



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 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.

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

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**', and '**In-Service Priority List**' 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: pso.gov.ki.

Level of study

Australia Awards scholarships provide citizens of Kiribati with the opportunity to obtain a qualification at an Australian or regional 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 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 programs that have 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***.

Those applicants seeking to study in the region must meet all eligibility requirements detailed in the ***Australia Awards Pacific Scholarships Policy Handbook***.

Commencement of study

All scholarships must be taken up in the year for which they are awarded. Should an awardee not be able to commence study in 2022, the scholarship will be withdrawn.

Country-specific conditions

In addition to the general eligibility requirements above, 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 2021:

- opening date: **1 February 2021**
- closing date: **31 May 2021**

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

The application process

Online applications

Applications must be lodged online through OASIS at: <https://oasis.dfat.gov.au>.

We strongly encourage applicants to complete their application as early as possible. The online application facility experiences peak usage in the days leading up to the closing date and applicants may experience delays.

Applicants that would like to apply for courses at FNU – FIT, for courses offered at College of Engineering, Science & Technology (CEST), College of Agriculture, Fisheries & Forestry, and the College of Education, to submit hard copy applications. Application forms can be collected from the Australian High Commission.

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. Recommended, short-listed candidates will sit an English language test in the later stage of the selection process. Only those who satisfy language requirements will be offered a scholarship.

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).

Applicants will be assessed against the following criteria:

- 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 (in country)
- orientation
- course counselling
- university's Introductory Academic Program
- other required preparatory study on arrival in Australia.

Further information

Information about the Australia Awards—Kiribati may 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:

- <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 *Australia Awards Scholarships Policy Handbook*:

dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Pages/australia-awards-scholarships-policy-handbook.aspx and the *Australia Awards Pacific Scholarships Policy Handbook* dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Pages/australia-awards-pacific-scholarships-policy-handbook-december-2015.aspx

Contact details

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