



Australia Awards

Make a difference with an Australia Awards Scholarship Intake 2023



Australia Awards Scholarships

Do you want to be a leader in your field and join an inspiring network of changemakers?

Australia Awards are prestigious international scholarships offered by the Australian Government to the next generation of global leaders for development.

Australia Awards in Fiji is accepting scholarship applications for study at Australian Institutions in 2023.

Am I a desirable applicant?

- I am a citizen of Fiji and I reside in Fiji
- I want to study a course that would allow me to contribute to Fiji's Health Security, Stability OR Economic Recovery
- I am committed to working in Fiji and contributing to Fiji's development
- I can meet the Australian institution entry requirements for the course/s I wish to undertake
- I am not applying for a visa to live in Australia or New Zealand, nor am I in a relationship with an Australian or New Zealand citizen or permanent resident
- I am not serving an existing scholarship bond
- I am not currently serving military personnel
- I am applying for a course that is progressive (i.e. higher than the current qualification I hold)

Undergraduate:

- I am currently in Year 13 and have a Fiji Year 12 Examination minimum aggregate score of 320 out of 400 (English and three best subjects) or equivalent
- OR I have completed high school and I have a Fiji Year 13 Certificate Examination minimum aggregate score of 320 out of 400 (English and three best subjects) or its equivalent
- OR I am a mature aged applicant with a tertiary qualification and at least three years of relevant work experience

Postgraduate:

- I hold a first degree and I have at least 3 years of work relevant experience



What are the scholarship entitlements?

Scholarship awardees receive the following entitlements:

- ✓ Return economy airfare
- ✓ Full tuition fees
- ✓ Contribution to living expenses (i.e. stipend)
- ✓ Initial visa related expenses
- ✓ A once-off establishment allowance
- ✓ Introductory Academic Program
- ✓ Overseas Student Health Cover
- ✓ Supplementary Academic Support
- ✓ Disability Support (reasonable adjustments)

When is the application closing date?

Applications open on 1 February 2022 and close at 11.59pm AEST on **29 April 2022**.

Applicants are assessed on their professional and personal leadership qualities, academic competence and, most importantly, their potential to impact on development challenges in Fiji.

Applications are encouraged from women, people with disability and other marginalised groups.

What can I study?

Australia Awards are offered for Bachelors or Masters degree qualifications only.

PhD scholarships are not available for Intake 2023.

You must ensure that your proposed course of study allows you to contribute to one of the priority areas below and the course is NOT offered at a local institution in Fiji.

Priority fields of study

For Intake 2023, Australia Awards Scholarships are accepting undergraduate and postgraduate applications for studies that demonstrate a contribution to Fiji's Health Security, Stability or Economic Recovery.

These priority areas for Intake 2023 are in line with the Fiji COVID19 Development Response Plan: <https://www.dfat.gov.au/sites/default/files/covid-response-plan-fiji.pdf>

The Government of Australia and Government of Fiji review the priority areas each year in line with Fiji's capacity building and workforce needs.



Health Security examples (including but not limited to):

- Communicable & Non-Communicable Diseases
- Counselling
- Epidemiology
- Health Communication
- Health Systems strengthening
- Laboratory medicine
- Maternal, newborn and child health
- Sexual reproductive health
- Patient care
- Policy development

Stability and Economic Recovery examples (including but not limited to):

- Actuarial Studies
- Agriculture
- Child Protection
- Climate Change
- Cyber Security and Criminology
- Disaster Reduction
- Economic Reform
- Entrepreneurship
- Food Security
- Gender Equality, Disability and Social Inclusion
- Human Resource Development
- Human Resource Management
- International Trade
- Leadership
- Public Policy Development and Implementation
- Public Sector Efficiency
- Supply Chain Management
- Sustainable Development

Note: your proposed course does not need to be limited to these examples, however your proposed course needs to demonstrate a contribution to improving Fiji's Health Security, Stability and Economic Recovery.

Further information can be found at:
www.australiaawardsfijiandtuvalu.org

Application process

What information is needed for a scholarship application?

