

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 2025.

Am I a desirable applicant?

- ☐ I am a citizen of Fiji and I reside in Fiji
- ☐ I want to study an eligible course that would allow me to contribute to Fiji's Education, Environment, Governance, Health or Infrastructure sectors. Refer to eligible areas of study on page 3.
- ☐ I am committed to working in Fiji and contributing to Fiji's sustainable development in my chosen sector.
- I can meet the Australian institution entry requirements for the course/s I propose to study.
- ☐ 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 higher than my current qualification.

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 3 years of relevant work experience.

Postgraduate:

□ I hold a first degree and I have at least 3 years of work experience in the priority sector



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 2024 and close at 11.59pm AEST on **30 April 2024.**

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 undergraduate or postgraduate qualifications only.

PhD scholarships are not available for Intake 2025.

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 - Undergraduate

For Intake 2025, Australia Awards Scholarships are accepting undergraduate applications for studies in Governance, Health and Infrastructure - they are however limited to the below priority areas only.

Governance:

Aviation Management

Health:

- Prosthetics
- Orthotics
- Veterinary Technology (paravet training)

Infrastructure:

• Building Maintenance/Property

Note: Applications for undergraduate studies are limited to these above mentioned topics.

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

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



Priority fields of study - Postgraduate

For Intake 2025, Australia Awards Scholarships are accepting postgraduate applications for studies in Education, Environment, Governance, Health and Infrastructure - they are however limited to the below priority areas only.

Education:

- Curriculum Design & Development
- Educational Psychology
- Special & Inclusive Education

Environment:

- Climate Change Adaption and Mitigation
- Disaster Risk Reduction
- Disaster Risk Management
- Emergency Response Logistics
- Geology
- Resource Economics

Governance:

- Aviation Management
- Criminology
- Journalism and Communication
- · Security and Strategic Studies

Health:

- Dermatology
- Digital Health
- Health Emergency Management
- Health Information
- Occupational Health
- Radiology
- Rehabilitation Medicine
- Speech Therapy

Infrastructure:

- Construction Management
- Marine Engineering
- Telecommunication and Network Engineering.

Note: Applications for postgraduate studies are limited to these above mentioned topics.

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 applicants need for application? Please prepare the following <u>mandatory</u> documents to upload to support your application:

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

How do I submit my application?

All Intake 2025 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

What can I expect after my application is submitted?

May 2024	Applications are reviewed and assessed.
June 2024	Shortlisted applicants are notified and invited to attend an interview.
July / August 2024	Shortlisted applicants' interviews are held in Suva.
September 2024	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

^{*}Certification is to be conducted by the Issuing Institution, Justice of the Peace or a registered legal counsel.

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 reviewed closely and 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 30 April 2024). You are encouraged to download a copy of your application before the closing date. Your will not have access to your application after the closing date.

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 2025 academic year.

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 the Issuing Institution, 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 application and I become pregnant, will I lose the scholarship opportunity?

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?

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.orgEmail:australiaawards@ausfijifacility.org

Phone: +679 3312 141

Address: Australia Awards Information Centre

Ground Floor, Sabrina Building Corner of Gordon St & Victoria Parade Suva, Fiji

Suva, Fi

References

Australia Awards Scholarships Policy Handbook

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

Australia Awards program information

https://www.dfat.gov.au/people-to-people/

<u>australia-awards</u>

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

Australia Awards Fiji Program website www.australiaawardsfijiandtuvalu.org or scan the QR code:

