Papua New Guinea

Applying for an Australia Awards Scholarship

Australia Awards Scholarships in Papua New Guinea

Australia Awards provide Papua New Guineans with the opportunity to study in Australia and obtain tertiary qualifications from participating Australian Institutions.

Australia Awards aims to further develop the skills and expertise of Papua New Guineans so they can contribute to Papua New Guinea’s development. They are prestigious international awards offered by the Australian Government to Papua New Guinea’s existing and future leaders. Through study and research, recipients develop the skills and knowledge to drive change, influence Papua New Guinea’s development and build enduring people-to-people links with Australia.

Applicants will be assessed for their professional and personal qualities, academic competence, English language proficiency and most importantly, their potential to positively impact on development challenges in Papua New Guinea.

Priority Sectors:

Every year, both the Governments of Australia and Papua New Guinea agree on priority sectors that will target key development areas in Papua New Guinea. For the 2018 intake, the Priority Sectors include:

- Health
- Education
- Governance
- Law & Justice
- Transport & Infrastructure
- Agriculture

Priority fields of study

The priority areas of study for Papua New Guinea are:

Health:

E.g. Allied Health (Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy); Public Health (including Epidemiology; Maternal and Neonatal Health; Tropical Disease Prevention and Treatment) and Nursing.

Education:

E.g. Education and TVET / Higher Education Policy and Management (including Quality Assurance); Specialist Teaching (including teaching people with special needs).

Law and Justice:

E.g. Law (including family, international, criminal, environmental, and other specialities); Criminal Justice; Peace and Security; Anti-corruption.

Economics, Governance and Public Sector Management:

E.g. Enabling Systems and Service Delivery (Management, Accounting, Information Technology, Public Financial Management, Human Resources, Procurement); International Relations and Trade.

Transport and Infrastructure:

E.g. Public Infrastructure Planning and Management; Aviation (non-flying); Airport Management; Safety; Security and Emergency Response; Civil Engineering / Maintenance (airports, ports, roads).

Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (STEM)

E.g. Environment and Climate Change; Data Science; Monitoring and Evaluation; Engineering; Technology; Physics; Mathematics; Biology and Chemistry.

Agriculture:

E.g. Agriculture; Agribusiness; Veterinary Science; Animal Science and Husbandry; Food Security; and Fisheries and Aquaculture.

Other:

E.g. Gender, Family and Sexual Violence; Disability; Entrepreneurship / Small and Medium Enterprise Development (including Tourism).

*Generic qualifications such as Business, Management and Information Technology studies will only be considered if a strong contribution to a Priority Sector is demonstrated.
**Targeted Groups**

Applications are strongly encouraged from women, people living with disability and people living and working in rural parts of Papua New Guinea.

At least 50% of the awards will be targeted to Public Servants.

At least 15% of the awards will be targeted to individuals from the Higher Education sector.

At least 50% of the awards will be targeted to individuals living and working outside the National Capital District (NCD).

**Level of study**

These scholarships provide citizens of Papua New Guinea with the opportunity to obtain an approved qualification at an Australian tertiary institution.

A limited number of awards will be provided for PhD with the objective of building capacity within PNG’s higher education system or where a clear link to a critical development need is identified.

The majority of awards will be for Masters level qualification to extend technical expertise across the priority fields of study.

Limited undergraduate awards will be considered in exceptional circumstances. For example, the course being applied for is in a priority field of study but not offered in Papua New Guinea or for applicants living with a disability.

**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 generally receive the following:
- return air travel;
- one off establishment allowance on arrival;
- full tuition fees;
- contribution to living expenses;
- introductory academic program;
- OSHC (overseas student health cover) for the duration of the scholarship;
- supplementary academic support, and;
- fieldwork allowance (for research students only).

**Eligibility criteria**


Among other eligibility criteria in the handbook, applicants must be:
- a minimum of 18 years of age at the time of commencing the scholarship and
- able to satisfy all requirements of the Australian Department of Immigration and Border Protection (including medical and security checks) to obtain the relevant visa.

**Special conditions**

In addition to the basic eligibility requirements, Public Servant candidates from Papua New Guinea must also meet a range of the Papua New Guinea Department of Personnel Management requirements including:
- be employed in a public sector agency for two years; and
- be nominated by your employment agency and endorsed by the Department of Personnel Management.

Papua New Guinea Public Sector applicants should familiarise themselves with General Order, No. 6 available from the Department of Personnel Management’s website [www.dpm.gov.pg](http://www.dpm.gov.pg)

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**Document type** | **Certified**
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Proof of citizenship (i.e. birth certificate or valid passport). | Yes
Higher Education certificates (i.e. Bachelors, Masters qualifications) | Yes
Vocational Education and Training certificates i.e. Certificate IV, Diploma | Yes
High School Certificate/s (not required for Masters or PhD applicants) | Yes
Complete academic transcripts (where they are not in English please provide an English translation) | Yes
If previously undertaken, English language proficiency i.e. results from IELTS - International English Language Testing System; TOEFL - Test of English as a Foreign Language; or PTE – Pearson Test of English | Yes
Academic Referee Reports (with seal: two reports for Masters by Research applicants; one for Masters by Coursework applicants) | No
Employment Referee report with seal (same template as above) | No
Curriculum Vitae | No
Application dates
(for study commencing in Australia in 2018)

Applications for study commencing in 2018 are scheduled to open in late October 2016 and will close in late February 2017. Please check the Australia Awards -- PNG Website regularly for up-to-date information on the opening and closing dates: www.australiaawardspng.org

The application process

Papua New Guinea applicants are strongly advised to register their interest and download the electronic application form once available from the Australia Awards -- PNG Website: www.australiaawardspng.org

Specific instructions on how to download, complete and submit the electronic application form will also be available from the Australia Awards - PNG website: www.australiaawardspng.org

It is compulsory for all NCD based applicants to submit their application form via email.

Provincial applicants have the option to submit their application via email or USB flash drive, posted to the Australia Awards office.

Hard copy applications are only accepted via prior arrangement with the Australia Awards.

Applicants are encouraged to apply well before the closing date.

Supporting documents

Along with the application form, applicants must submit ALL relevant supporting documents as listed in the Scholarships Policy Handbook.

Please refer to the application form checklist for further information on the required supporting documents.

The selection process

Following eligibility and compliance checking, applications will be processed and shortlisted for Interview. Applicants will be assessed against the following criteria:

- Academic competence.
- Potential outcome, including contribution to development outcomes in Papua New Guinea.
- Professional and personal leadership attributes.

Further assessment will be conducted on applicants deemed suitable for interview including English proficiency. Applicants will be notified of these assessments prior to the interview.

Outcomes

It is anticipated that applicants will receive notification as to whether they have successfully progressed to the next stage for selections interview by the end of May 2017. The final outcomes of the selection process are expected to be published in the Papua New Guinea National Press in August 2017 onwards.

Preparatory training

All successful applicants will be required to attend a pre-departure briefing which will be held late 2017.

Further information

Further information about the Australia Awards can be found at: www.australiaawards.gov.au


More general information about the Australia Awards and studying in Australia can be found at: http://studyinaustralia.gov.au

Contact Details

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Email: scholarships@australiaawardspng.org
Website: www.australiaawardspng.org

The Australia Awards - PNG has an Information Resource Centre that is equipped with institution and course resource materials from participating Australian Education Institutions as well as computers that individuals can access:

Monday to Friday from 8:30am – 4:30pm.

Facilities are also available for people with special needs.

Interested applicants are encouraged to visit the Australia Awards - PNG Facility or to contact staff through email or phone (details above).