Applicants need to answer all sections in the online application and attach the required documentary evidence. Applicants should prepare information to answer the following sections of the online application:

- Full name, date of birth and contact details
- Spouse and children's details (if any)
- Emergency contact details
- Previous scholarship information (if any)
- Proposed study program – including the CRICOS code for 2 course preferences
- Qualifications
- English language details
- Computer literacy or training details (if any)
- Current employment details (if any)
- Previous employment (if any)
- Supporting statement (note, the responses to these questions will be assessed)
- Professional memberships (if any)

Documentary evidence

What documentary evidence do I need for my application?

Please prepare the following documents to attach to your application:

- Certified copy of proof of citizenship (passport or birth certificate)*
- Certified copy of Year 12 or Year 13 certificate and transcript*
- Certified copy of your tertiary certificates and transcripts*
- Copy of your school grading system
- Curriculum vitae (no more than 3 pages)
- Two recent referee reports (less than 12 months old)
- Two academic references (Master by Research applicants only)

*Certification is to be conducted by a Justice of the Peace or a registered legal counsel.

How do I submit my application?

All Intake 2023 applications and supporting documents must be submitted online using the OASIS website - <https://oasis.dfat.gov.au/>

For further information please refer to the OASIS user guide <https://dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Pages/oasis-applicant-user-guide.aspx>

What can I expect after my application is submitted?

May 2022	Applications are reviewed and assessed.
June 2022	Shortlisted applicants are notified and invited to attend an interview.
July 2022	Shortlisted applicants' interviews are held in Suva.
September 2022	Scholarship selections are announced.

Tips for applicants

Before you apply

Before starting your application, you should consider the relationship between your academic and professional goals and Fiji's development needs. All applicants are expected to have clear ideas about how they will contribute to development in Fiji on their return from scholarship.

If you are a civil servant, you are **strongly** encouraged to seek prior approval from your respective Permanent Secretary before applying for the scholarship, in accordance with the Civil Service's Learning and Development guidelines.

Internet browser

Refer to the OASIS user guide to check in your internet browser is supported. This will ensure that all functions in OASIS work. OASIS User Guide:

<https://dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Pages/oasis-applicant-user-guide.aspx>

Email address

Use a non-work, personal email for OASIS registration (e.g. Gmail, Yahoo, Hotmail, etc.).

Some workplaces have spam filters that will also block automatically generated emails from the OASIS system.

Course preferences and CRICOS codes

You need to provide two course preferences for your application – your first course preference and a second course preference (which is your back-up option).

We recommend using the Commonwealth Register for Institutions and Courses for Overseas Students (CRICOS) website (<http://cricos.education.gov.au>).

CRICOS lists all the courses available for international students. Each course is given a unique CRICOS course code. To complete your scholarship application, you will need the unique CRICOS course codes for your two course preferences.

Course research tips

Start your course search at the CRICOS website:

- Go to the CRICOS website <http://cricos.education.gov.au>
- Click on 'Course Search'
- Adjust the search criteria to explore available courses. (E.g. type your topic into the 'Course Name' field or search for your field of study)
- The search will provide a list of courses that meet your search criteria
- Click on one of the course options
- It will display the Institution Name, Course Name and CRICOS Course Code
- Write down the courses you are interested in

We recommend you then visit the relevant university websites and undertake thorough research on the courses you are interested in studying. You may like to consider:

- The duration of the course
- The entry requirements stated on the university website
- The course structure and any course specialisations
- Click on the individual subjects to see what is included in each aspect of the course
- The relevance of the content of the individual subjects to your future work in Fiji
- The impact this course could have on expanding your knowledge and skills

- The academic staff that teach the course – consider the key people and their specialisations
- The reputation of the institution within your sector. (E.g. if you work in agriculture, consider if the university has a strong reputation in the agriculture sector)

Once you have a list of courses that meet your knowledge and skill development needs, consider speaking to people in your network—explore what they know about the courses and institutions you are considering.

Documentary Evidence File Size and Type

You can attach your documentary evidence in one attachment or several separate attachments. Each attachment file size must not exceed 2 megabytes (MB).

