



Australia Awards

Pakistan

Applying for an Australia Awards Scholarship

Australia Awards Scholarships in Pakistan

Australia's international development assistance in Pakistan 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 for development. 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 Pakistan.

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

Priority fields of study

Australia Awards scholarships will be offered to professionals working in sectors that support Pakistan to achieve sustainable development with particular focus on the empowerment of women and girls, agriculture, infrastructure, water security and inclusive economic development.

Detailed information on priority areas of study can be found at www.australiaawardspakistan.org.

Level of study

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

Scholarships for commencement in 2021 will be only for Masters level studies.

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: dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Pages/australia-awards-scholarships-policy-handbook.aspx

English language proficiency

Applicants must have achieved an IELTS (Academic) score of 6.5 or higher (with no individual band score of less than 6.0) or an equivalent TOEFL or PTE score. Scores must be valid at 1 January 2021.

Commencement of study

All scholarships must be taken up in the year for which they are awarded. Should an awardee not be able to commence study by November in the year of the award, the scholarship will be cancelled.

Country-specific conditions

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

- be a Pakistani citizen currently residing in Pakistan
- not be a citizen of Australia, hold permanent residency in Australia or be applying for a visa to live in Australia permanently
- have completed 16 years of education and five years of relevant work experience in Pakistan
- not be more than 45 years of age at the time of submitting the application
 - People with a disability who meet the eligibility criteria may submit an application with an IELTS score of 6.0 with no band less than 5.0, but if they are selected, they must re-sit an English Language Proficiency test (to be arranged by

Australia Awards – Pakistan) and achieve the required score before they can take up their Scholarship

- submit a Development Impact Plan, which outlines clear objectives and motivations to contribute to development in Pakistan
- return to Pakistan at the completion of their study for at least two years

Scholarships will not be available for courses of study in Australia where the applicant has already achieved that qualification and the qualification is deemed to be equivalent to the Australian qualification.

The program will request recognition of prior learning for all scholarship recipients from Pakistan. If this request is granted, the recipient may be placed in a degree program that may be shorter in duration than for the one he or she originally applied.

Application dates

For study commencing in Australia in 2021:

Opening date: **1 February 2020**

Closing date: **30 April 2020**

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 of the relevant supporting documents listed in the table below:

Required document	OASIS document type	Certified
Completed Development Impact Plan (DIP). Template is available on the Australia Awards – Pakistan website closer to the application opening date.	Other Document	Original
Tertiary degree certificates (Bachelor's and Master's level) – both sides of all degrees should be copied	Degree Certificate	Yes
Academic transcripts (Bachelor's and Master's level) both sides of all transcripts should be copied	Academic Transcript	Yes
IELTS or TOEFL results valid as at 1 January 2021	Proof of English Language Proficiency	Yes

Academic referee reports (two reports for Master's by Research applicants; one for Master's by Coursework applicants)	Referee report template	Yes
Employment referee report (same template as above)	Referee report template	Yes
No objection certificate for public sector applicants	Other Document	Yes

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 Pakistan
 - professional and personal leadership attributes including relevant work experience.
- Successful candidates will be notified no later than August 2020.

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

Information about Australia Awards – Pakistan can be found at <http://www.australiaawardspakistan.org>

More general information about Australia Awards, Australia's aid program, and studying in Australia can be found at the following links:

- <https://dfat.gov.au/people-to-people/australia-awards/Pages/australia-awards-scholarships.aspx>
- studyinaustralia.gov.au

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

Australia Awards – Pakistan
Hayat Halls, Block No. 2,
Diplomatic Enclave - 1,
Sector G-5, Islamabad
Telephone: +92-51-2832081-4
Fax: +92-51-2832085
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Australia Awards

Australia Awards Scholarships - Pakistan

2021 Eligibility Checklist

Australia Awards Scholarships 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

It is a precondition of accepting an Australia Awards Scholarship that Australia Awards recipients return to their home country following their Scholarship to take up a position that utilises their study for a minimum period of two years.

