



Australia Awards

Tuvalu

Applying for an Australia Awards Scholarship

Australia Awards Scholarships in Tuvalu

Australia's international development assistance in Tuvalu helps promote prosperity, reduce poverty, and enhance political stability. This contributes to the Government of Tuvalu's (GOT) capacity to use human resources to improve standards of living and opportunities for its people.

Australia Awards are prestigious international awards offered by the Australian Government to the next generation of global leaders for development. Through study and research, recipients develop the knowledge and skills to drive change and help build enduring people-to-people links with Australia.

Applicants are assessed on their professional and personal qualities, academic competence and their potential to impact on development challenges in Tuvalu.

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

Levels of study

Australia Awards scholarships provide citizens of Tuvalu with the opportunity to obtain a qualification at a tertiary institution in Australia or in the Pacific.

Awards will be offered for Intake 2023 for the following:

Australia Awards Scholarship (AAS) For undergraduate, postgraduate (including master by coursework, research and doctoral studies) in Australia.

Australia Awards Pacific Scholarship (AAPS) For TVET, undergraduate and postgraduate level of study at a tertiary institution in the Pacific.

Application dates

For study commencing in Australia in 2023:

Opening date: 1 February 2022

Closing date: 11.59 AEST 29 April 2022

Applications and/or supporting documents received after the closing date will NOT be considered.

Australia Awards Scholarship (AAS)

Australia Awards Scholarships provide citizens of Tuvalu with the opportunity to obtain an undergraduate or postgraduate degree at an Australian tertiary institution.

AAS scholarships are awarded under two categories in Tuvalu, either 'Public' or 'Open':

- Public category awards focus on building capacity in priority public service sectors within GOT Ministries. The shortlist for public candidates is approved in consultation with the GOT.
- Open category awards cater for the general population in Tuvalu. The shortlist for open category is confirmed by the Australian High Commission.

Priority fields of study

Infrastructure Support (includes but is not limited to):

- Civil Engineering,
- Electrical Engineering,
- Mechanical Engineering,
- Construction,
- Project Management,
- Architecture,
- Terminal Management,
- Ports and Logistics,
- Maritime Surveying and Technical,
- Telecommunication Engineering,
- Surveying Engineering,
- Software Engineering,
- Information Technology,
- Information Systems,
- Computer Science.

Education (includes but is not limited to):

- Teaching English as a Second Language,
- Teaching (early childhood, primary and secondary)
- Education in Math/English/Science,
- Special and Inclusive Education,
- Disability Studies,
- TVET Education and Training,
- Education studies,
- Physical Education,
- Curriculum Education,
- Leadership and Management in Education.

Health – Clinical (includes but is not limited to):

- Nursing,
- Midwifery,
- Mental Health Nursing,
- Medicine,
- Medical Science,
- Medical Statistics,
- Health Science,
- Biomedical Science,
- Medical Laboratory,
- Pharmacy,
- Physiotherapy,
- Dentistry,
- Dental Health Science,
- Oral Health Therapy.

Health – Non-clinical (includes but is not limited to):

- Warehouse Management,
- Logistics and Supply Chain Management,
- Contract Management,
- Health Information Systems,
- Hospital Management,
- Health Administration,
- Financial Health Planning,
- Training and Development,
- Disaster Management,
- Human Resources and Asset Management.

Gender, Disability and Social Inclusion (GEDSI)

(includes but is not limited to):

- Gender Studies,
- Sociology,
- Disability Studies,
- Social Science,
- Social Work,
- Psychology,
- Disability Management,
- Community Development,
- Behavioural Studies,
- Family Studies,
- Social Change and Development.

Environment and Climate Change (includes but is not limited to):

- Environmental Management,
- Climate Change,
- Environment and Public Health,
- Environmental Science,
- Waste Management,
- Environmental Economics and Climate Change,
- Environmental Law,
- Marine Science,
- Renewable Energy,
- Land and Water Management,
- Marine Coastal Management,
- Global Environment and Climate Change law,
- Environment and Sustainability,
- Agriculture,
- Food Security,
- Environmental and Business Management,
- Disaster Risk Reduction,
- Disaster Preparedness and Reconstruction,
- Environment and Occupational Health and safety,
- Environment Risk Assessment and Remediation.

