



# Fiji

## Applying for an Australia Awards scholarship

### Australia Awards in Fiji

Australia’s international development assistance in Fiji helps promote prosperity, reduce poverty, and enhance political stability.

Australia Awards Scholarships and Australia Awards Pacific Scholarships are prestigious international awards offered by the Australian Government to the next generation of global leaders in developing countries. Through study and research, recipients develop the skills and knowledge 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, most importantly, their potential to impact on development challenges in Fiji.

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

### Priority fields & levels of study

Australia Awards scholarships provide citizens of Fiji with the opportunity to obtain a qualification at a tertiary institution in Australia or the Pacific Region. Awards will be offered for commencement in 2025 in the following priority areas:

**Australia Awards Scholarships (AAS)** for studies at Australian institutions in the following sectors:

	Undergraduate	Postgraduate
<b>Education</b>		Curriculum Design & Development, Educational Psychology, Special & Inclusive Education,
<b>Environment</b>		Climate Change Adaption and Mitigation, Disaster Risk Reduction, Disaster Risk Management, Emergency Response Logistics, Geology, Resource Economics
<b>Governance</b>	Aviation Management	Aviation Management, Criminology, Journalism and Communication, Security and Strategic Studies
<b>Health</b>	Prosthetics, Orthotics, Veterinary technology (paravet training)	Dermatology, Digital Health, Health Emergency Management, Health Information, Occupational Health, Radiology, Rehabilitation Medicine, Speech Therapy
<b>Infrastructure</b>	Building Maintenance/Property	Construction Management, Marine Engineering, Telecommunication and Network Engineering



**Australia Awards Pacific Scholarships (AAPS)** for the following Fiji National University (FNU) study programs, including but not limited to:

### **Certificate**

- Certificate IV in Aircraft Maintenance Engineering (mechanical/avionics)
- Certificate IV in Carpentry
- Certificate IV in Fabrication and Welding
- Certificate IV in Geology, Mining and Quarrying
- Certificate IV in Joinery and Cabinet Making
- Certificate IV in Plumbing and Sheetmetal
- Certificate IV in Refrigeration and Air-Conditioning

### **Diploma**

- Diploma in Civil Engineering
- Diploma in Construction
- Diploma in Electrical Engineering
- Diploma in Land Surveying
- Diploma in Marine Engineering
- Diploma in Mechanical Engineering
- Diploma in Nautical Science

### **Postgraduate Diploma**

- Postgraduate Diploma in Mental Health Nursing
- Postgraduate Diploma in Midwifery

The governments of Australia and Fiji regularly review and adjust these priority areas of study together. Detailed information on priority areas of study can be found at: [www.australiaawardsfijiandtuvalu.org](http://www.australiaawardsfijiandtuvalu.org)

### **Application dates**

For study commencing in Australia in 2025:

Opening date: 1 February 2024

Closing date: 30 April 2024 (11:59PM AEST)

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

### **Australia Awards 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 (AAS only)
- a one-off establishment allowance on arrival
- full tuition fees
- contribution to living expenses
- introductory academic program
- medical insurance (AAPS) OR overseas student health cover (AAS) for the duration of the scholarship
- supplementary academic support
- fieldwork allowance for research students and masters by coursework which has a compulsory fieldwork component

### **AAS Eligibility criteria**

**AAS** applicants must meet all eligibility requirements detailed in the *Australia Awards Scholarships Policy Handbook*, available at: [dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Pages/australia-awards-scholarships-policy-handbook](http://dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Pages/australia-awards-scholarships-policy-handbook)

In addition to the general eligibility requirements, **AAS** applicants from Fiji must meet the following conditions:

- must be residing in Fiji at the time of application
- program of study must not be available locally
- must be a minimum of 18 years at the 1 Jan 2024
- must not be a citizen or permanent resident of Australia
- must not be serving an existing scholarship bond
- must be able to meet the institutional entry requirements for their proposed course
- maximum duration for a Bachelor degree is four years and Master's degree program is two years
- not hold an equivalent or higher qualification. Proposed course must be higher than current qualification
- civil servants are strongly encouraged to seek approval from their Permanent Secretary, in accordance with the Civil Service's Learning and Development guidelines

#### **For undergraduate studies:**

- must have completed Year 12 with a minimum aggregate mark of 320 out of 400 (English & 3 best subjects) or equivalent and be studying Year 13. Scholarship will be dependent on applicant achieving a minimum aggregate result of 320 out of 400 in Year 13 (in 2024) **OR** have completed Year 13 with a minimum aggregate mark of 320 out of 400 (English & 3 best subjects) or equivalent
- if applying as a mature age applicant, must have completed formal training and have 3 years' work experience in the proposed priority sector

#### **For postgraduate studies:**

- hold a first degree relevant to the priority sector, and
- have at least 3 years' work experience in the priority sector.