To be eligible, applicants must:

- be a Pakistani citizen currently residing in Pakistan for at least the past 24 months
- not have applied for or be entitled to permanent residency or citizenship in Australia or New Zealand
- satisfy Australian Government requirements for international student visas for entry to Australia (health, character etc.)
- be able to provide a Police Security Clearance Certificate at the time of visa application
- not hold another scholarship
- not have held a foreign scholarship in the 24 months preceding the application (calculated from the date of arrival back in Pakistan to the closing date for receipt of applications)
- be applying to commence a new course of study and not be seeking support for a course already commenced in Australia (ongoing study programs will not be supported)
- be able to take up the Scholarship in the year for which it is offered
- have outlined a case that is clear about their objectives and motivation to make a contribution to development in Pakistan
- apply for courses that fall within the priority development sectors identified for Pakistan
- satisfy the admission requirements of the Australian tertiary institution and the course to be undertaken
- have an academic background relevant to the proposed study in Australia
- be applying for a Masters degree-level course
- have completed 16 years of education
- not be above 45 years of age at the time of submitting the application form
- have at least five years ¹ of work experience in the field in which they are applying. Internships and volunteer work will not be considered as work experience
- submit a Development Impact Plan (DIP) that clearly articulates how the proposed field of study could add value to improving the level and standard of service delivery, particularly in the priority development sectors and in promoting pro-poor development
- be able to demonstrate the ability to meet the English Language Proficiency requirements for the Scholarship at the time of application. The accepted English language tests are International English

¹ People with a disability may apply if they have at least two years of work experience.

Language Testing System (IELTS)², Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or Pearson Test of English Academic (PTE Academic), undertaken at the candidate's own expense. The requirements are:

- I. an Academic IELTS result with an overall score of at least 6.5, with no band less than 6.0
 - a. People with a disability and who meet the eligibility criteria may submit an application with an IELTS score of 6.0 with no band less than 5.0, but if they are selected, they must re-sit an English Language Proficiency test (to be arranged by Australia Awards - Pakistan) and achieve the required score before they can take up their Scholarship.
- II. an internet based TOEFL score of at least 84, with a minimum of 21 in all subtests
- III. a PTE Academic overall score of 58, with no communicative skill score less than 50

Special conditions

Applicants must also meet the following conditions:

- applicants must submit applications online on the Online Australia Awards Scholarships Information System (OASIS) at oasis.dfat.gov.au
- applicants for masters degree by research must provide an outline of the research proposal (up to 1000 words) and have in-principle agreement (letter or email) from a research supervisor at their Preferred university in Australia.
- scholarships will not be available for courses of study in Australia where the applicant has already achieved that qualification and the qualification is deemed to be equivalent to the Australian qualification.

The program will request recognition of prior learning for all scholarship recipients from Pakistan. If this request is granted, the recipient may be placed in a degree program that may be shorter in duration than for the one he or she originally applied.

(Note: Providing falsified documents at any stage of the scholarship cycle will render the applicant ineligible or be grounds for withdrawal of a Scholarship offer.)

Application dates (for study commencing in Australia in 2021)

Opening date: 1 February 2020

Closing date: 30 April 2020

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

Applicants can also check their eligibility online by visiting the following webpage:

<https://apps.australiaawardssouthwestasia.org/eligibility-check/pakistan>

² For information about IELTS test dates in your city, please contact Australian Education Office (AEO) or British Council Pakistan. British Council Pakistan is now conducting IELTS test in Quetta.



