Australian Awards Scholarships (AAS) – Intake for Academic Year 2021

The Government of Australia has invited nominations from eligible government officials in Sri Lanka for the above scholarships for the academic year 2021.


Accordingly, you are kindly requested to circulate this information among all eligible confirmed managerial level officers coming under this Ministry in your Division / Department / Institution including Additional Secretaries, District Secretaries, Senior Assistant Secretaries, Service’s Directors and Divisional Secretaries. Further, please advise all applicants to visit https://oasis.dfat.gov.au/ and submit online application before the deadline of 30th April 2020 and the hard copy of their applications along with the completed ERD Form No. 02 should be submitted to Department of External Resources through the respective divisions with your recommendation. ERD Form 2 can be downloaded from www.erd.gov.lk


K.D.N. Ranjith Asoka
Additional Secretary
(Human Resources Development)

Copy: 1. All Additional Secretaries
   2. Chief Internal Auditor
   3. Directors of all Island Services

For necessary actions please:

State Secretary, Ministry of Public Administration and Accounting
State Secretary, Ministry of Public Administration and Home Affairs
Additional Secretary, Administration (Public Administration Division)
Additional Secretary, Administration (Home Affairs Division)
Additional Secretary, Administration (Provincial Councils and Local Government Division)
Chief Financial Officer
Director General of Establishment
Director General of Combined Services
Director General of SLIDA
Director General of Department of Pensions

Telephone 011-2696211-13
Fax 011-2695279
E-mail information@pubad.gov.lk
Address Independence Square, Colombo 07.
Australia Awards scholarships in Sri Lanka
Australia’s international development assistance in
Sri Lanka 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
Sri Lanka.

Applications are strongly encouraged from eligible women,
people with disability, those working in the disability sector
and people working in the following priority districts:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ampara</th>
<th>Batticaloa</th>
<th>Trincomalee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jaffna</td>
<td>Killinochchi</td>
<td>Mullaitivu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mannar</td>
<td>Vavuniya</td>
<td>Anuradhapura</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polonnaruwa</td>
<td>Badulla</td>
<td>Moneragala</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Puttalam</td>
<td>Ratnapura</td>
<td>Nuwera Eliya</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Priority fields of study
The priority areas of study for Sri Lanka are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Priority sectors</th>
<th>Field of Study</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Economic Development  | * Agriculture Economics    
|                       | * Business Administration  
|                       | * Customs Administration* 
|                       | * Development Economics  
|                       | * Economics               
|                       | * Educational Management 
|                       | * Fisheries & Aquatic      
|                       | Resources                 
|                       | * Information & Communication Technologies 
|                       | * International Finance   
|                       | * International Trade     
|                       | * Maritime Studies         
|                       | * Mathematics              
|                       | * Tourism and Hospitality  
|                       | * Urban Planning           |

Good Governance
* Development Studies
* Disability Studies
* Finance
* Forensic Studies
* Human Resource Management
* Humanitarian and Disaster Management*
* Law
* Political Economy
* Political Science
* Project Management
* Public Administration
* Public Policy
* Statistics
* Environmental Resource Management

Gender Equality
* Economics
* Gender Studies
* Political Science
* Psychology
* Sociology

The governments of Australia and Sri Lanka 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:
www.australiaawards.srilanka.org

Level of study
Australia Awards scholarships provide citizens of Sri Lanka
with the opportunity to obtain a qualification at an Australian
tertiary institution.

Awards will be offered for commencement in 2021 within the
following allocations:
* Masters level qualification (by coursework or research)

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 scholarship
- supplementary academic support,
- fieldwork allowance for research students and masters by coursework which has a compulsory fieldwork component.

Eligibility criteria


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 in 2021, the scholarship will be withdrawn.

Country-specific conditions

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

- applicants working in the priority districts, and applicants with a disability or those working in the disability sector will be considered with an overall IELTS band score of at least 6.0 with no band less than 5.0 (or equivalent TOEFL or PTE score).

If offered an Australia Awards scholarship, these applicants must meet the English language requirements of IELTS 6.5 equivalent before commencing study.

- be employed and the following criteria must be confirmed by an employment letter:
  - applicants from the public sector must have at least 3 years' post qualification experience in the public sector with 2 years in a field relevant to the proposed course of study and be confirmed in their current positions.
  - applicants from the private sector and civil society organisation must have at least 3 years' post qualification experience in a field relevant to the proposed course of study.
- have completed a tertiary-level qualification at least equivalent to an Australian Bachelor degree.
- have an academic or professional background relevant to their proposed study program.
- public sector employees selected for an Australia Award scholarship will be required to provide a copy of their official leave approval document to the Australia Awards office prior to departure.

- awardees are required to return to Sri Lanka for at least two years after completing their scholarship, to contribute to economic and social development of the country. Failure to do so will incur a debt to the Commonwealth of Australia for the total value of the scholarship.

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.

Australia Awards Scholarships program will request recognition of prior learning for all scholarship recipients from Sri Lanka. If this request is granted, the recipient may be placed in a degree program that may be shorter in duration than what they have originally applied for.

Application dates

For study commencing in Australia in 2021:

Opening date: 1 February 2020

Closing date: 30 April 2020 (11:59pm Canberra Time)

Applications and/or supporting documents received after this 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 provide the following documents to meet specific requirements for Sri Lanka:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required document</th>
<th>OASIS document type</th>
<th>Certified</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tertiary degree certificates</td>
<td>Degree Certificate</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic grades for university qualifications</td>
<td>Academic Transcript</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Passport/National ID/Driving licence</td>
<td>Proof of citizenship</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birth certificate</td>
<td>Proof of place of birth</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curriculum Vitae (CV)*</td>
<td>Other Document</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development Impact Plan (DIP) document*</td>
<td>Other Document</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Certificates of special achievement or merit

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Certificate</th>
<th>Other Document</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English language test (IELTS, TOEFL or PTE) results certificate valid at 1 January 2021</td>
<td>Proof of English language proficiency</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Masters coursework applicants: One academic referee report and one professional referee report (e.g. a work supervisor - with referee's seal) * | Referee Report | No |
| Masters research applicants: two academic referee reports and one professional referee report (e.g. a work supervisor) (with referee's seal) * | Referee Report | No |

### Employment Letter *

| Employment Letter * | Other Document | No |

| Any other document you wish to upload ensuring your eligibility | Other Document | No |

*Template available at: www.australiaawardssrilanka.org

### Notes:
- All documents must be certified. If the document is not in English, the translated copy must be certified. See the Australia Awards Scholarships Policy Handbook for certification requirements.
- Referee reports in different formats cannot be accepted and may make applications ineligible. Contact the Australia Awards Sri Lanka & Maldives office to clarify reference requirements.

### 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, including contribution to development outcomes in Sri Lanka
- professional and personal leadership attributes.

### Successful candidates will be notified no later than 31 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 the Australia Awards—Sri Lanka can be found at www.australiaawardssrilanka.org

More general information about the Australia Awards; Australia’s aid program, and studying in Australia can be found at the following links:
- [studyinaustralia.gov.au](http://studyinaustralia.gov.au)


### Contact details
Australia Awards - Sri Lanka & Maldives Office
Address: 75/11, Kynsey Road, Colombo 08, Sri Lanka
Telephone: +94 115 772 977 – 80
Email: inquiries@australiaawardssrilanka.org

Australian Awards scholarship information for study commencing in 2021