



Australia Awards

Timor-Leste

Applying for an Australia Awards scholarship

Australia Awards scholarships in Timor-Leste

Australia's international development assistance in Timor-Leste 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 eligible countries.

Applications are strongly encouraged from eligible women, persons with disability and ethnic minorities. At least 50 per cent of the scholarships will be targeted at suitability qualified female applicants.

Priority fields of study

There are no priority areas of study for Timor-Leste. However, applicants must demonstrate the relevancy of their study area for Timor-Leste's development, including for economic growth and diversification. Detailed information can be found at: www.australiaawardstl.org.

Level of study

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

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

- Diploma level (only available for people with a disability)
- Bachelor / undergraduate degree (approximately 15 per cent of awards)
- Master degree by coursework or research
- PhD (approximately 5 per cent of awards) - a limited number of research awards will be offered to strengthen the capacity of Timorese teaching and research institutions.

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

Country-specific conditions

In addition to the eligibility requirements, candidates from Timor-Leste must also meet the following conditions:

- Be usually and currently residing in Timor-Leste and have lived in Timor-Leste for at least 10 years (cumulative) since 1999, with some exceptions for applicants working for the Government of Timor-Leste (GoTL) in a third country.
- If a recipient of a previous scholarship, including GoTL scholarships, have worked in Timor-Leste for a minimum of two years cumulatively.
- Not have citizenship of any developed country (exceptions may be made in some instances for Timorese citizens holding Portuguese citizenship).
- Not currently holding another scholarship with the same benefits.
- Not have been terminated from a previous Australian Government scholarship.

Applicants employed as civil servants must:

- Be endorsed by a senior government official, for example a Director General or National Director.
- Before they start their application, check with the Human Resource department of the Civil Service Commission if they have permission to apply for an Australia Awards Scholarship.
- If you are a permanent public servant who was previously awarded a Government of Timor-Leste scholarship, check with the relevant scholarship department to ensure you have fulfilled their scholarship conditions and you can apply for an Australia Awards scholarship; and
- If you are not a public servant but previously awarded a Government of Timor-Leste scholarship, provide a confirmation letter from the relevant government scholarship department that you are authorised to apply to Australia Awards.

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 following documents to meet the specific requirements for Timor-Leste:

For Diploma and undergraduate level

Required document	OASIS document type	Certified
Proof copy of citizenship i.e. BI or Electoral or Passport	Proof of citizenship	No
A copy of your birth certificate (RDTL) English version	Proof of citizenship	No
Current Curriculum Vitae.	Curriculum Vitae/ resume	No
Refer to template on the Australia Awards Timor-Leste website.		

Required document	OASIS document type	Certified
Minimum of current two reference letters in English. (One academic and one employment reference). Refer to template on the Australia Awards Timor-Leste website. The reference letters must not be older than one year old.	Other documents	No
Third year transcript (English version & copy of original)	Academic transcript	No (required to submit certified document if you are invited to interview stage)
Graduate diploma (English version and copy of original)	Degree certificate	No (required to submit certified document if invited to interview stage)
Returning home reintegration plan. Refer to template on the Australia Awards Timor-Leste website.	Other documents	No
If available, IELTS results obtained after 1 January 2024.	Proof of English Language Proficiency	No

For Master's (by research or coursework) and PhD

Required document	OASIS document type	Certified
Proof copy of citizenship i.e. BI or Electoral or Passport	Proof of citizenship	No
A copy of your birth certificate (RDTL) English version	Proof of citizenship	No
Current Curriculum Vitae.	Curriculum Vitae / resume	No
Refer to template on the Australia Awards Timor-Leste website		
Minimum of current two reference letters in English. (One academic and one employment reference). Refer to template on the Australia Awards Timor-Leste website. The reference letters must not be older than one year old.	Other documents	No
All official university degree certificates and academic transcripts (English Version and copy of original). Note: If no GPA is recorded on the transcripts, please obtain a statement from the university that confirms GPA equivalence.	Academic transcript	No (required to submit certified document if you are invited to interview stage)
Undergraduate, Master or Diploma (English Version and copy of original).	Degree certificate	No (required to submit certified document if you are invited to interview stage)
Returning home reintegration plan. <i>Refer to template on the Australia Awards Timor-Leste website.</i>	Other documents	No
If available, IELTS results obtained after 1 January 2024.	Proof of English Language Proficiency	No

For Masters by research and PhD level

Required document	OASIS document type	Certified
Two signed recent academic referee reports for PhD and Master by Research candidates only. Refer to template on the Australia Awards Timor-Leste website.	Other documents	No
Evidence (letter or email) that you have received in-principal support for your research topic from a potential supervisor. (For PhD Candidates only)	Other documents	No
Outline of the proposed research project in your OASIS online applications.	List of publication	No
Details of proposed fieldwork with indicative timelines attached to your OASIS online application.	List of publication	No

For public servants and applicants who have previously been granted Timor-Leste Government scholarships

Required document	OASIS document type	Certified
Endorsement from your employer (Line Supervisor, Director General or National Director)	Employer or nominating Authority statement	No
A confirmation letter from the relevant government scholarship department that you are eligible to apply for the Australia Awards 2025 intake.	Other documents	No

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

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

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
- <https://www.studyaustralia.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

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