



Australia Awards

# Samoa

## Applying for an Australia Awards scholarship

### Australia Awards scholarships in Samoa

Australia's partnership with Samoa encompasses diplomatic, economic, security and development cooperation, and celebrates the interconnectedness of our peoples and cultures based on a long history of personal, community and institutional ties.

Australia Awards scholarships are prestigious international awards offered by the Australian Government to the next generation of global leaders in developing countries. 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 eligible countries.

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

### Priority fields of study

The priority areas of study for eligible Samoan applicants in this intake are:

- Health Sector (particularly in ENT, Medical Imaging, Anaesthesia)
- Paramedicine
- Education (particularly in Literacy & Numeracy Curriculum Development)
- Community Sector (Counselling)
- Finance Sector (Forensic Auditing, Procurement)
- Land Surveying
- Veterinary Science
- Software Development
- Sports Management
- Paralegal studies
- Environmental Safeguarding
- Maritime and Aviation

The governments of Australia and Samoa regularly review these areas of study and adjust the emphasis of the program inline with Samoa's priorities. Detailed information on priority areas of study can be found at: [Australia Awards Samoa](#).

### Level of study

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

Awards will be offered for commencement in 2026 in the following categories:

- Foundation category AAS and AAPS (Undergraduate studies only)
- Open category AAS and AAPS (Undergraduate and Master's level studies at an Australian or regional institution)

- Local category AAPS (studies at USP Alafua only)
- Australia Online Study Scholarships (AOSS for online postgraduate studies only).

## 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 or regional 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 Master's by coursework which has a compulsory fieldwork component.

## Eligibility criteria

Australia Awards applicants must meet all eligibility requirements detailed in the [Australia Awards Scholarships Policy Handbook](#).

## Country-specific conditions

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

- Applicant must be seeking a **new course of study** and not seeking support for a course already commenced.
- Samoan citizens holding citizenship of any other developed country (e.g. Australia, NZ, USA and including American Samoa) are ineligible to apply.
- Must be residing in Samoa and have resided in Samoa for a minimum of 2 consecutive years at the time of application.
- Must sign a Government of Samoa scholarship bond prior to departure for study overseas.
- Must have a valid email address to receive notifications on the status of their application.
- Open Category only- Must be currently employed in Samoa and have worked in Samoa for a minimum of 2 years.
- Foundation Category only- Must have completed the Foundation Year at the National University of Samoa.

## Application dates

For study commencing in 2026:

Opening date: 1 February 2025

Closing date: 30 April 2025 (11:59PM AEST)

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 OASIS.

Only AOSS applications will be accepted in hardcopy and application forms can be uplifted and submitted to the Samoan Public Service Commission (PSC) Office

## Supporting documents

Applicants must submit all the relevant supporting documents listed in the [Australia Awards Scholarships Policy Handbook](#).

Applicants must also provide the following documents to meet the specific requirements for Samoa:

Required document	OASIS document type	Certified
At least 2 referees reports- Current employer (required), plus 1 other (e.g. previous employer, mentor, academic supervisor etc)	Referee report	No- letterhead or AAS template will suffice

## The selection process

Applications will be shortlisted after eligibility checking, only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. The selection process includes an interview. Applicants will be assessed against the following criteria:

- Academic competence.
- Potential outcome, specifically the contribution to development outcomes in Samoa.
- Professional and personal leadership attributes including relevant work experience.
- Successful candidates will be notified in late 2025.
- Awardee travel will be subject to meeting the requirements imposed by the Australian Government Department of Home Affairs and Department of Education and by the relevant Australian State or Territory governments.

## Preparatory training

Successful applicants will be required to attend:

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

## Further information

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

- [Australia Awards Scholarships](#)
- [Study Australia](#)

Information about visas and Australia Awards scholarship entitlements and conditions can be found in the [Australia Awards Scholarships Policy Handbook](#).

## Contact details

Australia Awards Samoa

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