Australia Awards Scholarships - Pakistan

Required supporting documents for applications for study commencing 2021

Documents	Document type	Attested/ notarised*
Passport and citizenship	Proof of citizenship	Yes
Degree certificates	Degree certificates	Yes
Academic transcripts / mark sheets	Academic transcripts	Yes
IELTS or TOEFL or PTE Academic results (valid at 1 January 2021)	Proof of English language proficiency	Yes
Academic referee reports (two reports for applicants for Masters degree by research, and one report for applicants for Master's degree by coursework)	Referee report	No
Employment referee report (same template as academic referee report)	Referee report	No
Development Impact Plan (DIP) (use template)	Other document	No
Curriculum Vitae (CV) (use template)	Other document	No
Current employment letter	Other document	Yes
Previous employment evidence	Other document	Yes
No Objection Certificate (NOC)—for public sector employees only	Other document	Yes
Certificates of special achievements or merit (if any)	Other document	Yes
<i>Applicants for Masters degree by research:</i>		
▪ Evidence (letter or email communication) that the applicant has received in-principle support for their research topic from a potential supervisor at the university	Other document	No
▪ Research proposal (include a proposed methodology, timeline and a brief literature review)	Other document	No

Notes:

- Referee reports in other than the prescribed format will not be accepted and will make applications ineligible. Contact Australia Awards - Pakistan at info@australiaawardspakistan.org to clarify this requirement, if necessary.
- Experience shows that it takes time for supervisors to complete referee reports. Approach supervisors as soon as possible to obtain up-to-date referee reports. References should come from employers, senior colleagues or academics familiar with the applicant's academic and professional skills and achievements.

* A statement that the document is a true copy, signed and stamped by Notary Public or first class gazetted Public Servant.



Australia Awards

Disability Inclusive Development Fact Sheet

The Australian Government is committed to ensuring that people with disability are included in, and equally benefit from, Australia's development assistance. The objective of Australia's work in disability inclusive development is to improve the quality of life of people living with disability through:

- enhancing participation and empowerment of people with disability as contributors, leaders and decision makers in community, government and the private sector.
- reducing poverty among people with disability.
- improving equality for people with disability in all areas of public life, including service provision, education and employment.

The Australian Government works with partners, people with disability and their representative organisations to achieve this, recognising the vital role of people with disability in effective disability inclusive development.

Disability inclusion and Australia Awards

Australia Awards provide opportunities for the next generation of global leaders, including those with disability, to study in Australia. Australia Awards proactively encourages, selects and supports people with disability to complete Masters-level Scholarships aligned with the priority sectors.

Principles and procedures for disability support

Additional support is provided to people living with disability at all stages of the Scholarship cycle. Applicants with a disability are encouraged to notify the Australia Awards office as early as possible, preferably when applying for an Australia Award Scholarship.

Early and full notification of a disability will not negatively affect the assessment of an applicant's eligibility and will enable Australia Awards to provide appropriate support throughout the application and placement process (including any support that may be required in meeting eligibility requirements).

Reasonable adjustments will be provided to allow scholars with disability to participate in their Scholarship on an equal basis with all other scholars. Each scholar's support requirements will be different and will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

Australian universities have an obligation to provide students with disability reasonable adjustments to support their academic endeavours, such as additional training and/or access to assistive technology. Australia Awards will provide 'non-academic' reasonable adjustments to ensure that scholars with disability are adequately mobilised and supported and have a positive experience in Australia.

For further information please contact:

Australia Awards - Pakistan

Hall No.2, Hayat Halls, Block No. 2,
Diplomatic Enclave - 1,
Sector G-5, Islamabad.

Tel: +92-51-2832081-4

Fax: +92-51-2832085

Email: info@australiaawardspakistan.org

Website: www.australiaawardspakistan.org



Australia Awards Scholarships - Pakistan

Study commencing in 2021

Eligibility Checklist

Potential applicants for an Australia Awards Scholarship in Pakistan for study commencing in 2021 are encouraged to use this checklist to assess whether they **may** satisfy the eligibility criteria for an Australia Award in Pakistan before they commence an application. This checklist is not exhaustive and must be read in conjunction with the Country Profile for Pakistan for study commencing in 2021 and the information available at: australiaawardspakistan.org

