



Australia Awards



Disability  
Inclusion and  
Australia Awards  
Myanmar



## Australia Awards empowers future leaders, including those with disability, to drive change and contribute to development

### Australia Awards

Australia Awards Scholarships provide opportunities for people from developing countries to undertake study in priority development sectors at participating Australian universities and education institutions, in line with the Australian Government's *Development for All 2015–2020: Strategy for strengthening disability-inclusive development in Australia's aid program*.

Australia Awards Scholarships and Short Courses aim to empower a network of talented individuals and future leaders, including those with disability, to drive change and contribute to development.

Australia Awards offers Scholarships on the basis of merit, transparency and equitable access for all, and supports recipients with disability to achieve their educational aspirations.

### What is disability inclusion?

People with disability may experience barriers that prevent them from fully and effectively participating in society on an equal basis to others.

Disability inclusion means addressing the identified barriers to ensure that people with disability have access to the full range of opportunities enjoyed by others in the least restrictive environment. DFAT identifies 'reasonable adjustments' as an important approach to supporting inclusion.



## People with disability in Myanmar are encouraged to apply for Australia Awards Scholarships and Short Courses

### **Equitable access for all**

People living with disability will receive additional support to ensure they are able to participate in all phases of the Scholarship cycle including the application, selection and mobilisation processes, living and studying in Australia, and as an alumni after they return home.

### **Applying for an Australia Awards Scholarship**

If you are a person with disability and are applying for an Australia Awards Scholarship or Short Course, we encourage you to notify Australia Awards about your disability as early as possible.

Early and full notification of a disability will enable Australia Awards to provide appropriate support through the application, interview and placement processes and will not negatively affect the assessment of your eligibility.

Australia Awards promotes equity of access, participation and contribution for all people.

Australia Awards Myanmar assists applicants with practical advice about Australia Awards application processes and also connects them with alumni who have travelled to Australia on an Australia Awards Scholarship.

## Scholars with disability are provided with tailored support to enable them to live and study in Australia

### Support for scholars with disability

Australia Awards provides reasonable adjustments to ensure that Australia Awards scholars with disability are appropriately supported. This support is designed to enable all Australia Awards scholars to have a fair, positive and successful experience in Australia and as participants in Short Courses, in Australia or in Myanmar.

If you receive an Australia Awards Scholarship and notify the Australia Awards office that you are a person with disability, you will be provided with tailored support to enable you to live and study in Australia. The support requirements of each person with disability are different and are assessed individually.

Australian universities are required to make 'reasonable adjustments' for people with disability. Reasonable adjustments are changes that enable scholars with disability to participate on the same basis as other scholars, and may include additional training, modifications and/or adjustments that meet the individual needs of people with disability to enable them to participate in, and benefit from, Australia's aid investments, including Australia Awards Scholarships.

Examples of reasonable adjustments include providing accessible transportation, accessible venues, sign-language interpreters, and information in accessible formats.

By applying for and completing an Australia Awards Scholarship, you can join a community of Australia Awards alumni—including people with disability—in contributing to development in Myanmar.



## Han Ko Lin

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**Australia Awards scholar Han Ko Lin is driven to enhance access to education and provide strong leadership in Myanmar’s education sector.**

His determination, experience and existing qualifications in arts, community leadership and social studies prepared him to successfully apply for an Australia Awards Scholarship. He is studying a Master of Education (Leadership and Management) at Flinders University in Adelaide, South Australia.

“My ambition is to provide qualified education access to my community,” he says.

“When I get back to Myanmar, I would like to work in the education sector with children in conflict affected or remote areas.”

In addition, Han Ko Lin is committed to using his skills to develop human resource capabilities in Myanmar’s education sector.

Han Ko Lin was born with a condition that caused the muscles in his legs and hands to waste. Due to his disability, Han Ko Lin faced numerous barriers to accessing education beyond his final school exams. He persisted, however, and went on to successfully complete tertiary education, embark on his career and gain greater independence.



Before coming to Australia, Han Ko Lin was working as Assistant Director at community-based organisation SKY-Youth Resource Centre, which supports young people to develop skills and gain employment.

Through Australia Awards, Han Ko Lin has received support to ensure he can undertake his study in Australia on an equal basis with others. This has included the provision of assistive equipment, as well as financial and psychological support.

He urges other people with disability to apply for an Australia Awards Scholarship.

“I, as a person with disability, would like to encourage other people like me to apply for a scholarship if they are passionate about making a positive change for Myanmar. Please believe in yourself and just do it, because you can do it.”



## Australia's aid program promotes improved quality of life for people with disability in Myanmar

### Post-Scholarship support

After successfully completing their study, scholars will become part of a bigger and more inclusive Australia alumni community. Alumni will have many opportunities to be involved in activities such as professional development, networking events, guest lectures and more. When attending events, alumni with disability are requested to notify the Australia Awards office to accommodate support needs.

### Australia's aid program

The Australian Government is committed to ensuring that people with disability are included in, and equally benefit from, Australia's development assistance.

The objective of Australia's work in disability-inclusive development is to improve quality of life for people with disability. The Australian Government aims to achieve this by:

- enhancing participation and empowerment of people with disability as contributors, leaders and decision makers in the community
- reducing poverty among people with disability
- improving equality for people with disability in all areas of public life, including service provision, education and employment.

The Australian Government works with people with disability and their representative organisations (Disabled Peoples Organisations) to achieve its objectives, recognising the vital role that people with disability play in promoting disability-inclusive development.

Apply for an Australia Awards Scholarship, receive tailored support in Australia, and join a community of alumni contributing to Myanmar's development

### For further information

Visit the Australia Awards Myanmar website at:

[www.australiaawardsmyanmar.org](http://www.australiaawardsmyanmar.org)

**Contact Australia Awards Myanmar**

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

Australia Awards Scholarship entitlements and conditions can be found in the Scholarships Policy Handbook, available at

[www.dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Pages/australia-awards-scholarships-policy-handbook](http://www.dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Pages/australia-awards-scholarships-policy-handbook)

