



# Fiji

## Applying for an Australia Awards Scholarship

### Australia Awards Scholarships in Fiji

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

Australia Awards Scholarships 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 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.

### Levels of study

Australia Awards Scholarships provide citizens of Fiji with the opportunity to obtain a qualification at an Australian tertiary institution in Australia or locally at the Fiji National University (FNU) and the University of the South Pacific (USP).

Awards will be offered for commencement in 2019 for the following:

- **Australia Awards Scholarship (AAS)**  
for Bachelor and Masters level of study in Australia.
- **Australia Awards Pacific Scholarship (AAPS)**  
for Diploma and Advanced Diploma level of study at the Fiji National University or the University of the South Pacific.

### Australia Awards Scholarship (AAS)

These scholarships provide citizens of Fiji with the opportunity to obtain a Bachelor degree or a Master degree qualification at an Australian tertiary institution for programs not available in Fiji. Awards are not available for PhD study.

### Priority fields of study

The priority areas of study for Fiji for the AAS are:

#### Environment

Disaster risk and resilience and adaptation, climate finance/economics, conservation, meteorology, waste management, seismology, water management, environment and resource economics.

#### Agriculture, fisheries and forestry

Pathology, entomology, agricultural engineering, biosecurity, quarantine, aquaculture, fish technology, silviculture, food technology, food security and horticulture.

#### Economic growth

Transport economics, labour economics, macroeconomic policy and analysis, environmental and resource economics, labour market analysis, public finance management, macroeconomic policy and analysis, market research, marketing and public relations, project planning, monitoring and evaluation, human resources planning and management, training and development, labour law, entrepreneurship, workforce development and planning, productivity, labour and construction law.

#### Health

Clinical: midwifery, specialised nursing, emergency medicine, anaesthesia obstetrics and gynaecology, dermatology, surgery, pathology, biomedical, allied health programs, mental health, gender and women's health, psychiatry and dermatology.

Non-clinical: 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 equality and social inclusion (includes child protection and disability)

Gender and development, speech pathology, child psychology, disability studies, child protection, interpreting, special education, aged care and community development.



## Infrastructure

Land surveying, engineers (road, civil, electrical, environment, water etc.), chemical engineering, urban, rural and environmental planning, property and facilities management, building and construction, urban planning and development, project management, metallurgy, water supply and sanitation and landscaping.

## Education

Career counselling, TVET education and training for teachers, learning technology, school leadership and management, flexible learning. Teaching English as a second language, early childhood education, human resources management and information systems management.

## Governance

Monitoring and evaluation, public sector reforms, workforce planning, institutional strengthening, statistics, compliance, social protection, occupational health & safety and knowledge based management.

The governments of Australia and Fiji regularly review the above collaboratively and adjust priority fields accordingly.

Detailed information on priority fields of study can be found at:

<http://www.fiji.embassy.gov.au/suva/home/html> from 1 February 2018.

## 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
- initial medical 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 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.aspx](https://dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Pages/australia-awards-scholarships-policy-handbook.aspx)

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

## For Bachelors level study:

- program of study must not be available locally
- must be a minimum of 18 years of age at the time of commencing the scholarship
- must have completed Year 12 Certificate Examination with a minimum aggregate mark of 300 out of 400 or its equivalent (including English and three best subjects)
- must have completed Year 13 Certificate Examination with a minimum aggregate mark of 300 out of 400 or its equivalent (including English and three best subjects)
- mature age applicants who have completed a tertiary qualification, should have minimum 5 years' relevant work experience
- mature age applicants who have not completed a tertiary qualification but have extensive years of relevant work experience, must have achieved pass grades at least in either the Year 12 or Year 13 or equivalent results and/or have successfully undertaken some form of relevant tertiary studies either through tertiary institutions or work-related training
- mature age applicants who have completed a tertiary qualification, must have a minimum of 10 years' relevant work experience
- must not hold an equivalent qualification (e.g. degree) or higher qualification (e.g. Masters) either at time of application or commencement of award
- must not be serving an existing scholarship bond with Fiji or any other government.

## For Masters level study:

- program of study must not be available locally
- must hold a first degree and have achieved above average results and have at least 2 years' relevant work experience
- mature age applicants who do not hold a first degree must have at least 10 years' relevant work experience, have achieved a pass grade at either the Year 12 or Year 13 or equivalent level, and/or have successfully undertaken relevant tertiary studies or some form of continuing education
- must not hold a Master's degree either at time of application or commencement of award
- must not be serving an existing scholarship bond with Fiji or any other government.

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

## The application process

### Online applications

All applications must be lodged online through the *Online Australia Awards Scholarships Information System (OASIS)* at: <https://oasis.dfat.gov.au/>

### Supporting documents

Applicants must submit all relevant supporting documents listed below and outlined in the *Australia Awards Scholarships Policy Handbook*.

