructure and connectivity:** construction and infrastructure management, digital telecommunication, urban planning and architecture.
- **Other:** early childhood and basic education, pedagogy and teaching, engineering, human resource management and development, international law, public administration and policy, monitoring and evaluation, social work.

Level of study

Australia Awards Scholarships provide citizens of Laos with the opportunity to obtain a qualification at an Australian tertiary institution, including technical colleges.

Awards will be offered for commencement in 2025 within the following allocations:

- **Vocational Education and Training (VET)¹:** diploma and advanced diploma
- **Master's degree**
- **Doctorate degree (PhD).**

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*, available at: <https://www.dfat.gov.au/sites/default/files/aus-awards-scholarships-policy-handbook.pdf>

Previous Australian Government scholarship recipients who are planning to apply for an Australia Award this year are required to have resided outside of Australia for twice the length of the total time they were in Australia, as of 30 April 2023. For example, if you completed a Master's degree in Australia from January 2018 to December 2019, you are eligible to apply for another Australia Award after December 2023.

Country-specific conditions

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

- be a citizen of Laos (only)
- be aged between 18 and 50 years old as of 30 September 2024
- have been residing in the Lao PDR for a minimum of two years as of 30 April 2024 (exceptions may be considered for Government Officials who have had diplomatic postings overseas)
- provide all of the required supporting documents listed under "Supporting Documents" and
- declare all previous studies undertaken irrespective of whether it is complete or incomplete.

¹ Vocational Education and Training (VET) was known as Technical and Further Education (TAFE)

VET applicants:

- must have completed upper secondary school, or
- will complete upper secondary school by 30 September 2024, or
- currently studying at tertiary level, or
- who already have a Diploma or a Bachelor's degree, must have a minimum of two years' work experience and be seeking qualifications to fill a skills shortfall or to change career direction.

Master's degree applicants:

- must hold a Bachelor's degree or equivalent and
 - must have a minimum of two years' work experience.
- * **Note:** Those who already have a Master's degree from overseas are eligible to apply; but may be given lower priority and must be seeking qualifications in different areas.

PhD applicants:

- must hold a Master's degree
- must have a minimum of three years' work experience and
- must submit an IELTS Certificate of overall score of at least 6.5 with no individual band less than 6.0 obtained after 30 March 2023.

* **Note:** IELTS test fee reimbursement will be paid to PhD applicants who meet all eligibility criteria.



★ **Australia Awards Scholarships Intake 2025 Ambassadors**
Mrs Ninkham Keopaphanh and Dr Kanya Souksakoun

The application process

Information on how to apply online and the supporting documents can be found at **Australia Awards Laos** www.australiaawardslaos.org.

Online applications

All applications must be lodged online through Online Australia Awards Scholarships Information System (OASIS) at

<https://oasis.dfat.gov.au>

When applying online, all supporting documents must be uploaded to meet the specific eligibility requirements for Laos.

We strongly advise applicants to apply online 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.

For those who have no access to the internet and/or people living with a disability who need help to apply, kindly contact our Awards Team at LAI (see contact details on the last page).

Find a university and course

Applicants must have researched their preferred courses and ensure that their courses are included on the **Commonwealth Register of Institutions and Courses for Overseas Students (CRICOS)** register.

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 student
- the details of the course content and topics covered
- the English language requirements for selected courses

But applicants do not need to apply separately to your selected university at this stage.

The selection process

The selection process includes:

- application eligibility checking
- an independent assessment of eligible applications against the selection criteria
- shortlisting
- IELTS preparation and testing
- interviews for shortlisted applicants with the requisite IELTS scores
- a moderation process considering gender, disability, government, non-government and private sectors, levels and areas of study.