Please note that Australia Awards will **only** be offered to persons who apply for a Scholarship in the prescribed manner and are selected through the formal selection process. Full details of the application and selection process and the conditions of the Scholarship are available at: australiaawardspakistan.org

Criterion	Your Response/Eligibility
Personal details	
Q1 Are you over 18 years of age?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes—please continue to Q2 <input type="checkbox"/> No—you are ineligible
Q2 Are you a citizen of Pakistan and currently residing in and applying from Pakistan?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes—please continue to Q3 <input type="checkbox"/> No—you are ineligible
Q3 Are you married to, engaged to or a de facto of a person who holds, or is eligible to hold, Australian or New Zealand citizenship or permanent residency?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes—you are ineligible <input type="checkbox"/> No—please continue to Q4
Q4 Are you applying for a visa to live in Australia?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes—you are ineligible <input type="checkbox"/> No—please continue to Q5
Q5 Are you current serving military personnel?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes—you are ineligible <input type="checkbox"/> No—please continue to Q6
Previous foreign scholarships / foreign qualifications	
Q6 Have you held a foreign scholarship in the 24 months preceding the application closing date (30 April 2020)?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes—you are ineligible <input type="checkbox"/> No—please continue to Q7
Q7 Have you obtained an academic qualification outside Pakistan in the 24 months preceding the application closing date (30 April 2020)?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes—you are ineligible <input type="checkbox"/> No—please continue to Q8

Previous scholarships from the Australian Government

- Q8 Have you previously been selected for an Australian Awards Scholarship? Yes—please continue to Q9
 No—please continue to Q10
-

- Q9 Have you resided outside of Australia for twice the length of the total time that you were in Australia for your previous Australia Awards Scholarship? Yes—please continue to Q10
 No—you are ineligible
- (For example, if you were on an Australia Awards Scholarship in Australia for two years you will not be eligible to apply for another Australia Awards Scholarship until you have resided outside Australia for four years.)

Proposed study program

- Q10 Does your proposed study program fall within one of the Sustainable Development Goals? Yes—please continue to Q11
 No—you are ineligible.
-

Qualifications and work experience?

- Q11 Do you satisfy the following requirements? Yes—please continue to Q12
 No—you are ineligible
- Do you have a tertiary qualification at least equivalent to an Australian Bachelor's degree?
Please contact the Australia Awards - Pakistan Country office if you are unsure whether your qualification is accredited and accepted by the Australia Awards.
 - Is your proposed Masters degree course two years or less in duration?
 - Have you worked in Pakistan for at least 5 years preceding 30 April 2020?

English language proficiency

- Q12 Do you have **one** of the following test scores that will still be valid on 1 January 2021? Yes—you *may* be eligible. We encourage you to investigate further at: australiaawardspakistan.org
 No—you are ineligible unless you can satisfy this criterion by 30 April 2020
- an International English Language Testing System (IELTS) (Academic) overall score of 6.5 or above (with no individual band less than 6.0)—or an overall score of 6.0 with no individual band less than 5.0 for those living with a disability.
 - TOEFL internet-based test (iBT) score of at least 84, with a minimum of 21 in all sub-tests; or
 - a Pearson Test of English Academic (PTE Academic) overall score of 58, with no communicative skill score less than 50?

Note: Australia Awards recipients must meet the English language requirement of their course, which may be higher than the minimum requirements specified here.

Supporting documentation

- Q13 Can you submit all the supporting documents required along with your application? Yes—you *may* be eligible. We encourage you to investigate further at: australiaawardspakistan.org
 No—you are ineligible unless you can satisfy this criterion by 30 April 2020
-

Note: The list of required documents can be found in the Pakistan Country Profile for study commencing in 2021 available at: australiaawardspakistan.org



Australia Awards

**Australia
Global
Alumni**

Profile: Muddassir Riaz Malik

Making a difference in public sector administration in Pakistan

Australia Awards alumnus Muddassir Riaz Malik is making significant policy changes in Pakistan's public sector.