Economic Growth and Governance (includes but is not limited to):

- Labour Market Analysis,
- Human Resources Planning and Management,
- Financial Management,
- International Marketing,
- Entrepreneurship,
- Innovation Management and Commercialisation,
- Development Economics,
- Project Management,
- Tourism and Hospitality,
- Accounting, Banking and/or Commerce
- Statistics,
- Applied Finance,
- Governance Studies,
- Public Administration,
- Business and Law,
- Public Policy,
- Development Studies,
- Political Studies,
- Law and Development,
- Local Governance Studies,
- Communication,
- Digital Media and/or Graphic Design,
- Journalism,
- Security and Strategic Studies.

The Governments of Australia and Tuvalu regularly review the above collaboratively and adjust priority fields accordingly.

Australia Awards Scholarships benefits

Australia Awards Scholarships are offered for the minimum period necessary for the individual to complete the academic program specified by the Australian education institution, including any preparatory training.

Scholarship recipients will receive the following:

- return air travel
- a one-off establishment allowance on arrival
- full tuition fees
- initial visa expenses
- contribution to living expenses
- introductory academic program
- overseas student health cover for the duration of the scholarship
- supplementary academic support
- fieldwork allowance for research students and masters by coursework which has a compulsory fieldwork component.

Eligibility criteria

Australia Awards Scholarships applicants must meet all eligibility requirements detailed in the Australia Awards Scholarships Policy Handbook, available at: <https://dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Pages/australia-awards-scholarships-policy-handbook.aspx>

While there is no age limit, a scholar's potential outputs on return from study will be assessed during selection.

Country-specific criteria

In addition to meeting the general eligibility criteria, applicants must also meet the following specific eligibility requirements to be considered for this award:

- must be residing in the Pacific region at the time of application;
- proposed study program must align to a priority sector;
- program of study must not be available locally or regionally;
- must be a minimum of 18 years of age at the time of commencing the scholarship (January 2023);
- must be able to meet the institutional entry requirements for their proposed course;
- must not be serving an existing scholarship bond with Tuvalu or any other government;
- must not hold an equivalent or higher degree qualification either at time of application or commencement of award;
- must not transfer from a Tuvalu Government scholarship or any other scholarship during the tenure of that scholarship; and
- must be applying to commence a new course of study and not be seeking support for a course they have already commenced in Australia.

For undergraduate level study:

Undergraduate applicants must:

- have completed Year 12 Certificate Examination with a minimum aggregate mark of 300 out of 400 (including English and three best subjects) or equivalent and must be studying Year 13. Scholarship will be dependent on applicant achieving a minimum aggregate result of 300 out of 400 in 2022; OR
- have completed Year 13 Certificate Examination with a minimum aggregate mark of 300 out of 400 (English and three best subjects) or equivalent.
- mature age applicants who have:
 - completed a qualification, should have minimum five years' relevant work experience
 - not completed a qualification, must have a minimum of 10 years relevant work experience and have achieved pass grades in either Year 12/13 or have successfully undertaken some form of relevant tertiary studies or work-related training

For Masters level study:

Postgraduate applicants:

- must hold a first degree and have at least two years' relevant work experience;
- who do not hold a first degree must have at least 10 years' relevant work experience and have achieved a pass grade in either Year 12/13 or have successfully undertaken some form of relevant tertiary studies or work-related training;
- must not hold a Master's degree either at time of application or commencement of award.

Commencement of study

All scholarships must be taken up in the year for which they are awarded. Should an awardee not be able to commence study in 2023, the scholarship may be withdrawn. International border restrictions and Government of Tuvalu approval, pending.

English language proficiency

AAS applicants, offered a scholarship, must achieve an International English Language Testing System (IELTS) (Academic) score of 6.5 or higher (with no individual band score of less than 6.0) or an equivalent TOEFL or PTE score. Not required during application.

The application process

Online applications

Apply through OASIS at: <https://oasis.dfat.gov.au/>

Hardcopy applications

For applicants who have difficulty lodging through the online system (OASIS), a hard copy application can be lodged at: Australian High Commission, Level 1, Telecom Building, Funafuti, TUVALU

If you are in Fiji, you may lodge your application at Australia Awards office in Suva (refer to address and contacts at the end of this document).