Application dates

For study commencing in Australia in 2025:

Opening date: 1 February 2024

Closing date: 30 April 2024

(20:59 Laos Time or 23:59 Canberra Time)

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

Selection criteria

Applicants will be assessed and interviewed against the following criteria:

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

* **Note:** Gender balance and other agreed targets may be applied to the selection process. Priority will be given to people with disability, people living in the provinces, people from ethnic backgrounds, and applicants from target ministries/organisations.



★ Mrs Ninkham Keopaphanh

Internal Audit Manager, ST Bank
Master of Business (Finance) at Victoria University in 2018-2020

Australia Awards Scholarships offer more than a degree. You gain an internationally recognised qualification and a life-changing experience in Australia.

Supporting Documents

Applicants must submit all of the relevant supporting documents listed in the table below.

Please note that documents do NOT have to be certified at the time of application.

Applicants should note that a failure to provide all of the required documents may lead to the application being deemed ineligible.

If you are unable to obtain any required documents, you should contact the Awards Team to discuss this as early as possible in the preparation of your application.

Document	Document type	Checklist
All applicants		
Valid National Identity Card (Lao) OR Passport	Proof of citizenship	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Curriculum Vitae (Applicants are recommended to use the CV template available on Australia Awards Laos Website) - Maximum of 6 pages	CV or resume	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Public Sector/Government Official applicants		
Government of Laos approval letter, dated, signed and stamped by a representative of your personnel department or head of your department (Applicants must use the template referred to on Australia Awards Laos Website).	Employer or Nominating Authority Statement	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
VET applicants		
All official upper secondary diploma and/or tertiary education degree(s) Copy of the original and an English translation	Degree certificate	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
All official upper secondary diploma and/or tertiary education transcript(s) Copy of the original and an English translation	Academic transcript	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
For high school graduates or university/college students only, please also submit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> all official year 10-12 upper secondary school academic transcript(s) all official university/college academic transcript(s) where relevant Copy of the original and an English translation	Academic transcript	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Master's applicants		
All official tertiary education degree(s) Copy of the original and an English translation	Degree certificate	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
All official tertiary education transcript(s) Copy of the original and an English translation	Academic transcript	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
PhD applicants		
All official tertiary education degree(s) Copy of the original and an English translation	Degree certificate	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
All official tertiary education transcript(s) Copy of the original and an English translation	Academic transcript	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
IELTS Certificate of overall score of at least 6.5 with no individual band less than 6.0 This certificate must be obtained after 30 March 2023	Proof of English language proficiency	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Research applicants only (Master's and PhD)		
Two referee reports, at least one must be from an academic supervisor. The second referee report can be a current or former supervisor in a relevant field Applicants must use the referee report template available on Australia Awards Laos website	Referee report	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
List of publications relevant to the research proposal	List of publications	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
A detailed Research Proposal (as submitted to the supervisor in Australia)	Other document	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
A letter from a supervisor in Australia stating his/her in-principle support for the research proposal that has been provided	Other document	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> N/A

IELTS Requirements

Applicants are not required to submit a valid Academic International English Language Testing System (IELTS) result with their application.

LAI will sponsor one IELTS test for applicants passing the application assessment round who do not have a valid IELTS overall score of 6.5 with no individual band less than 6.0

Preference for interview consideration will be given to applicants with a higher English language level and at least IELTS overall score of 5.5 no individual band less than 5.0 (submitted by 15 July 2024).

* **Note:** PhD applicants must meet IELTS requirements specified on the country specific conditions section (page 2) of this document.

Outcomes

All applicants will receive notification at each stage in the selection process if their application is not proceeding further. Applicants who are interviewed will be notified of the outcomes as soon as possible after the selection process concludes in late August 2024.

Successful applicants will remain provisional until meeting the following requirements, or the scholarship offer will be withdrawn:

- the provisional awardee attains the minimum English language requirement for placement, and no less than an overall IELTS score of 6.5 with no band less than 6.0.
- the provisional awardee is placed at an Australian university; and
- the provisional awardee is issued with the relevant visa by the Australian Department of Home Affairs.

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.

