



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

Australia Awards Scholarships (AAS) 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.

Australia Awards scholarships provide citizens of Fiji with the opportunity to obtain a qualification at an Australian tertiary institution in 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.

What can I study?

AAS are offered for Bachelors degree or Masters degree qualifications only. PhDs are not available.

You must ensure your proposed course of study is in one of the priority fields of study below and **not available in Fiji**.

What if I would like to study in Fiji?

If you are looking for opportunities to study in Fiji, you must apply for the Australia Awards Pacific Scholarships (AAPS).

When can I apply?

Applications open 1 February and close on 30 April 2019.

Priority fields of study for AAS

Priority areas of study for AAS Fiji for study commencing 2020 are:

Environment (including, but not limited to: disaster risk and resilience and adaptation, climate finance/economics, conservation, meteorology, waste management,

seismology, water management, environment and resource economics).

Agriculture, fisheries and forestry (including, but not limited to: pathology, entomology, agricultural engineering, biosecurity, quarantine, aquaculture, fish technology, silviculture, food technology, food security and horticulture).

Economic growth (including, but not limited to: transport economics, labour economics, macroeconomic policy and analysis, communications, tourism and hospitality, environmental and resource economics, labour market analysis, public finance management, macroeconomic policy and analysis, market research, marketing and public relations, project planning, human resources planning and management, training and development, labour law, entrepreneurship, workforce development and planning, productivity, labour and construction law).

Health

Clinical (including, but not limited to: midwifery, specialised nursing, emergency medicine, anaesthesia obstetrics and gynaecology, surgery, pathology, biomedical, allied health programs (radiology), mental health, gender and women's health, psychiatry and dermatology).

Non-clinical (including, but 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 equality, child protection and disability (including, but not limited to: gender and development, speech pathology, child psychology, disability studies, child protection, interpreting, special education, aged care and community development).

Infrastructure (including, but not limited to: land surveying, engineers (road, civil, electrical, environment, water etc.), chemical engineering, marine 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 (including, but not limited to: career counseling, TVET education and training for teachers, learning technology, school leadership and management, flexible learning. Teaching English as a second language, human resources management and information systems management).

Governance (including, but not limited to: monitoring and evaluation, security, 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.

Who can apply?

Opportunities for all. Australia Awards are offered on the basis of merit, transparency and equal access. We strongly encourage eligible women, candidates from ethnic minority groups and those with disabilities to apply.

At least 50% of Australia Awards are offered to women.

Before you apply

Consider personal goals and development needs.

Applicants are expected to have clear ideas about how they will contribute to development in Fiji on their return. Before beginning their applications, applicants should consider the relationship between their academic and professional goals and Fiji's development needs.

Civil servants are strongly encouraged to seek prior approval from their respective Permanent Secretaries, in accordance with the Civil Service's Learning and Development guidelines.

How do I know if I can apply for an Australia Award Scholarship?

You must also meet all eligibility requirements detailed in the Australia Awards Scholarships Policy Handbook, available at: <https://bit.ly/2t8cvgT>

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

For Bachelors level study:

- Program of study must not be available in Fiji
- Applicants 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
- Must not hold an equivalent qualification (e.g. degree) or higher qualification (e.g. Masters) either at time of application or commencement of the scholarship
- 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 in Fiji
- 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.

For People with Disabilities (PWDs)

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

If you are awarded a Scholarship, the Australian Government and your university will work with you to reduce barriers to enable you to live and study in Australia for the duration of your scholarship.

Support with completing your application may be provided through the Fiji Program Support Facility offices in Suva, Lautoka and Labasa with computers and staff available for assistance.

What kind of support will you receive?

The Australian High Commission in Fiji, in consultation with the Australia Awards team will undertake an assessment of your academic and pastoral care needs. Their assessment of your application will be discussed with your selected institution.

Depending on your disability, assistance may include: help to find appropriate housing, additional academic preparation, communication software, support during lectures, tutoring support and regular support from your institution and the Australia Awards team.

What course can you study and at which university?

Decisions about your program of study and university may require careful consideration. The Australia Awards team can assist you with research and understanding the support the institutions offer. Discussions will focus on ensuring your course, institution and location have adequate support to cater for disability-related barriers.

