



Australia Awards



Make a  
difference  
with an  
Australia Awards  
Scholarship



Australia's international development assistance in Tuvalu 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.

**Levels of Study:** Australia Awards Scholarships provide citizens of Tuvalu with the opportunity to obtain a qualification at an Australian tertiary institution in Australia or regionally in the Pacific.

Awards will be offered for commencement in 2020 for the following:

- **Australia Awards Scholarship (AAS):** For Bachelor and Masters level of study in Australia.
- **Australia Awards Pacific Scholarship (AAPS):** For undergraduate and postgraduate level of study at a tertiary institution in the Pacific.

If you would like to study in an Australian Institution, you would need to apply for an AAS. This booklet is for you. Please read through the instructions that follow carefully.

#### **What if I would like to study in the Pacific?**

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

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

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



## **Australia Awards Scholarships (AAS)**

AAS scholarships are awarded under two categories in Tuvalu, either OPEN or PUBLIC.

'Public' awards focus on building capacity in priority public service sectors within Tuvalu's Government Ministries; and the 'Open' awards category caters for the general population in Tuvalu. 'Public' awards are shortlisted by the Government of Tuvalu (GOT) and the 'Open' category is shortlisted by the Australian Government's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT).

## **What can I study?**

AAS are offered for Bachelor 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.

## **When can I apply?**

Applications open 1 February 2019 and close on 30 April 2019.

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

## Who can apply?

Opportunities for all. Australia Awards are offered on the basis of merit, transparency and equal access. We strongly encourage eligible women, men and people with disabilities to apply. At least 50% of Australia Awards are offered to women.

## Priority fields of study for AAS

To be eligible for an Award, you must ensure you apply for a program in the priority areas of study for Tuvalu, outlined below:

### 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, Science, Environmental and Business Management, Disaster Risk Reduction, Disaster Preparedness and Reconstruction, Environment and Occupational Health and Safety, Environmental Science, Environmental Management and Sustainability, Environmental Risk Assessment and Remediation.

### Economic Growth and Governance

**Includes but is not limited to:** Environmental and Resource Economics, Labour Market analysis, Human Resources Planning and Management, Management and Business Administration, Financial Management, International Marketing, Development Economics, Project Management, Tourism and Hospitality, Accounting, Banking, Commerce, Statistics, Applied Finance, Governance Studies, Public Administration, Business and Law, Public Policy, Development Studies, Political Studies, and Law. Local Governance Studies and Development.

### Education

**Includes but not limited to:** Special and Inclusive Education, Disability Studies, TVET Education, Early Childhood Education, Teaching English as a Second Language, Physical Education, Curriculum Education, Educational Studies, Leadership and Management in Education, and Teaching (early childhood, primary and secondary).

### Gender and Social Inclusion

**Includes but not limited to:** Gender Studies, Sociology, Disability Studies, Social Science, Social Work, Psychology, Disability Management, Community Development, Behavioural Studies, Family Studies, and Social Change and Development.

### Infrastructure Support

**Includes but not limited to:** Maritime Surveying and Technical, Ports and Logistics, Terminal Management, Construction, Civil Engineering, Project Management, Architecture, Surveying Engineering, Telecommunication Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Information Technology, Software Engineering, Information Systems, Computer Science and Journalism.

### Health

**Includes but not limited to:** Nursing, Biomedical Science, Exercise and Sport Science, Food Science and Human Nutrition, Health Science, Medical Science, Midwifery, Medical Statistics, Mental Health Nursing, Medicine, Nutrition and Dietetics, Oral Health, Pharmacy, Physiotherapy, and Workplace Health and Safety.

**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.

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

## Before you apply

Consider personal goals and development needs.

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

## 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/1QUoZIJ>

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 locally or regionally
- 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 Tuvalu or any other government
- Must not transfer from a Tuvalu Government scholarship or any other scholarship during the tenure of that scholarship
- Must be able to take up the award in the calendar year for which the award is offered
- 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 Masters level study:

- Program of study must not be available locally or regionally

- 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 Tuvalu or any other government
- Must not transfer from a Tuvalu Government scholarship or any other scholarship during the tenure of that scholarship
- Must be able to take up the award in the calendar year for which the award is offered
- Must be applying to commence a new course of study and not be seeking support for a course they have already commenced in Australia.

Use the Eligibility Checklist on Page 06 to guide you.

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

## For People with Disabilities

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

If you are awarded a Scholarship, the Australia 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 Facility offices in Fiji.

### What kind of support will you receive?

The Australia Awards team in Fiji along with DFAT Suva Post will undertake an assessment of your academic and pastoral care needs and, in negotiation with you and your chosen institution, will ensure you are well prepared and resourced to undertake your scholarship.

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 a DFAT 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.

## Is there any 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)

Successful 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 your application, however applicants should check entry requirements of proposed courses carefully as this may be an entry requirement.

## 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/>

For applicants who have difficulty lodging through the

online system, OASIS, a hard copy application form in an envelope can be lodged at:

**Human Resource Management Unit  
Government of Tuvalu  
Funafuti  
TUVALU;** or

If you are traveling to Fiji, you may lodge your application at: **The Fiji Program Support Facility office in Suva.** (Refer to address and contacts at the end of this document); or

You may also drop your application at **The Tuvalu High Commission in Suva** (Refer to address and contacts at the end of this document).