Provisional awardees will be required to attend:

- course counselling
- a pre-departure briefing
- university's Introductory Academic Program
- other required preparatory study on arrival in Australia
- English and Academic Preparatory Training

English and Academic Preparatory training

Successful applicants holding:

- overall IELTS score of at least 6.5 with no band less than 6.0 may receive an offer for an Academic Readiness Course (ARC) program in Vientiane of up to 5 weeks.
- overall IELTS score of at least 6.0 with no band less than 5.5, and within half point of the score required for course placement may receive an offer for an English and Academic Preparation (EAP) program in Vientiane of up to 6 months.

Provisional awardees are not permitted to undertake employment during any preparatory training. A small stipend will be provided. Short absences only from the course may be considered on a case-by-case basis.



★ Dr Kanya Souksakoun

Deputy Director of the Environmental Management, Department of the Faculty of Environmental Sciences, National University of Laos

Doctor of Philosophy, Crawford School of Public Policy at The Australian National University in 2017-2021

Make a difference with an Australia Awards Scholarship





Key Australia Awards Scholarships Intake 2025 dates *

Promotion activities

Information Session: Disability Advocates and applicants with disability, at Laos Australia Institute, Vientiane Capital	Thursday 8 February 2024 (14:00-16:00)
Information Session: Government applicants and Ministry representatives, at Muong Thanh Luxury Vientiane Hotel, Vientiane Capital	Friday 16 February 2024 (13:30-16:00)
Information Session: All Applicants, at Muong Thanh Luxury Vientiane Hotel, Vientiane Capital	Saturday 17 February 2024 (8:45-12:00)
Information Session: Luang Namtha Province, at Luang Namtha Provincial Conference Hall	Tuesday 20 February 2024 (13:30-16:00)
Information Session: Salavan Province, at Salavan Teacher Training College	Wednesday 28 February 2024 (13:00-15:30)
Information Session: Champasak Province, at Champasak Grand Hotel	Thursday 29 February 2024 (13:30-16:00)
Information Session Live on Facebook page: Laos Australia Institute	Wednesday 6 March 2024 (19:00-20:00)
Australian Education Exhibition at Crowne Plaza Hotel, Vientiane	Tuesday 19 March 2024 (11:00-18:00)
Information Session: Xiengkhouang Province, at Xiengkhouang Provincial Conference Hall	Thursday 21 March 2024 (13:30-16:00)
Support Session for applicants with disability, at Laos Australia Institute	Monday 25 March 2024 (9:30-12:00)
Support Session for Government applicants and Ministry representatives, at Laos Australia Institute	Monday 25 March 2024 (13:30-16:00)
Support Sessions for women applicants, at Laos Australia Institute	Tuesday 26 March 2024 (9:30-12:00)
Support Sessions for women applicants (Online via Zoom)	Tuesday 26 March 2024 (13:30-16:00)
Support Session for provincial applicants (Online via Zoom)	Monday 4 March 2024 (13:30-16:00)
Interview Tips on Facebook Page: Lao Youth Radio FM 90.0 Mhz	Thursday 11 July 2024 (19:30-20:30)

Application process

Application Opening and Closing Dates	Thursday 1 February – 30 April 2024 (20:59 Laos Time)
Compliance screening, data entry and reporting (eligibility checking)	Thursday 2 – Wednesday 15 May 2024
Independent Assessment of applications and Shortlisting	Monday 6 – Friday 31 May 2024

Selection process

Shortlist for IELTS	Wednesday 7 June 2024
IELTS Preparation	19 - 20 June & 3 - 4 July 2024
IELTS tests	22 June & 6 July 2024
Shortlist for Interviews	26 July 2024
Interviews	31 July – 14 August 2024
Formal Provisional Awards Offer	Early September
Formal Offer for English and Academic Preparation	September

*To register for the information sessions and get more updates on the scholarships process, please visit our website at www.australiaawardslaos.org

* Laos Australia Institute (LAI) may need to change the dates of the information sessions, so applicants should visit our website periodically for updates.

