Information Form - Australian and New Zealand scholarships for studies beginning in 2017

The Australian and New Zealand Governments are holding a joint selection process to award their 2017 scholarships. Applications open on 8 February and close on 21 March 2016 at 4:00pm. On offer are:

- Australian Award Scholarships (to Australian institutes) for undergraduate and postgraduate degrees
- New Zealand Pacific Scholarships (to New Zealand institutes) for undergraduate and postgraduate degrees
- Australian Award Pacific Scholarships for undergraduate and postgraduate degrees at regional institutions
- New Zealand Regional Scholarships for undergraduate and postgraduate degrees at regional institutions

**SUPPORTED AREAS OF STUDY**
Candidates will only be considered if they are intending to study in an area listed in the Human Resource Development priority list attached with this application information (Annex 1).

**HOW TO APPLY**
Applications for all undergraduate and postgraduate scholarships are to be made using the *Common Application Form*.

Candidates should lodge their completed *Common Application Form* at the New Zealand High Commission by 4pm Monday 21 March 2016. Alternatively, applications and other supporting documents can be sent by email to mailbox: TarawaScholarships@dfat.gov.au

Late applications will not be considered.

Applications are welcomed from people with disability who meet the eligibility criteria. To afford fair participation in the selection process by individuals who identify as having a disability, reasonable adjustments and additional assistance will be considered. Anyone requiring adjustment or consideration of their disability for this process MUST notify the New Zealand High Commission Tarawa prior to completing their application.
APPLICATION PROCESS
To be eligible for a scholarship offer, a candidate must successfully complete all stages of the selection process:

i. All applications will be screened for eligibility. Eligible applications will undergo a merit-based ranking assessment. Initial ranking of candidate applications will be based on the academic competence and an assessment of the potential outcomes of the scholarship.

ii. Shortlisted candidates will be invited to sit an academic aptitude test, and candidates will be re-ranked based on this test score. The aptitude test assesses a range of competencies considered important for successful tertiary study, and evaluates skills such as critical thinking and understanding, and capacity to analyse and use given information. It does not test knowledge of curriculum or specific academic content. Candidates need to be available to sit the aptitude test in Tarawa on Saturday 23 April 2016.

iii. Top candidates will then be invited to undertake an interview, which will be used to seek further information on academic competence, professional and personal leadership attributes, and potential outcomes. It will also be used to assess oral English skills. Candidates need to be available for interviews in Tarawa between Monday 30 May and Friday 10 June 2016. Following the outcomes of the interviews and the aptitude test, the preferred candidates will be selected to sit the International English Language Testing System (IELTS).

iv. Top candidates will then be shortlisted for either the scholarships or the reserve list.

v. To complete the final stage and be eligible for a scholarships offer candidates must satisfy: (1) Admission requirements of the institution of study; (2) Requirements of a police check; (3) Visa requirements for the country of study, including medical; and (4) Complete pre-departure briefing requirements as determined by Australia or New Zealand.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA
Candidates must meet the following criteria to be considered eligible:

- Citizen of the Republic of Kiribati;
- Resident in Kiribati at the time of application (for Australia); resident in Kiribati for at least two years at the time of application (New Zealand);
- Candidates must be born before 1 January 1999 (for Australia); should be 18 years old by 30 June 2017 (New Zealand) to be eligible for this intake;
- At minimum have completed Form 6, and will have successfully completed Form 7 prior to beginning study (or equivalent). (Applicants who fail Form 7 studies will not be offered scholarships);
- Have not previously held an Australian or New Zealand scholarship, or since completion of a previous scholarship, have returned and resided in Kiribati for at least 24 months (for NZ) or for twice the length of the total time of the previous study (for Aus);
- Are not married to, engaged to, or a de facto of an Australian or New Zealand Permanent resident; or applying for a visa to live in Australia or New Zealand (for Aus);
- Not applying for the same level of qualification or degree already achieved.
In addition to the above criteria, preference will be given to candidates who are 39 years of age or younger at the time of commencing their scholarship.

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<tr>
<th>COMMUNICATIONS</th>
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<tr>
<td>➢ Accurate and up-to-date telephone and email details must be included in the application form. If candidates cannot be contacted directly they may forego an opportunity to participate in further stages of the selection process.</td>
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<td>➢ Candidates invited to sit the aptitude test will be notified before 15 April 2016.</td>
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<td>➢ Candidates who are not successful in being invited to the aptitude test stage will not be notified.</td>
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Candidates are required to select undergraduate or postgraduate degrees within the following areas:

UNDERGRADUATE

Health
- Medical laboratory science
- Medical imaging technology
- Pharmacy
- Bachelor Medicine Bachelor Surgery (MBBS)
- Dental Therapist & technician
- Environmental health
- Physiotherapy/prosthetic/orthotics
- Nursing studies
- Public Health

Science & Engineering
- Marine science
- Marine biology
- Aquaculture
- Data management & Analytics/Applied Science
- Ecology
- Environmental Law
- Geospatial science
- Geology
- Marine engineering
- Electrical/electronics
- Solar energy
- Mechanical
- Radio
- Construction
- Housing management
- Building
- Quantity survey
- Water conservation & management
- Printing technology
- Architecture
- Fishing technology
- Natural resource economics
- Fisheries economics
- Land planning and land survey
- Geospatial
- Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

Education
- Computing science & information system

Business, administration, law, economics & accounting
- Accounting
- Business Banking
- Statistics
- Economics
- Life insurance & insurance law
- Business Administration
- Business law
- Business ethics & management
- Human Resource Management
- Industrial relations
- Public Administration
- Project management
- Law studies
- international relations & diplomacy
- Development studies

Community development
- Cultural heritage
- Museum
- Community work & studies
- Gender related studies
- Population studies & sociology