What do you need to do?

To be assessed for appropriate support, applicants with a disability are requested to disclose your disability in your application form and provide details of your disability when contacted by the Australia Awards team. As an applicant with a disability you will be requested to provide

a medical report outlining your disability and complete an Australia Awards Disability Assessment Form.

The information will be used to assess the likely support required and will not be considered negatively in the selection process. This private information is handled according to Australia's strict privacy laws and will be disclosed only on a need-to-know basis to facilitate an accessible barrier-free environment for the awardee.

What will my scholarship cover?

The Australia Awards are for the minimum period necessary to complete an academic program. The following benefits are provided to all AAS awardees:

- Full tuition fee
- Economy class air travel to and from Australia by the most direct route
- An establishment allowance to contribute to costs such as accommodation, books and other items
- A fortnightly contribution to basic living expenses paid at a set rate
- Initial visa expenses
- Initial medical expenses
- A compulsory 4–6 week Introductory Academic Program prior to commencing formal studies, covering life and study in Australia
- Overseas student health cover for the duration of the scholarship
- Supplementary Academic Support (tutorial assistance), if required, to improve an Awardee's performance to assist with academic success
- Fieldwork allowance for research students and masters by coursework which has a compulsory fieldwork component
- People with Disability are entitled to Carer Support Package.

How do I apply?

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

Hardcopy applications will not be considered.

What documents do I need to submit with my application?

A number of documents are required to complete an eligible application and it is important to collect them as early as possible. Many of these must be certified. These are specified below.

AAS application document checklist:

Document Type	*Certified
Copy of passport and 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).	No - Original Only
Masters by Research candidates must provide 2 academic referee reports	
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

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

Other required supporting documents are outlined in the Australia Awards Scholarships Policy Handbook available at: <https://bit.ly/2G6Eh6e>

How is my application assessed?

Once applications have closed, the application is checked for eligibility and to ensure all documents have been provided and are currently valid.

If your application is eligible, it will then be independently assessed and proceed to short-listing. If short-listed you will be invited to attend an interview.

After all short-listed applicants are interviewed, the selection panel recommends to the Australian High Commission those who meet all the selection criteria and can demonstrate the best contributions to development in Fiji.

Where can I find more information?

Ensure you read all available information at the following links. Please contact the Australia Awards team if you require further information, prior to submitting your application.

See the Country Profile for Fiji at: <https://bit.ly/2RSI5Ae>

Review Frequently Asked Questions on the Australian High Commission, Suva website: <https://bit.ly/2FUMHhN>

Read the Scholarships Policy Handbook at: <https://bit.ly/2t8cvgT>

If you require clarification, please contact australiaawards@ausfijifacility.org or call the Australia Awards Team on +679 331 2141.

Useful Tips

- Ensure you understand the difference between the Awards:

Australia Awards Scholarships (AAS) - Study in Australia only - Bachelors and Masters level study only - for courses **not available in Fiji**.

Australia Awards Pacific Scholarships (AAPS) - Study in the Pacific only - Advanced Diploma level for Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) only.

- Use the eligibility checklist prior to starting an application, contact the Australia Awards team at australiaawards@ausfijifacility.org or 331 2141, if you have any questions.
- Upload or attach all required documents, missing one may result in your application being deemed ineligible.

What happens when I return to Fiji?

The Australian Government is committed to supporting a global network of alumni who have studied in Australia, to build on their experiences and remain connected to Australia.

On return to Fiji you will join a network of Australia Awards alumni. You will have the opportunity to share the experience and skills you developed while studying under an Australian Government scholarship. You will learn from other alumni, who will share their experiences in reintegrating into the work environment after several years' absence and better understand the challenges and opportunities involved with returning from extended study.

The Australia Global Alumni Engagement Strategy outlines the Australian Government's commitment to promoting connections with and among alumni, and optimising opportunities for professional development, shared research and strengthened business connections.

Eligibility Checklist

Potential applicants in Fiji are encouraged to use this checklist to determine their eligibility for an Australia Awards Scholarships for the 2020 intake, before they commence an application.

This checklist is not exhaustive and must be read in conjunction with the Country Profile for Fiji for the 2020 intake and the Scholarships Policy Handbook.