* Applicants are encouraged to attend an Information Session, and follow our Facebook Pages: [Australia in Laos](#) and [Laos Australia Institute](#) to access videos and Facebook Live Information Sessions, reminders and tips.

* Provincial applicants (and others) are especially encouraged to also contact LAI by [email](#) or phone with questions once they have viewed the videos and read this brochure.

Australia Awards Participating Institutions

Australian Capital Territory

Australian National University: www.anu.edu.au
University of Canberra: www.canberra.edu.au
Canberra Institute of Technology: www.cit.edu.au

New South Wales

Australian Catholic University: www.acu.edu.au
Charles Sturt University: www.csu.edu.au
Macquarie University: www.mq.edu.au
Southern Cross University: www.scu.edu.au
University of New England: www.une.edu.au
University of New South Wales: www.unsw.edu.au
University of Newcastle: www.newcastle.edu.au
University of Sydney: www.usyd.edu.au
University of Technology, Sydney: www.uts.edu.au
University of Wollongong: www.uow.edu.au
TAFE New South Wales: www.tafensw.edu.au
Western Sydney University: www.westernsydney.edu.au

Northern Territory

Charles Darwin University: www.cdu.edu.au

Queensland

Aviation Australia: www.aviationaustralia.aero
Bond University: www.bond.edu.au
Central Queensland University: www.cqu.edu.au
Griffith University: www.griffith.edu.au
James Cook University: www.jcu.edu.au
Queensland University of Technology: www.qut.edu.au
TAFE Queensland: www.tafeqld.edu.au
University of Queensland: www.uq.edu.au
University of Southern Queensland: www.usq.edu.au
University of the Sunshine Coast: www.usc.edu.au

South Australia

Carnegie Mellon University: www.australia.cmu.edu
Flinders University: www.flinders.edu.au
TAFE SA: www.tafesa.edu.au
University of Adelaide: www.adelaide.edu.au
University College London: www.ucl.ac.uk/australia
University of South Australia: www.unisa.edu.au

Tasmania

Tas TAFE: www.tastafe.tas.edu.au
University of Tasmania: www.utas.edu.au

Victoria

Box Hill Institute TAFE: www.boxhill.edu.au
Bureau of Meteorology Training Centre: www.bmtc.moodle.com.au
Chisholm Institute: www.chisholm.edu.au
Deakin University: www.deakin.edu.au
Federation University: www.federation.edu.au
Holmesglen Institute of TAFE: www.holmesglen.edu.au
Kangan Institute: www.kangan.edu.au
La Trobe University: www.latrobe.edu.au
Monash University: www.monash.edu.au
RMIT University: www.rmit.edu.au
Swinburne University of Technology: www.swinburne.edu.au
University of Melbourne: www.unimelb.edu.au
Victoria University: www.vu.edu.au
William Angliss Institute of TAFE: www.angliss.edu.au

Western Australia

Curtin University: www.curtin.edu.au
Edith Cowan University: www.ecu.edu.au
Murdoch University: www.murdoch.edu.au
University of Western Australia: www.uwa.edu.au

Further information

Information about the Australia Awards – Laos can be found at: www.australiaawardslaos.org

More general information about Australia Awards, Australia's development cooperation 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 about visas and Australia Awards Scholarships 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: Australia Awards - Laos

Address: Laos Australia Institute
Foreign Languages Resource Centre
Building Corner of Rue Setthathirath and
Mahosot Road, Vientiane Capital, Lao PDR

Phone: (856) 21 265 721, (856) 21 265 722

Email: infoawards@laosaustraliainstitute.org

Website: www.laosaustraliainstitute.org

Facebook: [Australia in Laos](https://www.facebook.com/AustraliainLaos)
[Laos Australia Institute](https://www.facebook.com/LaosAustraliaInstitute)

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