



Kiribati

Applying for an Australia Awards scholarship

Australia Awards scholarships in Kiribati

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

Australia Awards cover scholarships for study in Australia (Australia Awards Scholarships) and the region (Australia Awards Pacific Scholarships).

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

Priority fields of study

The priority areas of study for Kiribati are set in accordance with the Government of Kiribati Human Resource Development Priority List, called the '**Pre-Service Priority List**' for non-employed undergraduates and the '**In-Service Priority List**' for those employed in the government sector; which is available on the Government of Kiribati Public Service Office website.

The governments of Australia and Kiribati regularly review these areas of study together and adjust the emphasis of the program. Detailed information on priority areas of study can be found at: www.pso.gov.ki

Level of study

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

Awards will be offered for undergraduate and postgraduate programs commencing in 2022.

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
- a one-off establishment allowance on arrival
- full tuition fees
- 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 seeking to study in Australia 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

Those applicants seeking to study in the region must meet all eligibility requirements detailed in the *Australia Awards Pacific Scholarships Policy Handbook*, available at <https://dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Pages/australia-awards-pacific-scholarships-policy-handbook-december-2015.aspx>

Country-specific conditions

In addition to the eligibility requirements, candidates from Kiribati must also meet the following conditions:

- Applicants currently undertaking Form 7 (or equivalent) must successfully complete their studies.

- Applicants who have previously received other tertiary scholarships must satisfy related 'employment bond' conditions prior to 1 February 2022.

Application dates

For study commencing in Australia in 2022:

Opening date: 1 February 2021

Closing date: 30 April 2021

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

The application process

Online applications

All applications must be lodged online through <https://oasis.dfat.gov.au>.

Supporting documents

Applicants must submit all of the relevant supporting documents listed in the *Australia Awards Scholarships Policy Handbook* (or the *Australia Awards Pacific Scholarships Policy Handbook* for those seeking to study in the region).

English Language Requirements

In order to take up an Australia Awards scholarship for study in Australia, applicants must achieve an IELTS (Academic) score – of 6.5 or higher (with no individual band score of less than 6.0) or an equivalent TOEFL or PTE score.

Please note that an IELTS score (or equivalent) is not required at the time of application. Only those who satisfy language requirements will be offered a scholarship.

Commencement of study

All scholarships must be taken up in the year for which they are awarded, this however also depends on travel restrictions due to COVID-19.

The selection process

The selection process is made up of the following stages:

- completeness and eligibility checking
- assessing and shortlisting
- interviewing and further shortlisting.
- English language proficiency testing (for recommended shortlisted candidates seeking to study in Australia). Language testing will be arranged for successful applicants.

Applicants will be assessed against the following criteria: academic achievement:

- Academic achievement.
- potential outcome, specifically the contribution to development outcomes in Kiribati
- professional and personal leadership attributes including relevant work experience.

Competitive applicants will be able to demonstrate they have the academic and personal attributes to succeed in their studies; make the most of the opportunities that living overseas presents; and be able to use the skills and

knowledge they acquire in their studies to good effect when they return home.

We anticipate successful candidates will be notified no later than 31 August 2021.

Preparatory training

Successful applicants will be required to attend:

- pre-departure briefing
- university's course counselling
- university's Introductory Academic Program
- other required preparatory study on arrival in Australia.

Further information

Information about the Australia Awards - Kiribati] can be found at <https://kiribati.embassy.gov.au/>

More general information about the Australia Awards, Australia's aid program, and studying in Australia can be found at the following links:

- dfat.gov.au/people-to-people/australia-awards/pages/australia-awards-scholarships
- studyinaustralia.gov.au

Information about visas and Australia Awards scholarship entitlements and conditions can be found in the Scholarships Policy Handbook: dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Pages/australia-awards-scholarships-policy-handbook.aspx

Contact details

Australia Awards—Kiribati
Address: Australian High Commission, Bairiki
Telephone: +686 740 21184
Email: TarawaScholarships@dfat.gov.au