Please note that Australia Awards will only be awarded to persons who apply for an Award in the prescribed manner and are selected through the formal selection process.

Applications will not be accepted after 30 April 2019.

Personal Details		
Q1	Are you over 18 years of age or will turn 18 by 01st January 2020?	Yes – please continue to Q2 No – you are ineligible
Q2	Are you a citizen of Fiji and currently residing in and applying from Fiji?	Yes – please continue to Q3 No – you are ineligible
Q3	Are you married to, engaged to, or a de facto of a person who holds, or is eligible to hold, Australian or New Zealand citizenship or permanent residency, at any time during the application, selection or mobilisation phases?	Yes – you are ineligible No – please continue to Q4
Q4	Are you a citizen of Australia, hold permanent residency in Australia or are you applying for a visa to live in Australia?	Yes – you are ineligible No – please continue to Q5
Q5	Are you currently serving an existing scholarship bond with Fiji or any other government?	Yes – you are ineligible No – please continue to Q6
Q6	Is the program you would like to study available at a university in Fiji?	Yes – you are ineligible for AAS, please refer to the AAPS options No – please continue to Q7
Previous Scholarships & Qualifications		
Q7	Have you ever received an Australian Government scholarship? Please contact the Australia Awards Office Fiji if you are unsure if your scholarship falls within this category	Yes – please continue to Q8 No – please continue to Q9
Q8	Have you resided outside of Australia for twice the length of the total time that you were in Australia for your previous Australian Government scholarship? (for example, if you were on an Australia Awards Scholarship in Australia for two years you will not be eligible to apply for another Australia Awards Scholarship until you have resided outside Australia for four years)	Yes – please continue to Q9 No – you are ineligible
Q9	Are you looking to study a Bachelors level program?	Yes – please continue to Q10 No – please continue to Q14
Bachelors Level Study		
Q10	Do you already hold an equivalent or higher qualification (i.e. - Bachelors level or higher)?	Yes – you are ineligible No – please continue to Q11
Q11	If you are currently completing Year 13 - have you completed a Year 12 Certificate Examination with a minimum aggregate mark of 300 out of 400 or its equivalent (including English and three best subjects)? If you are currently completing Year 13, you are required to submit your Year 12 results as supporting documentation, your Year 13 results will be assessed when available.	Yes – please continue to Q17 No – you may be ineligible, please contact Australia Awards Fiji
Q12	If you have completed Year 13 – have you completed with a minimum aggregate mark of 300 out of 400 or its equivalent (including English and three best subjects)?	Yes – please continue to Q17 No – you may be ineligible, please contact Australia Awards Fiji

Q13	If you are a mature age applicant, do you fit into one of the below criteria? 1. Mature age applicants who have completed a tertiary qualification, should have minimum 5 years' relevant work experience 2. 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	Yes – please continue to Q17 No – you may be ineligible, please contact Australia Awards Fiji
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Masters Level Study

Q14	Are you looking to study a Masters level program?	Yes – please continue to Q15 No – you are ineligible (only Bachelors/Masters levels offered, no PhDs available)
Q15	Do you already hold a Masters level qualification or higher?	Yes – you are ineligible No – please continue to Q16
Q16	Do you satisfy the following criteria? 1. You hold a first degree and have achieved above average results and have at least 2 years' relevant work experience 2. 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	Yes – please continue to Q17 No – you may be ineligible, please contact Australia Awards Fiji

Proposed Study Program

Q17	Does your proposed study program fall within one of the Priority Sectors listed below? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environment • Agriculture, fisheries and forestry • Economic growth • Health • Gender equality and social inclusion (includes child protection and disability) • Infrastructure • Education • Governance <p>Please see breakdown of options under Priority Sectors in Country Profile and this booklet</p>	Yes – please continue to Q18 No – you are ineligible
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Supporting Documentation

Q18	Can you submit all the supporting documents required* along with your application?	Yes – you may be eligible No – you are ineligible unless you can satisfy this criterion by 30 April 2019
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*List of required documents can be found above and in the Fiji Country Profile for the 2020 intake
For more information, contact the Australia Awards team at the Fiji Program Support Facility:

Suva
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Street
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