



# Australia Awards Scholarships - Bhutan

## Guidelines for developing a research proposal

### Preparing a research proposal

This guideline is for applicants proposing to undertake masters by research studies. Applicants must include a research proposal of no more than **1250 words** with their application. This must be uploaded on OASIS at <https://oasis.dfat.gov.au>

Applicants should be familiar with Australia's aid policy and country development priorities before submitting an application for an Australia Awards Scholarship. Information provided on the websites listed below is essential reading.

### Australia Awards Scholarships

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

### Australia Awards Scholarships policy handbook

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

### Information for study commencing 2022 – Bhutan

<https://dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Pages/bhutan-information-for-intake.aspx>

### Priority fields of study – Bhutan

<https://australiaawardsbhutan.org/get-ready-to-apply/>

### Australia Awards Scholarships - participating Institutions

<https://dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Pages/australia-awards-participating-institutions.aspx>

### Opening and closing date

<https://dfat.gov.au/people-to-people/australia-awards/Pages/australia-awards-scholarships-opening-and-closing-dates.aspx>

### Referee report template

<https://dfat.gov.au/people-to-people/australia-awards/Pages/how-to-apply-for-an-australia-awards-scholarship.aspx>





## Enquiries

If there are technical difficulties in uploading documents, or matters to be clarified about drafting a proposal, contact the Australia Awards – Bhutan well before the application closing date (30 April 2021).

- Email: [inquiries@australiaawardsbhutan.org](mailto:inquiries@australiaawardsbhutan.org)
- Telephone: 975 (02) 331845

**Note:** Australia Awards staff will not discuss technical merits or the relevance of proposed research.

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## Sections of a research proposal

### 1. Research title

In no more than **15-30 words**, provide a descriptive title for the proposal.

### 2. Synopsis of research proposal

In no more than **50-100 words**, write a short synopsis of the overall research project.

### 3. Research objectives

In no more than **50-100 words**, describe the objective(s) of the research and the key question(s) the research will explore. Make sure questions are clear, unambiguous and focused.

### 4. Rationale and expected outcomes

In no more than **100-150 words** explain how the research proposal:

- addresses a knowledge gap in the field of study
- is significant and relevant for your country.

Outline discussions with a potential university supervisor and any other key stakeholders about the proposed research ideas.

### 5. Relevance to priority sectors

In no more than 50-100 words, outline the importance of the research to one of the priority sectors for study commencing 2022: Education, Economic Growth, Governance, Infrastructure, and Rural Development.

### 6. Literature review

In no more than **100-200 words**, outline research undertaken in the field of study and assess knowledge gap and its significance to development of your country. Attach references as an appendix.

### 7. Research methodology

In no more than **100-200 words**, review any relevant research literature and describe the research methods to be used (such as theoretical basis, tools and techniques of analysis and the stages of the research). Innovative and cost-effective approaches will be favourably considered. Where appropriate, explain how the research will contribute to economic and environmental development, gender equality and social inclusion (particularly of marginalised and disadvantaged groups).





### **8. Outputs/Deliverables**

In no more than **50-100 words**, explain the timeframe for the research and the expected final outputs or deliverables. These could include:

- academic outputs such as a thesis, thesis articles for journals, and/or conference presentations, for example
- policy materials such as policy briefs
- published articles in open access journals or pre-publication versions of the research
- delivering seminars/workshops on return.

### **9. Significance of the research to potential outcomes**

In no more than **50-100 words**, explain how the research can continue on return to your country and opportunities that already exist to continue the research.

### **10. Fieldwork and timeframe**

In no more than **100-150 words**, explain any fieldwork required and an indicative timeline to complete it. Provide an indication of costs involved in fieldwork.

