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.

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

- 50 per cent of the awards will be targeted for women
- 50 per cent of the awards will be targeted to individuals living and working outside the National Capital District
- at least 5 per cent of the awards will be for people living with a disability or contributing to the sector.

Priority sectors:

Every year, the governments of Australia and Papua New Guinea agree on priority sectors that will target key development areas in Papua New Guinea. For the 2019 intake, priority sectors include:

- health
- education
- governance
- law and justice
- transport and infrastructure
- agriculture

Priority fields of study

The priority areas of study for Papua New Guinea are:

Health

Including allied health (occupational therapy, physiotherapy); public health (including epidemiology; maternal and neonatal health; tropical disease prevention and treatment); and nursing.

Education

Including education and TVET / higher education policy and management (including quality assurance); and specialist teaching (including teaching people with special needs).

Law and justice

Including law (including family, international, criminal, environmental, and other specialties); criminal justice; peace and security; and anti-corruption.

Economics, governance and public sector management

Including enabling systems and service delivery (management, accounting, information technology, public financial management, human resources, procurement); and international relations and trade.

Transport and infrastructure

Including public infrastructure planning and management; aviation (non-flying); airport management; safety; security and emergency response; and civil engineering / maintenance (airports, ports, roads).

Science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM)

Including environment and climate change; data science; monitoring and evaluation; engineering; technology; physics; mathematics; biology; and chemistry.

Agriculture

Including agriculture; agribusiness; veterinary science; animal science and husbandry; food security; and fisheries and aquaculture.

Other

Including gender, family and sexual violence; disability; and 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.
Level of study
Australia Awards Scholarships provide citizens of Papua New Guinea with the opportunity to obtain a qualification at an Australian tertiary institution.

The majority of the awards will be offered at the Master-level to extend technical expertise across the priority sectors.

A small number of Australia Awards Scholarships will be provided for PhDs with the objective of building capacity within Papua New Guinea’s higher education sector or where a clear link to a critical development need is identified.

Undergraduate level Australia Awards Scholarships will be considered in exceptional circumstances only. For example, the course being applied for is not offered in Papua New Guinea however will contribute to a priority sector.

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
- once off establishment allowance on arrival
- full tuition fees
- contribution to living expenses
- introductory academic program
- Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC) for the duration of the scholarship
- supplementary academic support, and
- fieldwork allowance (for research students only).

Eligibility criteria

Country-specific conditions
In addition to these eligibility requirements, candidates from Papua New Guinea must also meet the following country specific conditions:
- be applying for a course that demonstrates contribution to a priority sector
- have a minimum of two year’s work experience.

Application dates
For study commencing in Australia 2019
Opening date: October 2017
Closing date: 28 February 2018.

Applications or supporting documents received after this date will not be considered.

Please check the Australia Awards—PNG website for up-to-date information: www.australiaawardspng.org

The application process
Applicants are strongly advised to register their interest and download the electronic application form from the Australia Awards—PNG website: www.australiaawardspng.org

Specific instructions on how to download, complete and submit the electronic application form are also available from the Australia Awards—PNG website.

It is compulsory for all National Capital District based applicants to submit their application form electronically (via email or USB flash drive, posted to the Australia Awards office). Where possible, provincial applicants are encouraged to submit their application form electronically (via email or USB flash drive, posted to the Australia Awards office). Hard copy applications are only accepted via prior arrangement with Australia Awards.

Applicants are encouraged to apply well before the closing date.

Supporting documents

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Document type</th>
<th>Certified</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Proof of citizenship (i.e. birth certificate or valid passport).</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Higher education certificates (i.e. Bachelors, Masters qualifications).</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vocational education and training certificates (i.e. Certificate IV, Diploma).</td>
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<tr>
<td>High School Certificate/s (if applying for undergraduate).</td>
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<tr>
<td>Complete academic transcripts (in English).</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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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

| Academic referee reports (with seal: two reports for Masters by Research applicants; one for Masters by Coursework applicants). | No |
| Employment referee report with company seal. | No |
| Curriculum Vitae | No |

Public category applicants
In addition to the basic eligibility requirements, public servant candidates must also meet the Government of Papua New Guinea requirements, including:

- be employed in a public sector agency for two years
- be nominated by your employment agency and endorsed by the Department of Personnel Management.

Public category 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)

The selection process
Following eligibility and compliance checking, applications will be processed and shortlisted for interview and further assessment. 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 aptitude testing and 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 2018. The final outcomes of the selection process are expected to be announced in August 2018 onwards.

Preparatory training
All successful applicants will be required to attend a compulsory pre-departure program. The program is likely to be held in Port Moresby in late 2018 and be up to four weeks in duration.

Further information
Further information about the Australia Awards can be found at: [www.australiaawards.gov.au](http://www.australiaawards.gov.au)


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

Contact Details
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Email: scholarships@australiaawardspng.org
Website: [www.australiaawardspng.org](http://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 disability.

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