### **AAPS Eligibility criteria**

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

In addition to the general eligibility requirements, **AAPS** applicants from Fiji must meet the following conditions:

- must apply for a qualification that is progressive (i.e. higher than their current level of study)
- must not be serving an existing scholarship bond with any other government
- civil servants are strongly encouraged to seek approval from their Permanent Secretary (in accordance with the Civil Service's Learning and Development guidelines)

#### **For certificate IV level courses:**

- must comply with institution entry requirements for proposed course of study
- minimum year 12 pass or completion of certificate III in the relevant discipline or as per the proposed course entry requirements
- depending on the proposed course requirements, mature age applicants must have either between 2– 5 years of relevant work experience, achieved a pass grade at Year 12 or have some work-related training.

#### **For diploma level courses:**

- must comply with institution entry requirements for proposed course of study
- minimum year 12 pass or completion of certificate IV in the relevant discipline or as per the proposed course entry requirements
- mature age applicants must have either 5 years of relevant work experience, achieved a pass grade at Year 12/13 or have some work-related training.

#### **For postgraduate diploma courses:**

- must hold a relevant undergraduate degree, with a minimum GPA of 3.0 (or equivalent) plus have minimum of 3 years' experience in the health sector.
- Applicants who do not meet the bachelor requirement, but who are able to demonstrate ability to succeed on the basis of maturity, work experience, or prior learning may also apply specifically, registered nurses with 5 years of general nursing experience.

## The application process

### Online applications

All applications must be lodged online through OASIS at <https://oasis.dfat.gov.au/>.

Hardcopy applications will be accepted from marginalised groups only.

### Supporting documents

AAS & AAPS Applicants must submit all the relevant supporting documents listed in the *Australia Awards Scholarships Policy Handbook* and *Australia Awards Pacific Scholarships Policy Handbook* as outlined here:

Required Supporting Document	Certified
Certified copy of birth certificate	Yes
Certified copy of passport	Yes
Certified copy of graduation certificate (Year 12/13 OR Tertiary qualification)	Yes
Certified copy of formal academic transcript	Yes
Curriculum Vitae (CV) including applicants person details, academic qualifications, work experience and responsibilities (max 3 pages)	Not certified
Two referee reports (no more than 12 months old). *Masters by research must provide two academic referee reports.	Not certified

Documents must be certified in line with the Australia Awards Scholarship Policy Handbook, refer to clause 2.8.

## The selection process

- All applications will be checked for eligibility and compliance. Only eligible applicants will progress for further assessment.
- Eligible applicants will be assessed against the following criteria:
  - academic competence
  - potential outcome, specifically the contribution to development outcomes in Fiji
  - professional and personal leadership attributes including relevant work experience.
- Shortlisted applicants will be required to attend an interview and possibly a written test.
- Successful candidates will be notified by September 2024.
- Awardee travel will be subject to meeting the requirements imposed by the Australian Government, as determined by the federal Department of Education and by the relevant Australian State or Territory governments.

## Preparatory training

Successful applicants will be required to attend:

- pre-departure briefing
- university's Introductory Academic Program (AAS)
- university's orientation week (AAPS)
- applicants may be required to take the International English Language Testing System test (IELTS) to assess their English language competence (successful applicants will be advised if this is required). This is not required as part of the application process, however applicants should consider the entry requirements of their preferred course carefully as this may be an entry requirement.
- other required preparatory study on arrival in Australia.

## Further information

Information about Australia Awards Fiji can be found at: [www.australiaawardsfijiandtuvalu.org](http://www.australiaawardsfijiandtuvalu.org)

More general information about the Australia Awards, Australia's aid program, and studying in Australia can be found at the following links:

- [dfat.gov.au/people-to-people/australia-awards/pages/australia-awards-scholarships](http://dfat.gov.au/people-to-people/australia-awards/pages/australia-awards-scholarships)

- [studyaustralia.gov.au](http://studyaustralia.gov.au)

Information about visas and Australia Awards scholarship entitlements and conditions can be found in the:

- AAS Policy Handbook: <https://www.dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/australia-awards-scholarships-policy-handbook>
- AAPS Policy Handbook: <https://www.dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/australia-awards-pacific-scholarships-policy-handbook>

Information about Australian institutions and courses for overseas students can be found at:  
<https://cricos.education.gov.au/default.aspx>

Information about FNU's Programs can be found at: <https://www.fnu.ac.fj/study/program/>

#### **Contact details**

- Phone: 3312141
- Email: [australiaawards@ausfijifacility.org](mailto:australiaawards@ausfijifacility.org)
- Website: [www.australiaawardsfijiandtuvalu.org](http://www.australiaawardsfijiandtuvalu.org)

**Information Centre:** Ground Floor, Sabrina Building, Corner of Gordon St and Victoria Parade Suva, Fiji

Australia Awards Fiji has an Information Centre that is equipped with some education institution materials as well as computers/internet that individuals can access. Facilities are also available for people with disability.

The Centre is open: Monday to Friday from 9.00am- 4:30pm.

Interested applicants are encouraged to visit the Information Centre or to contact staff through email or phone (details above).

Tailored support services are available for people who identify as having a disability, please contact the office for further information and support.