



**MINISTRY OF PUBLIC SERVICE, ADMINISTRATIVE AND  
INSTITUTIONAL REFORMS  
MAURITIUS**



07 April 2023

**Ministry of Public Service, Administrative and Institutional Reforms**  
**Circular Letter No. 12 of 2023**  
**E/75/60/01/10 A**

***From: Secretary for Public Service***

***To: Supervising Officers in charge of Ministries/Departments***

**Australia Awards Scholarship – Masters Degree 2024**

The Government of Australia is offering scholarships leading to the award of a Masters Degree from an Australian Tertiary Institution under the Australia Awards Scholarship Programme 2024. The priority fields of study include –

- (a) Climate Change;
- (b) Agriculture and Food Security;
- (c) Mining and Energy; and
- (d) Foreign Policy and International Security.

2. The study and research opportunities provided by the Australia Awards Scholarships aim at developing the skills and knowledge of participants to drive change and contribute to development in their respective countries.

3. The eligibility criteria for the Australia Awards Masters Degree set out by the Australian Authorities are as at Annex. For more information regarding course requirements and online applications, applicants may access the website of the Australia Awards on the following link: <https://www.dfat.gov.au/people-to-people/australia-awards/Pages/how-to-apply-for-an-australia-awards-scholarship>.

4. The Australian Government will meet the costs including full tuition fees, return air travel, a one-off establishment allowance on arrival, contribution to living expenses, introductory academic programme, overseas student health cover for the duration of the scholarship, supplementary academic support and fieldwork allowance for research students.

/2...

5. Interested candidates should –

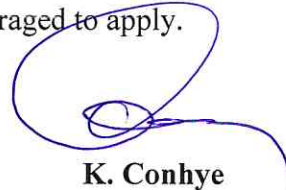
- (a) seek clearance as mentioned at paragraph 6 below and thereafter submit their applications electronically to the Australia Awards on the website: <https://oasis.dfat.gov.au/> . **The closing date for submission of online application is Monday 01 May 2023;** and
- (b) submit, through their respective Supervising Officers, a printed copy of their application to the Human Resource Development Division of this Ministry (attention: Mrs. J. Narayanasami Reddi).

6. In view of the fact that **nominations for any of the programmes are subject to exigencies of the service, applicants should imperatively seek and obtain approval from their respective Responsible Officers that they would be released in the event they are awarded the scholarship.** The conditions for the release of an officer are as follows:-

- (a) an officer shall be eligible for study leave with pay in accordance with paragraph 16.4.81 of the 2021 PRB Report, where he is nominated for an open scholarship which is considered as in-service training and the course is a priority field of study;
- (b) where an officer is granted study leave with pay, he will be required to enter into a bond with the Government of Mauritius in accordance with the provisions laid down in this Ministry's Circular Letter No. 1 of 2022; and
- (c) where the officer does not satisfy the conditions for the grant of study leave with pay, he may take advantage of leave without pay for study purposes in accordance with paragraph 16.4.94 (G) of the 2021 PRB Report.

7. For all overseas (face to face) training, the conditions imposed by the Ministry of Health and Wellness and issued in this Ministry's Circular Letter No. 50 of 2021, should be strictly complied with.

8. You are requested to ensure that the content of this Circular Letter is brought to the attention of all eligible public officers serving in your Ministry/Department including those in Local Authorities, Statutory Bodies and State-Owned enterprises falling under the purview of your Ministry/Department. Female candidates and persons with disabilities should be encouraged to apply.



**K. Conhye**  
**Secretary for Public Service**

***Copy to: Secretary to Cabinet and Head of the Civil Service***



Algeria, Botswana, Democratic Republic of Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Kenya, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sudan, Tanzania, The Gambia, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe

## Applying for an Australia Awards scholarship

### Australia Awards scholarships in Africa

Australia's international development assistance in Africa is focused on enhancing skills in the areas of agriculture and food security, climate change and adaptation, renewable energy, mining governance and countering terrorism and violent extremism.

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 women, people with disability and other marginalised groups.

### Priority fields of study

The priority areas of study for eligible African countries in this application round are:

- Climate change
- Agriculture and food security
- Mining and energy
- Foreign policy and international security

### Level of study

Australia Awards scholarships provide citizens of eligible African countries with the opportunity to obtain a Masters degree at an Australian tertiary institution.

Awards will be offered for commencement in 2024.



## 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](https://dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Pages/australia-awards-scholarships-policy-handbook.aspx)

## Country-specific conditions

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

- Be a citizen of Algeria, Botswana, Democratic Republic of Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Kenya, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sudan, Tanzania, The Gambia, Uganda, Zambia or Zimbabwe.
- Already hold an undergraduate degree.
- An English language proficiency of at least 6.5 in IELTS with no band less than 6.0 (or 575 in paper based TOEFL or 90 in internet based TOEFL or 61 in PTE Academic). Scores must be valid on 1 January 2024. No other English language test (including TOEFL prediction test) results will be accepted.

IELTS testing result is not a requirement for applicants if:

- English was the language of instruction for your undergraduate degree, or
  - you studied in Australia within the last two-years, or
  - you completed over five years of study in one of the following English-speaking countries: Australia, UK, USA, Canada, New Zealand, South Africa, or the Republic of Ireland
- Answer all relevant questions on the application form.

## Application dates

For study commencing in Australia in 2024:

Opening date: 1 February 2023

Closing date: 1 May 2023 (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.

### Supporting documents

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

## **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 eligible countries of Africa
- professional and personal leadership attributes including relevant work experience.
- Successful candidates will be notified in late 2023.
- 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:

- 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://dfat.gov.au/people-to-people/australia-awards/pages/australia-awards-scholarships)
- [studyinaustralia.gov.au](https://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](https://dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Pages/australia-awards-scholarships-policy-handbook.aspx)

## **Contact details**

Australia Awards Africa

Email: [enquiries.canberra@australiaawards.org](mailto:enquiries.canberra@australiaawards.org)