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வெளிநாட்டு வளங்கள் திணைக்களம்  
Department of External Resources

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நிதி மற்றும் வெகுசன ஊடக அமைச்சு  
செயலகம் (3 ஆம் மாடி), த. பெ. இல. 277, கொழும்பு 00100, இலங்கை

Ministry of Finance and Mass Media  
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මගේ අංකය  
எனது இல  
My No

ඔබේ අංකය  
உமது இல  
Your No

දිනය  
திகதி  
Date

28/01/2019

Secretary to the Cabinet Ministers  
Cabinet Office

Attn: Officer In-charge  
of Foreign Training

Dear Sir/Madam

**Australian Awards Scholarships (AAS) – Intake for Academic Year 2020**

The Government of Australia has invited applications from eligible government officials in Sri Lanka for the above scholarship programme for the academic year 2020.

The objective of the AAS is to enhance and strengthen the capacity of human resources in the public sector by providing valuable knowledge, skills and qualifications and thereby improving the quality services for the general public while enhancing the economic growth of Sri Lanka. Scholarships are awarded on condition that participants should actively engage in development activities of Sri Lanka.

**Priority Sectors**

The eligible applicants with experience and ability to contribute for the development in the sectors of economic development, good governance & gender equality will be considered for AAS.

- Scholarships in the priority sector of **Economic Development** included Agriculture Economics, Business Administration, Customs Administration, Development Economics, Economics, Educational Management, Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, Information and Communication Technologies, International Finance, International Trade, Maritime Studies, Mathematics, Tourism and Hospitality and Urban Planning.
- Scholarships in the **Good Governance** sector included Development Studies, Disability Studies, Finance, Forensic Science, Human Resource Management, Humanitarian and Disaster Management, Law, Political Economy, Political Science, Project Management, Public Administration, Public Policy and Statistics.

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பணிப்பாளர் நாயகம்  
Director General

94-11-2484693

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அலுவலகம்  
Office

94-11-2484500  
94-11-2484600

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Fax

94-11-2447633  
94-11-2387153  
94-11-2434876

- Scholarships in the priority sector of **Gender Equality** included Economics, Gender Studies, Political Science, Psychology and Sociology.

Detailed information on priority areas of study can be found at [www.australiaawardssrilanka.org](http://www.australiaawardssrilanka.org)

AAS has been focused to enhance the individual candidate's decision making ability by way of providing wide range of knowledge and skills through their Master' Programme, so that they can use them for the economic and social development of the country. However, this depends on the commitments and the well performance of the candidate. Therefore, you are kindly requested to nominate well qualified and committed personal who can acquire wider knowledge and benefits from this programme and make use of them for the development of the country in an effective manner. It is also necessary to ensure that the development plans are implemented by them upon their return.

### **Eligibility Criteria**

Australia Awards applicants must meet all eligibility requirements detailed in the Australia Awards Scholarships Policy Handbook, available at: <http://aid.dfat.gov.au/Publications/Pages/scholarhandbook.aspx>

In addition to these basic eligibility requirements, applicants must also meet the following country specific conditions.

- be a citizen of Sri Lanka
- They must not have previously received any Sri Lankan or overseas government-funded award (including Australian Government scholarships) for long-term academic studies in a foreign country. Long-term academic studies are defined as one year or longer in duration.
- An IELTS (Academic) overall score of at least 6.5 with no band less than 6.0 or an internet-based TOEFL (TOEFL iBT) score of at least 79, with a minimum of 21 in all subtests, or a Pearson Test of English Academic (PTE Academic) overall score of 58, with no communicative skill score less than 50. Scores must be valid at 1<sup>st</sup> January 2020.
- Applicants working in the districts below 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). However, they must meet the English language requirements of their course, if offered an Australia Awards Scholarship.

Ampara	Batticaloa	Trincomalee
Jaffna	Kilinochchi	Mullaitivu
Mannar	Vavuniya	Anuradhapura
Polonnaruwa	Badulla	Moneragala
Puttalam	Ratnapura	NuwaraEliya

- They must be employed in the public sector, and following criteria must be confirmed by an employment letter. (see\*\*\* in table of supporting documents below)
- They 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.
- They must have an academic or professional background relevant to their proposed study programme.
- They must not be married, engaged to, or a de facto of a person who holds, or is eligible to hold, Australia or New Zealand citizenship or permanent residency, at any time during the application, selection or mobilization phases.
- They must not be currently serving military personnel.
- They must not be a citizen of Australia, hold permanent residency in Australia or be applying for a visa to live in Australia permanently
- Not be applying for another long term Australia Award unless they have resided outside of Australia for twice the length of the total time that they were in Australia
- They must have completed a tertiary level qualification at least equivalent to an Australian Bachelor's degree.

