

Australia Awards Pakistan

Application Process & Selection Criteria for the Short Course Award: Civil Society Women in Executive Leadership

Participants

The course aims to train a group of 25 civil society women leaders from Pakistan to be strong role models and agents of change to guide and support the next generation of women in the civil society sector in Pakistan. This course will enable participants to not only clarify their leadership ambitions, recognise their leadership strengths and expand their access to leadership positions but more importantly will broaden their understanding of the role civil society can play in developing countries as an integral part of the development process and examine the relationship between civil society, state and other key stakeholders.

The course will, where applicable, consider relevant local legislation, policies, action plans and instruments that promote the behaviours, values and capabilities, participants may draw on to become future leaders in Pakistan. Participants will gain the knowledge and skills to meet current and emerging sectoral challenges, while examining different approaches to decision-making and leadership. It is expected that participants on this course will become a professional network of leaders and peers supporting each other in lifelong learning.

Selection of participants will be through assessment of applications received from nominated professionals working with relevant/target organisations.

Short course will target emerging and existing female leaders working in civil society in Pakistan who can act as powerful agents of change and contribute to improved services, enhancement of social inclusion and government accountability.

This course will be open to females only. Participants will be drawn from a range of civil society organisations in various sectors, including academia, media and individuals working in advocacy space. Five positions are reserved for women working on development activities through the five current partners of the Australian NGO Cooperation Program in Pakistan. The course will target mid to senior professionals working in civil society space with the potential to influence/recommend policy changes.

General Eligibility Criteria

Applicant must:

- Be a Pakistani citizen currently residing and working in the country
- Not be applying for or hold permanent residency in either Australia or New Zealand, or be married, engaged to, or a de facto of a person who holds, or is eligible to hold, Australian or New Zealand citizenship or permanent residency. This criterion applies at any stage of the application, selection or mobilisation phases of the course
- Be able to provide attested documents for processing a visa application to enter Australia for the duration of the Australian component of the course and satisfy all requirements of the [Department of Home Affairs](#) for a [Business Visitor Visa Subclass 600](#)
- Not be a currently serving military personnel

- Obtain the necessary study and travel approvals from their employer and be available and committed to participate in each of the three components of the course based on the anticipated course schedule outlined below
- Not have attended any previous Australia Awards Fellowships or Short Courses.

Specific Eligibility Criteria

Applicant must also:

- Be currently working in an area of their organisation dealing with strengthening of civil society in Pakistan
- Able and willing to apply learnings from the course to contribute to ongoing capacity building in strengthening of civil society and women leadership, including sharing knowledge within and across participating sectors (as appropriate)
- Able and willing to complete a negotiated RWP aimed at applying the observations and learnings during the 'in Australia' component of the short course to address a specific issue within their workplace
- Have occupied their current position for at least 12 months and/or have a minimum of two years relevant work experience. Applicants should not be planning on retiring for at least two years following completion of the course, or being considered for transfer at the time of application
- Have access to the internet and have intermediate levels of computer literacy (as a minimum)
- Demonstrate English proficiency at the level benchmarked for the course, to be determined by the Provider.

Applications will be assessed and ranked against the following criteria:

- The relevance of the applicant's current workplace responsibilities to the course content and outcomes
- The applicant's willingness to act as a workplace change agent, sharing new skills and knowledge with colleagues to build capacity
- The relevance and sustainability of the proposed RWP activity/ies
- Evidence of support from the applicant's workplace supervisor to participate the course, and to support implementation of the RWP
- English proficiency against the course benchmark and computer literacy

List of Mandatory Documents

All applicants must provide the following documents with their application forms:

- Attested copy of National Identification Card
- Attested copy of current passport (if available)
- Updated Curriculum Vitae
- Head of agency Endorsement letter (template provided at the online application portal)
- Two professional reference letters with contact details of referees. Referees will be called for a brief interview (template provided at the online application portal)
- Degree and transcript of the last completed qualification
- Experience letter from your current and previous organisations.

Application Process

To apply for the short course, applicants must complete their applications online at <https://apps.australiaawardssouthwestasia.org/register> and upload all mandatory documentation by 06 January 2020.