Hardcopy application forms can be obtained from the Australian High Commission in Tuvalu.

Supporting documents

Applicants must submit all relevant supporting documents listed in the table below. Supporting documents must be certified and stamped by a registered Justice of the Peace or equivalent. Supporting documents can be certified at the Office of the People's Lawyer located in Vaiaku Side, Funafuti Island.

AAS APPLICATION DOCUMENT CHECKLIST	
Document type	Certified
Copy of passport and/or birth certificate	Yes
A copy of Year 13 Examination or Foundation Certificate official results notice <u>OR</u> A copy of Tuvalu Year 12 Certificate Examination official results (if applicable)	Yes
Copy of any completed Short Courses and/or work-place training	Yes
Copy of certificate of completed tertiary study	Yes
Copy of official academic transcript of completed tertiary study	Yes
Copy of Grading System	Yes
Two recent referee reports (less than 12 months old). *Masters by Research candidates must provide two academic referee reports	No-original only
Curriculum Vitae (CV) of applicant detailing personal details, academic qualifications and work-related experience (no more than three pages)	No – original only
IELTS official score. *If you don't already have a IELTS result, successful candidates will be required to undertake IELTS test before contracting.	Yes – not mandatory during application.
Statement from last institution attended that English was the language of instruction	No – original only

The selection process

- All applications will be checked for eligibility and compliance. Only eligible applicants will be assessed.
- Eligible applicants will be assessed against the following criteria:
 - academic competence
 - professional and personal leadership attributes including relevant work experience
 - potential outcome, specifically the relevance of the proposed study to Tuvalu's human resource development needs, consistent with *Te Kete – National Outcome 11* and complementing Australia's Aid Investment Plan for Tuvalu.
- Shortlisted applicants will be required to attend an interview.

Preparatory training

Successful AAS applicants will be required to attend:

- a pre-departure briefing
- an Introductory Academic Program (IAP) before commencing in their academic program of study conducted in Australia); and
- undertake the IELTS test to assess their English language competence. This is not required as part of your application, however applicants should check entry requirements of selected institutions carefully as some institutions require higher than the Australia Awards English language requirement for the main course of study. The awardee must meet the institution's requirement.

Australia Awards Pacific Scholarship (AAPS)

AAPS scholarships provide Tuvalu citizens the opportunity to study priority programs at a tertiary institution in the Pacific. AAPS will be offered for full-time Technical and Vocational (TVET), Undergraduate and Postgraduate studies at the following institutions:

- University of the South Pacific (USP), Fiji
- Fiji National University (FNU), Fiji
- PNG University of Technology (UNITECH), Lae Campus, PNG
- Pacific Adventist University, Port Moresby, PNG
- Divine Word University (DWU), Madang PNG,
- University of Goroka, Goroka PNG,
- University of Papua New Guinea (UPNG) School of Medicine Taurama Campus, Port Moresby, PNG.

Priority fields of study

The Priority fields of study available for the AAPS are the same as the AAS Priority fields (listed above).

Australia Awards Pacific Scholarships benefits

Offered for the minimum period necessary for the individual to complete the academic program specified by the regional education institution, including any preparatory training.

Scholarship recipients will receive the following:

- a one-off establishment allowance
- full tuition fees
- contribution to living expenses
- introductory academic program
- basic medical costs for the duration of the scholarship; and
- supplementary academic support.

Eligibility criteria

AAPS applicants must meet all eligibility requirements detailed in the *Australia Awards Pacific Scholarships Policy Handbook*, available at:

<https://dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Pages/australia-awards-pacific-scholarships-policy-handbook-december-2015.aspx>

Country-specific requirements

In addition to meeting the general eligibility criteria, applicants must also meet the following AAPS specific eligibility requirements to be considered for this award:

- proposed program of study must align to a priority sector
- must have a Tuvalu Year 12 Certificate Examination with a minimum aggregate result of 250 out of 400 (English and three best subjects) or equivalent
- mature age applicants must have at least three years' relevant work experience and achieved a pass grade in Year 12/13 (or equivalent through some form of continuing education or work-related training)
- must not hold an equivalent or higher degree qualification either at time of application or commencement of award, and
- must not be serving an existing scholarship bond with any other government.

