



Solomon Islands

Applying for an Australia Awards Scholarship

Australia Awards scholarships in Solomon Islands

Australia's international development assistance in Solomon Islands 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.

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

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

Level of study

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

Awards will be offered for commencement in 2022 at the undergraduate and postgraduate levels. (Awards are not available for VET, Diploma or Graduate Diploma studies).

Priority fields of study

Applicants are required to nominate courses in the following priority fields of study:

Undergraduate and postgraduate

- **Development studies** including Gender Equality
- **Environment** including but not limited to: Disaster Risk Reduction & Adaptation; Climate Change; Climate Finance/Economics; Conservation; Waste Management; Water Management; Environment & Resource Economics
- **Economic Growth** including but not limited to: Economics; Supply Chain Management; Business Studies; Accounting; Information Technology; Tourism & Hospitality; Marketing & PR; Art & History Curating

- **Counselling & Social Work** including but not limited to child protection
- **Infrastructure** including but not limited to: Engineering (including biomedical, civil, water, sanitation, electrical, maritime, construction & mining); Surveying; Building & Construction; Urban Planning; Architecture; Landscape Design
- **Agriculture, Fisheries, Forestry & Veterinary Science**
- **Governance** including but not limited to: Statistics; Public Sector Reform; Public Financial Management; Procurement & Contract Management

Postgraduate only

- **Health** including but not limited to: Health Informatics; Pharmacy; Mental Health; Epidemiology; Remote Medicine; Obstetrics; Midwifery; Paediatric Medicine/Nursing; Emergency Medicine/Nursing; Intensive Care Nursing; Public Health; Health Policy &/or Administration
- **Education** including but not limited to school leadership & management; TVET; training for teachers

The governments of Australia and Solomon Islands regularly review these areas of study together and adjust the emphasis of the program.

Australia Awards Scholarships 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 awardees 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 and proposed study must meet all eligibility requirements detailed in *Section 2* of the *Australia Awards Scholarships Policy Handbook*:

dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Pages/australia-awards-scholarships-policy-handbook.aspx.

Applicants must be able to satisfy all relevant university admission requirements including English language proficiency.

English language proficiency

Provisional and Reserve Awardees will be required to undertake an IELTS or equivalent test, and must achieve an IELTS (Academic) score of 6.5 or higher (with no band score less than 6.0), or an equivalent TOEFL or PTE score. Scores must be valid at 1 January 2022.

Country-specific conditions

In addition to general Australia Awards eligibility requirements, Solomon Islands candidates:

- must have completed Form 6 and have an aggregate score higher than 11.
- may apply while completing Form 7 in 2021. Final Form 7 results must be submitted once received.
- must not hold an equivalent qualification or higher qualification at time of application, or commencement of award; and
- must not be serving an existing scholarship bond with Solomon Islands or any other government.

Commencement of study

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

Application dates

For study commencing in Australia in 2022:

Opening date: 1 February 2021

Closing date: 30 April 2021 (online 11:59pm)

Applications received after the closing date will not be considered.

Application process

Online applications can be accessed and must be lodged at: <https://oasis.dfat.gov.au>.

Hardcopy application forms will only be provided and accepted in exceptional circumstances.

Application enquiries should be directed to:
AustraliaAwards-SolomonIslands@sirf.com.sb

Supporting documents

At a minimum, applicants must submit the following supporting documents:

- Certified proof of citizenship

- Certified certificates and academic transcripts for all completed study from Form 6 including GPA, grading scale and explanatory page
- Two referee reports less than six months old
- CV detailing professional and other relevant experience where applicable (three pages maximum)

In addition, research applicants must submit a research proposal, communication with supervisor and any publications. Their two referee reports must be academic.

Specific documentary requirements are outlined in *Section 2.8* of the *Australia Awards Scholarship Policy Handbook*.

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 Solomon Islands
 - professional and personal leadership attributes including relevant work experience.

Preparatory training

Successful applicants will be required to attend course counselling, pre-departure briefing, university's Introductory Academic Program and other required preparatory study on arrival in Australia.

Further information

Information about Australia Awards — Solomon Islands can be found at <https://solomonislands.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:

- <https://dfat.gov.au/people-to-people/australia-awards/Pages/australia-awards-scholarships.aspx>
- 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

The Solomon Islands Australia Awards program is managed by Solomon Islands Resource Facility (SIRF).

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