Your documentary evidence can be attached using the following file types: .doc, .doc.x, .rtf, .pdf, .jpeg, .gif, .tiff, .png, .bmp, .txt

Supporting statement character limits

Your supporting statement responses in your application will be scored and will form part of the assessment.

Your supporting statement responses have a character limit. This is a character limit – not a word limit. Characters include letters, numbers, spaces and punctuation marks.

Applicants are encouraged to write clearly and concisely to convey their message within the character limit available.

Some applicants choose to write their responses in a Word document, which allows them to confirm the character count under the Review menu and Word Count function. Once ready, they then copy and paste their answer into OASIS.

Making changes to your application

Applications can be edited in draft before they are submitted.

Before the closing date, if you have already submitted your application and need to edit it, there is an option to un-submit your application. Once you click un-submit, you can edit your application. Remember to resubmit it before the closing date. (The un-submit and edit option is only available before the closing date of 29 April 2022.)

Application closing date

Do **not** leave your application to the last minute. OASIS may be slow due to high volume activity. Australia Awards does not have control over this. You are encouraged to submit your application early to avoid challenges.

Frequently Asked Questions

How will my application be assessed?

Selection is made on merit and in competition.

Complete applications will be assessed by independent shortlisting specialists using the Australia Awards criteria of academic merit, leadership skills, future potential to contribute to Fiji, writing skills and oral presentation skills.

The strongest applicants will be shortlisted and invited to attend an interview.

Incomplete applications will not be assessed.

What is the course duration?

The duration varies depending on the course content.

The maximum duration permitted under the scholarship for Bachelor level study is 4 years.

The maximum duration permitted under the scholarship for Master level study is 2 years.

Can I delay starting the scholarship and commence studies the following year?

If you are successful in being awarded a scholarship, you must commence study in the 2023 academic year (international border restrictions pending).

Do I need an offer letter from the institution?

No, you do not need an offer letter for your scholarship application. Applicants who already have an institution offer letter are not advantaged in any way, as this does not form part of the assessment.

Australia Awards will help you enrol in the institution if you are successful in being awarded the scholarship.

How do I certify my documents?

Proof of citizenship and academic documents must be certified copies. Certification can be undertaken by a Justice of the Peace or a registered legal counsel.

Can I apply if I have a disability?

Persons with disability who meet the scholarship eligibility requirements are encouraged to apply for a scholarship. A person will not be disadvantaged by declaring their disability. Reasonable adjustments and accommodations will be made to remove barriers for persons with disability. All applicants must meet the eligibility requirements for the scholarship and submit a compliant application.

For more information and support for persons with disability, please contact the Australia Awards office at australiaawards@ausfijifacility.org

If I am successful in my scholarship application and I become pregnant, will I lose the scholarship opportunity?

Pregnant applicants are encouraged to share their pregnancy information with the Australia Awards office at their earliest opportunity, so planning can be undertaken about the best time to commence studies. All applicants will be assessed equally. Pregnant applicants will not be disadvantaged.

Can I apply to study in Fiji?

This scholarship is called Australia Awards Scholarships (AAS) and supports recipients to study in Australia for courses that are not available in Fiji.

Australia Awards Pacific Scholarships (AAPS) supports recipients to study in the Pacific region, including Fiji. Please refer to the AAPS materials for further information.

More Information

Please contact the Australia Awards office.

Website: www.australiaawardsfijiandtuvalu.org

Email: australiaawards@ausfijifacility.org

Phone: +679 3312 141

Address: Australia Awards Information Centre
Ground Floor, Sabrina Building
Corner of Gordon St & Victoria Parade
Suva, Fiji

References

Australia Awards Scholarships Policy Handbook

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

Australia Awards program information

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

Fiji National Development Plan

<https://www.fiji.gov.fj/About-Fiji/National-Development-Plan>

The Commonwealth Register of Institutions and Courses for Overseas Students

<http://cricos.education.gov.au>

OASIS Applications

<https://oasis.dfat.gov.au/>

OASIS User Guide

<https://dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Pages/oasis-applicant-user-guide.aspx>