

Malaysia Proposes Co-Funded Higher Education Scholarships With Indonesia

By BERNAMA© 14 JULY 2026 01:54 PM



JAKARTA– Malaysia has proposed exploring co-funded scholarships with Indonesia as part of efforts to strengthen higher education cooperation between the two countries, alongside broader efforts to deepen bilateral academic collaboration. Higher Education Ministry Secretary-General Datuk Dr Aminuddin Hassim said the proposal was presented during a meeting with Indonesia's Higher Education, Science and Technology Ministry Secretary-General Prof Badri Munir Sukoco in Jakarta.

He said the initiative could adopt the same mechanism used with the Maldives and Timor-Leste through Education Malaysia Global Services (EMGS), which coordinates incentives such as partial scholarships, tuition fee reductions and other financial assistance. The proposal would also extend scholarship support to Malaysian students pursuing studies in Indonesia, particularly in medicine, veterinary science and Islamic studies, while complementing Malaysia's existing postgraduate scholarships for Indonesian students. Aminuddin said Malaysia currently offers 100 places annually under the Malaysia International Scholarship (MIS) for international postgraduate students. He added that both countries also reviewed the implementation of the 2023 Malaysia-Indonesia higher education memorandum of understanding, including new areas of collaboration, priority sectors and funding arrangements. Malaysia also proposed closer cooperation to facilitate student mobility by streamlining administrative processes and easing admissions for students studying in either country. The discussions also focused on strengthening university-to-university collaboration through joint research and partnerships in strategic fields such as technology. Speaking at the Malaysia Higher Education Seminar 2026, Aminuddin described Indonesia as Malaysia's key strategic partner in advancing higher education in ASEAN and said both countries should continue building sustainable partnerships, developing future talent and strengthening regional cooperation to enhance ASEAN's global competitiveness.