The application process

Applications for AAPS must be submitted as follows:

If you are applying to study at: University of the South Pacific (USP), Fiji National University's (FNU) College of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences (excluding Nursing programs), PNG based Institutions, you may **apply online** using the Online Australia Awards Scholarships Information System (OASIS) at:

<https://oasis.dfat.gov.au/> and must also include a completed scanned hard copy of the **Pacific institution application form.**

If you are applying to study at the following FNU colleges:

- College of Engineering, Science and Technology;
- College of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences (for Nursing programs); and
- College of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries.

You must submit a hardcopy AAPS application along with a completed FNU application form.

Hardcopy application forms will be available from 1 February 2022 from the: Australian High Commission, Level 1, Telecom Building, Funafuti, TUVALU.

Supporting documents

AAPS applicants must submit all relevant supporting documents listed in the table below. Supporting documents must be certified and stamped by a registered Justice of the Peace or equivalent. Supporting documents can be certified at the Office of the People's Lawyer located in Vaiaku Side, Funafuti Island.

AAPS APPLICATION DOCUMENT CHECKLIST	
Document type	Certified
Completed Australia Awards Pacific Scholarship application with a recent photograph	No – original only
Completed <u>Pacific Institution</u> application form	No – original only
Copy of passport and/or birth certificate	Yes
Copy of certificate of completed tertiary study <u>OR</u> Copy of the Tuvalu Year 13 Certificate Examination official results <u>OR</u> Copy of the Tuvalu Year 12 Certificate Examination official results	Yes
Copy of official academic transcripts	Yes
Copy of Grading System	Yes
Curriculum Vitae of applicant detailing personal details, academic qualifications and work-related experience (no more than 3 pages)	No – original only
Two recent referee reports (less than 12 months old).	No – original only
Statement from last institution attended that English was the language of instruction	No – original only

Application Submission

Hard copy applications can be delivered by Post or in person to: Australian High Commission, Level 1, Telecom Building, Funafuti, TUVALU

If you are travelling to Fiji, you may lodge your application at the Australia Awards office in Suva. (Refer to address and contacts at the end of this document.)

Applicants are advised to finalise their applications well before the closing date. The OASIS system experiences peak usage in the days leading up to the closing date and applicants may experience delays.

Applications and/or supporting documents received after the closing date will not be considered.

The selection process

- All applications will be checked for eligibility and compliance. Only eligible applicants will be assessed.
- Eligible applicants will be assessed against the following criteria:

- academic competence
- professional and personal leadership attributes including relevant work experience
- potential outcome, specifically the relevance of the proposed study to Tuvalu's human resource development needs, consistent with *Te Kete – National Outcome 11* and complementing Australia's Aid Investment Plan for Tuvalu.

- Shortlisted applicants will attend an interview.

Preparatory training

Successful AAPS applicants may be required to complete a pre-departure training and/or an Introductory Academic Program (IAP) before commencing in their academic program, depending on the selected institution.

Further information

Detailed information about the Australia Awards–Tuvalu can be found at:
www.australiaawardsfijiandtuvalu.org

Information about the AAS including the Policy Handbook can be found at: <https://www.dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Pages/australia-awards-scholarships-policy-handbook>

Information about AAPS and the AAPS Handbook can be found at: <https://www.dfat.gov.au/people-to-people/australia-awards/Pages/australia-awards-pacific-scholarships-aaps>

Information about available programs of study for the Australia Award Pacific Scholarship (AAPS) can be found at: www.usp.ac.fj and www.fnu.ac.fj

If you identify as a person with a disability, please contact the office to determine the support services available.

Contacts

Interested applicants can either contact:

Australia Awards–Tuvalu Office & Information Centre

Address: Ground Floor, Sabrina Building
Corner of Gordon St and Victoria Parade
Suva, Fiji

Postal: G. P.O Box 17384, Suva

Phone: 3312141

Email: australiaawards@ausfijifacility.org

Website: www.australiaawardsfijiandtuvalu.org

Australian High Commission

Level 1, Telecom Building, Funafuti, Tuvalu

Telephone: (+688) 20043/ (+688) 20042