*Above: Muddassir Riaz Malik,
Australia Awards alumnus*

Australia Awards alumnus Muddassir Riaz Malik is making a significant change in developing districts in Punjab, Pakistan. He has been instrumental in uplifting several public service initiatives in districts under his purview. Muddassir received an Australia Awards Scholarship in 2015 where he graduated with a Master of Public Policy from the University of Canberra.

Upon returning home, Muddassir was appointed as the Deputy Commissioner in Jhang, a district of Punjab, where he made a significant difference to uplift the community while contributing towards policy reforms and implementation. In June 2018 he was appointed Deputy Commissioner of the Multan district.

During his time in Jhang he dealt with matters of land revenue collection, alongside administering education and the health department in the district. He was also responsible for the coordination among various provincial departments in the district for effective policy implementation along with chairing the district intelligence committee for maintaining law and order.

As the Deputy Commissioner of Jhang, Muddassir successfully reformed the District Head Quarter (DHQ) Hospital Jhang through improvement of facilities, staff training and implementing better administration policies. His efforts started to show results within four months – leading to an increase of, on average, 3800 consultations in the Out-Patient Department (OPD) per day from 1,600 per day. This was achieved through various interventions including the introduction of new female registration associates, patient facilitators and pharmacy associates, increasing facilitation counters to manage load, availability of medicines and improved doctor attendance. This is the highest OPD consultations ever recorded in any DHQ in Punjab. Due to Muddassir's efforts, DHQ Jhang Hospital became the first DHQ in Punjab that not only achieved ISO 9001 and 14001 certifications but also got accreditation of minimum service delivery standard from the Punjab Health Care Commission.

Muddassir also introduced international standard sports facilities for both boys and girls in the district of Jhang. These facilities include FINA (International Swimming Federation) standard swimming pool, sports centre for fifteen in-door games, separate basketball courts for boys and girls, hockey grounds and cricket pitches. Muddassir believes that sports are an essential part of both physical development and character building for both boys and girls and such facilities will bear fruit.

Muddassir says the love for sports he developed during his time in Australia was instrumental when he introduced sporting facilities with international standards in districts of Pakistan.



Muddassir has been using skills acquired during his time in Australia to fulfil his duties as a public servant. 'When my children started studying in Australia during my Scholarship, I observed the emphasis on sports in Australian schools and its importance. In addition, the love I developed for sports when in Australia and having realised the positive outcome of sports activities, influenced me in introducing state of the art sports facilities in the district. I used impact assessment studies - a course at Crawford - to improve service delivery in the health sector in Jhang.'

Muddassir adds that the Australia Awards Scholarship has had an immense impact in his career development.

'Australia Awards helped my career with knowledge, diverse experience and a skill set which I learnt at the university. I developed my research skills during my time in Australia, which was very useful during my assignment as the Additional Secretary Welfare, especially when I was given the task to procure a helicopter for the Government of Punjab!'

'Australia is now just like my second home and interacting with Australians is always a moment of pleasure.' Muddassir believes that Australia Awards is a great influence in his personal and professional life. 'I have not only become more confident and independent in dealing with my personal matters, but I have also learnt how to live with people of different nationalities and views.' Muddassir appreciates that his time in Australia on his Scholarship helped him develop a better sense of listening to arguments as well as tolerating them. 'As a person I have become more rational, composed and focused.'

Muddassir plans on continuing his work as a civil servant and aims to also specialise in health policy or water resource management through further education.

Australia Awards are prestigious international Scholarships, Fellowships and Short Courses funded by the Australian Government. Australia Awards Scholarships aim to contribute to the long-term development needs of Australia's partner countries in line with bilateral and regional agreements.

For further information:

Australia Awards: www.australiaawards.gov.au

Australia Awards in South and West Asia: www.australiaawardssouthwestasia.org

Australia Awards – Pakistan: www.australiaawardspakistan.org