### **How to Prepare**

In order to be applying for AAS, applicants must:

- Select preferred courses carefully. Applicants will not be able to change the course that they have selected except in exceptional circumstances. The course must have a clear link to the applicant's prior experience and support the applicant to contribute to development outcomes on their return to Sri Lanka.
- Submit a complete application with all necessary attachments, before the deadline. Late and incomplete applications will not be considered.

### **How to Apply**

- **Online Applications**

We strongly advise applicants to apply online and to do so 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. Apply online at: <https://oasis.dfat.gov.au/>

- **Supporting documents**

Applicants must submit their application with all of the relevant supporting documents listed in the Australia Awards Scholarships Policy Handbook.

- **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.

### Required Documentation

The following documentation must be submitted by all AAS applicants at the time of application. Failure to provide these documents at the time of application will result in the applicant being deemed ineligible.

Required document	OASIS document type	Certified
Tertiary degree certificates	Degree Certificate	Yes
Academic grades for university qualifications*	Academic Transcript	Yes
Passport/National ID/Driving licence	Proof of citizenship	Yes
Birth certificate	Proof of place of birth	Yes
Curriculum Vitae (CV)	Other Document	No
Development Impact Plan (DIP) document	Other Document	No
Certificates of special achievement or merit	Other Document	No
English language test (IELTS, TOEFL or PTE) results certificate valid at 01 <sup>st</sup> January 2020	Proof of English language proficiency	Yes
Masters coursework applicants: One academic referee report and one other referee report (e.g. a work supervisor) with referee's seal)**  If employed, the second referee report MUST be from the immediate supervisor/employer	Referee Report	No
Masters research applicants: two academic referee reports and one other referee report ( e.g. a work supervisor) with referee's seal**	Referee Report	No

If employed, the second referee report MUST be from the immediate supervisor/employer		
Masters research applicants: a research proposal. This proposal must include a proposed methodology, timeline and a brief literature review	Other Document	No
Employment Letter***	Other Document	No
Any other document you wish to upload ensuring your eligibility	Other Document	No

\*Applicants must include both consolidated and year-by-year transcripts.

\*\* Template available at: <http://dfat.gov.au/people-to-people/australia-awards/Pages/how-to-apply-for-an-australia-awards-scholarship.aspx>

\*\*\* The Employment Letter must address the matters detailed under Eligibility Criteria above. Applicants may need to provide more than one Employment Letter as evidence of their post-qualification experience.

- **Information Session**

Information sessions for potential applicants will be scheduled during the application period.

**Applicants must complete their application online on or before the deadline of 11.59 pm. (AEST) 30<sup>th</sup> April 2019.**

Applicants who are awarded scholarships at the end of the selection process will be required to submit a valid Police Clearance Certificate at the time of visa application. Public sector applicants who are selected for an Australia Award Scholarship must also submit the “ERD form 2” once they are selected.

**Further Information**

Information about the Australia Awards—Sri Lanka can be found at [www.australiaawardssrilanka.org](http://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:

- <https://dfat.gov.au/people-to-people/australia-awards/Pages/australia-awards-scholarships.aspx>
- [studyinaustralia.gov.au](http://studyinaustralia.gov.au)

Information about visas and Australia Awards Scholarship entitlements and conditions can be found in the Scholarships Policy Handbook, available at: <http://aid.dfat.gov.au/Publications/Pages/australia-awards-scholarships-policy-handbook.aspx>

Commitments of Candidates for the development of the country mainly will be assessed based on the details given in their applications. Therefore, candidates are kindly requested to pay their attention about this matter when they fill up their applications.

Therefore, you are kindly requested to circulate this letter among the all agencies which are coming under the preview of your Ministry and encourage to apply all qualified officials for this Scholarship programme. It is also requested to grant official leave once they are selected to the programme.

### **Contact Details**

Australia Awards - Sri Lanka and Maldives Office  
75 1/1, Kynsey Road, Colombo 08, Sri Lanka

Ph: +94 115772977-80

Email: [inquiries@australiaawardssrilanka.org](mailto:inquiries@australiaawardssrilanka.org)

Yours faithfully

  
**Noor Rizna Anees**  
Addl. Director General  
*for* Director General