Please indicate on your envelope and application if you are applying for an **OPEN** or **PUBLIC** award.

You may obtain hard copy applications from the Human Resource Management Unit in Tuvalu.

## 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.

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). 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

\*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/1QUoZlJ>

## 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 submits priority and reserve for cross-referencing at a Joint Scholarships Selection Committee (JSSC) comprised of the DFAT, the Government of Tuvalu and the NZ MFAT. Following the JSSC meeting, the final list of all of those who meet all the selection criteria and can demonstrate the best contributions to development in Tuvalu are recommended to the Australia Awards office as priority and reserve candidates.

## 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 Tuvalu at:  
<https://bit.ly/2B6UJjK>

Review Frequently Asked Questions on the Australian High Commission, Suva website.

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

If you require clarification, please contact [australiaawards@ausfijifacility.org](mailto: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 Tuvalu or regionally.

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

- Complete your application early, the Online Australia Awards Scholarship Information System (OASIS) is open to applicants from all over the world, it experiences peak usage in April.
- Use the eligibility checklist prior to starting an application, contact the Australia Awards team at [australiaawards@ausfijifacility.org](mailto:australiaawards@ausfijifacility.org) or +(679) 331 2141 if you have any questions.
- Upload all required documents, missing one may result in being deemed ineligible.

## What happens when I return to Tuvalu?

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 Tuvalu 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 optimizing opportunities for professional development, shared research and strengthened business connections.

## Eligibility Checklist

Potential applicants for an Australia Awards Scholarships in Tuvalu for the 2020 intake are encouraged to use this checklist to check whether they may satisfy the eligibility criteria for an Australia Award in Tuvalu before they commence an application.

This checklist is not exhaustive and must be read in conjunction with the Country Profile for Tuvalu 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	Will you be over 18 years of age on 1 January 2020?	Yes – please continue to Q2 No – you are ineligible
Q2	Are you a citizen of Tuvalu?	Yes – please continue to Q3 No – you are ineligible
Q3	Are you married, engaged to, or a de facto of a person who holds, or is eligible to hold, Australian or New Zealand citizenship or permanent residency?	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 on a Tuvalu Government scholarship or serving an existing scholarship bond with the Government of Tuvalu or any other government?	Yes – you may be ineligible, please contact Australia Awards Tuvalu No – please continue to Q6
Q6	Is the program you would like to study available in Tuvalu or regionally (Pacific)?	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?	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 8 months you will not be eligible to apply for another Australia Awards Scholarship until you have resided outside Australia for 16 months)	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	1 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 Tuvalu
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 Tuvalu
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 3. Mature age applicants who have completed a tertiary qualification, must have a minimum of 10 years' relevant work experience	Yes – please continue to Q17 No – you may be ineligible, please contact Australia Awards Tuvalu
Masters Level Study		
Q14	Are you looking to study a Masters level program?	Yes – please continue to Q15 No – you are ineligible
Q15	Do you already hold a Masters level qualification or higher?	Yes – you are ineligible No – please continue to Q16

Q16	<p>Do you satisfy one of the following criteria?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. You hold a first degree and have achieved above average results and have at least 2 years' relevant work experience</li> <li>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</li> </ol>	<p>Yes – please continue to Q17 No – you may be ineligible, please contact Australia Awards Tuvalu</p>
<b>Proposed Study Program</b>		
Q17	<p>Does your proposed study program fall within one of the Priority Sectors listed below?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environment and Climate Change</li> <li>• Economic Growth and Governance</li> <li>• Education</li> <li>• Health</li> <li>• Gender Equality and Social Inclusion</li> <li>• Infrastructure Support</li> </ul> <p>Please see breakdown of options under Priority Fields of Study on Page 01.</p>	<p>Yes – please continue to Q18 No – you are ineligible</p>
<b>Supporting Documentation</b>		
Q18	Can you submit all the supporting documents required* along with your application?	<p>Yes – you may be eligible No – you are ineligible unless you can satisfy this criterion by 30 April 2019</p>

\*List of required documents can be found on Page 04 and in the Tuvalu Country Profile for the 2020 intake.

\*\* Applicants must be applying to commence a new course of study, support is not available for courses already commenced.  
Applicants applying in 2019 must be able to commence study in 2020.

For more information, contact the Australia Awards team at the Fiji Program Support Facility:

**Suva**  
Level 1, Sabrina Building  
Corner of Victoria Parade and  
Gordon Street Entrance on Gordon  
Street  
T: +(679) 3312141

**Lautoka**  
Old Treasure Island House Marine Drive  
T: +(679) 6662800

**Labasa**  
Lot 11 Nanuku Street  
T: +(679) 8811800

Email: [australiaawards@ausfijifacility.org](mailto:australiaawards@ausfijifacility.org)

**OR:**

**The Tuvalu High Commission**  
16 Gorrie Street, Suva, Fiji  
T: +(679) 3301355/3300697  
Postal: P.O. Box 14449, Suva, Fiji