



Australia Awards

Australia Awards – Mongolia Inclusion fact sheet



The Australia Awards – Mongolia program has a Gender and Disability Strategy to integrate gender equality and support people with disabilities across the scholarships cycle, including their time in Australia and when they return to Mongolia.

The Strategy draws on the Australian Government's Principles & Procedures for Disability Support, analysis captured in Gender, Inclusion and Australia Awards – Mongolia, other Australia Awards programs managed by Coffey and targeted funding for initiatives to support women, the Mozzies and people with disabilities.

The Program also has a Provincial Inclusion Strategy to broaden its reach beyond Ulaanbaatar and provide opportunities for men and women in aimags to access Australia Awards.

Gender equality

The Program attracts many applications from women; indeed, a challenge is to attract more applications from men and to increase the number of those eligible. The ratio of eligible women to men for Australia Awards is 70:30. The number (and proportion) of applications from men has increased in recent years, as have the numbers of applications that meet eligibility requirements.

There is a disparity in enrolments in secondary and tertiary education in Mongolia, with many more girls and women completing secondary schooling and tertiary education. Despite the educational disparity and the differential in application rates for Australia Awards, men dominate senior and executive positions in the public sector and in senior leadership positions generally.

People with disability

Although applicants and awardees with disabilities increased over the period 2013–2017 in Mongolia, the number remains low. The first two applicants with disabilities applied in 2012, and numbers increased to 11 in 2017.

The Development for All strategy commits Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) to providing access to the aid program for people with disabilities. As part of this commitment, the Principles & Procedures for Disability Support document and roles and responsibilities to support applicants and awardees with disabilities are have been clarified and included in the **Australia Awards Scholarship Policy Handbook**.

For 2018, eligibility criteria for people with disabilities have changed:

- English language requirements at application become IELTS (Academic) 5.0 with scores in Reading and Writing not less than 5.0
- There is no requirement for previous employment.

The Program will identify, map and consult with organisations in Mongolia working with and developing policies to continue to assist and support people with disabilities. This includes peak bodies, local disabled people's organisations and local and international NGOs dealing with disability issues.



Rural inclusion

The Program tries to attract as many people as possible. It aims to broaden access and opportunities for people living outside Ulaanbaatar.

Extending the reach of the Program beyond Ulaanbaatar follows advice from the Government of Mongolia and other partners who believe there are suitably-qualified candidates in provinces who should be able to access Australia Awards.

Funding to assist women and people with disabilities

The Program has three funding sources to help address gender inequality and support people with disabilities. Two are dedicated funds; the other supports the Mozzies, but can include activities addressing gender issues and the needs of people with disabilities.

There are funds to help make reasonable adjustments to assist applicants and awardees with disabilities and funding to help improve career opportunities for women graduates.

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