AAS application document checklist	
Priority areas	Certified
Copy of passport or birth certificate	Yes
Copy of certificate of completed tertiary study and official academic transcripts	Yes
Copy of grading system	Yes
Copy/copies of completed short courses and/or in-house training	Yes
A copy of Year 13 Examination or Foundation Certificate official results notice if applicable	Yes
A copy of Fiji Year 12 Certificate Examination official results if applicable	Yes
2 recent referee reports (less than 6 months old). Masters by Research candidates must provide 2 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 applicable – please check institution entry requirements as only some institutions will require this	Yes
Statement from last institution attended that English was the language of instruction	No-original only

### The selection process

- Applications will be shortlisted after eligibility checking.
- Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.
- The selection process includes an interview. 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
  - writing skills
  - oral presentation.

### Preparatory training

Successful AAS applicants will be required to:

- attend a pre-departure briefing
- complete an Introductory Academic Program before commencing in their academic program of study (conducted in Australia)

- 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 your application, however applicants should check entry requirements of selected institutions carefully as this may be an entry requirement.

### Australia Awards Pacific Scholarship (AAPS)

These scholarships provide citizens of Fiji opportunities to study available programs at a tertiary institution in the Pacific. Awards will be offered up to Advanced Diploma level for Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) study only at the University of the South Pacific (USP) or the Fiji National University (FNU).

### Programs of study

The programs of study available for the AAPS are:

- Postgraduate Diploma in Midwifery
- Diploma in Early Childhood Education
- Trade Diploma in Building
- Trade Diploma in Quantity Surveying
- Trade Diploma in Mechanical Engineering
- Trade Diploma in Electrical Engineering
- Trade Diploma in Automotive Engineering

### Australia Awards Pacific Scholarships benefits

Australia Awards Pacific Scholarships are 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
- supplementary academic support.

### Eligibility criteria

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

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

- must have a Fiji Year 12 Certificate Examination minimum aggregate mark of 250 out of 400 or its equivalent (English and 3 best subjects)
- program of study aligns to the priority area

- mature age applicants must have at least 3 years' relevant work experience and achieved a pass grade either at the Year 12 or Year 13 level or equivalent through some form of continuing education or work-related training
- must not hold an equivalent TVET qualification
- 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 the following:

- The University of the South Pacific (USP)
- The Fiji National University's (FNU) College of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences (excluding Nursing),

You must 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 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
- College of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries.

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

Hardcopy application forms will be available from 1 February 2018 from: **<http://www.dfat.gov.au/people-to-people/australia-awards/Pages/australia-awards-scholarships.aspx>**

## Supporting documents

Applicants must submit all relevant supporting documents listed below and outlined in the *Australia Awards Pacific Scholarships Policy Handbook*.

AAPS application document checklist	
Priority areas	Certified
One completed Australia Awards Pacific Scholarship application form with a recent photograph	No-original only
One completed Australia Awards Pacific Scholarship <u>institution</u> (USP or FNU) application form	No-original only
Copy of passport <u>or</u> birth certificate	Yes
Copy of certificate of completed tertiary study and official academic transcripts	Yes
Copy of Grading System	Yes
Curriculum Vitae of applicant detailing personal details, academic qualifications and	No-original only

work-related experience (no more than three pages)	
A copy of the Fiji Year 12 Certificate Examination official results notice	Yes
A copy of the Fiji Year 13 Certificate Examination official results notice, if applicable	Yes
Statement from last institution attended that English was the language of instruction	No-original only

## The selection process

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

- Applications will be shortlisted after eligibility checking.
- Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.
- The selection process includes an interview. 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
  - writing skills
  - oral presentation.

## Preparatory training

Successful AAPS applicants may be required to:

- complete an Introductory Academic Program before commencing in their academic program, depending on the selected institution.

## Application dates

For the 2019 intake, applications dates for the AAS and AAPS are:

Opening date: **1 February 2018**

Closing date: **31 April 2018**

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.

## Further information

Information about the Australia Awards Scholarship (AAS) and the *Australia Awards Scholarship Handbook* can be found at:

**<https://dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Documents/aus-awards-scholarships-policy-handbook.pdf>**

Information about Australia Awards Pacific Scholarship (AAPS) and the *Australia Awards Pacific Scholarships Handbook* can be found at:

**<http://dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Documents/australia-awards-pacific-scholarships-handbook.pdf>**

More general information about the Australia Awards and studying in Australia can be found at:

**[www.australiaawards.gov.au](http://www.australiaawards.gov.au)**

**[www.dfat.gov.au](http://www.dfat.gov.au)**

**[www.studyinaustralia.gov.au](http://www.studyinaustralia.gov.au)**

Information about available programs of study in Fiji for the Australia Award Pacific Scholarship can be found at:

**[www.usp.ac.fj](http://www.usp.ac.fj)**

**[www.fnu.ac.fj](http://www.fnu.ac.fj)**

## Contact

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