Other
- Journalism
- Tourism and hospitality
- Aviation
POSTGRADUATE

Health
- Medical laboratory Science (Clinical Cytopathology)
- Rehabilitation/Public Health Nutrition/Environmental Health
- Nursing (Psychiatric Nursing, Midwifery/Admin or General or Specialised Nursing)

Science & Engineering
- Computing Science/IT & IS
- Engineering (Water/Coastal/Highway/Civil)
- Construction/Construction Project Management
- Natural Resources, Business Studies
- Meteorology and Climatology
- Climate Change Vulnerability & Adaptation
- Crop Modelling/Biosecurity
- Marine Science (Aquaculture/Marine Biology/Geology/Fisheries)
- Applied Science (Marine Environment)

Education
- Education, TESOL, Curriculum Development & Assessment, and School Leadership/Management

Business, administration, law, economics & accounting
- Management, Human Resource Management, Governance & Public Policy Administration
- Public Finance Management/Accounting/Taxation/Commerce/Economics
- Public Policy/Public Admin/Management
- International Relations/Diplomacy/Politics
- Police
- Policing law and Management
- International Law - Policing and Security studies
- Law
- Professional Diploma in Legal Practice (PDLP)
- Governance/Leadership and Management
- Project Management
- Postal Management

Note: Applications for MBA courses will not be considered in this NZ-Aust scholarships round as this course is now offered at USP Tarawa campus commencing 2015

Community Development
- Social work (Applied)
- Gender/Women and Development Studies
- Heritage Management

Other
- Aviation Management (Specializing in Safety, Security or Airport)
- Communication Studies (Mass Media)
- Tourism (Specializing in Eco-Tourism)
- International Hospitality Management
Annex 2 – Eligibility Criteria

In addition to the eligibility criteria listed on page 2 of the application information, candidates need to meet the full eligibility requirements of the Australian or New Zealand scholarships.

Applicants should examine the websites indicated for full details of the scholarships.

New Zealand:

www.aid.govt.nz/schols

Australia:

www.australiaawards.gov.au

Applicants should note that Australia Award Scholarships are NOT available for:

- courses that are available in Kiribati; or in areas that relate to nuclear technology or flying aircraft;
- courses in Australia that are greater than 4 years in duration;
- courses of study where the applicant already has achieved a similar level of qualification.
Eligibility Criteria - New Zealand Scholarships


Applicants must meet the following conditions to be eligible for a New Zealand Scholarship:

- Be a minimum of 18 years old by 30 June 2017
- Be a citizen of the country from which you are applying for a scholarship.
- Not have citizenship or permanent residence status of New Zealand, Australia, USA, Canada, European Union countries, United Kingdom, Japan, Israel, South Korea, Qatar, United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia.
  IMPORTANT NOTE: this condition does not apply to applicants from the Cook Islands, Tokelau or Niue, or applicants from Samoa with dual Samoa-NZ citizenship.
- Have resided in your home country for at least two years immediately prior to commencing your scholarship.
  IMPORTANT NOTE: this condition does not apply to applicants who are members of the diplomatic corps or their dependants, and may not apply to applicants for Short Term Scholarships.
- Have at least 2 years of work experience (part time or fulltime, paid or voluntary).
  IMPORTANT NOTE: this condition does not apply to applicants from the Pacific who are applying for a pre-service scholarship (i.e. school leavers)
- Not be serving military personnel.
- Not applying for the same level of qualification or degree already achieved.
- Be able to satisfy Immigration requirements for international student entry to New Zealand or the country in which you will undertake your scholarship (i.e. medical checks, police clearances/character checks, etc.)
- Be academically and linguistically able to obtain an Offer of Place for the proposed programme of study from the tertiary institute where you will undertake your scholarship.
- Not have been previously terminated from a New Zealand Government Scholarship
- Seek a qualification that will contribute to the sustainable development of your home country
  Commit to return to your country for a minimum of 2 years at the end of your scholarship.

Preference will be given to candidates who:

Apply to study in an academic discipline relating to a target sector (these are listed on each country page)

- Demonstrate strong academic ability, leadership qualities, and a commitment to the development of their home country.
- Are 39 years of age or younger at the time of commencing their scholarship.
Eligibility Criteria – Australia Award Scholarships

Full details of eligibility criteria for Australian Awards Scholarships can be found in the scholarships handbook, available at www.kiribati.embassy.gov.au or from the Australian High Commission (AHC) in Bairiki.

To be eligible to receive an Australia Awards Scholarship, applicants must:

- be born before 1 January 1999
- be a citizen of a participating country (as listed on the Australia Awards website) and be residing in and applying for the scholarship from their country of citizenship
- not be married, engaged to, or a de facto of a person who holds, or is eligible to hold, Australian or New Zealand citizenship or permanent residency, at any time during the application, selection or mobilisation phases (note: residents of Cook Islands, Niue and Tokelau with New Zealand citizenship are eligible but must apply for a DFAT (subclass 576) visa)
- not be current serving military personnel
- not be a citizen of Australia, hold permanent residency in Australia or be applying for a visa to live in Australia permanently
- not be applying for another long-term Australia Award unless they have resided outside of Australia for twice the length of the total time that they were in Australia (for example, a previous awardee who has been on an Australia Awards Scholarship in Australia for four years will not be eligible to apply for another Australia Awards Scholarship until they have been home for eight years)
- not applying for the same level of qualification or degree already achieved
- have satisfied any specific criteria established by the AHC or the government of the applicant’s country of citizenship
- be able to satisfy the admission requirements of the institution at which the award is to be undertaken (this may mean that AHC will need to withdraw an award offer if the recipient cannot satisfy the institution’s admission requirements. This may not be known until AHC request a placement at selected institutions)
- be able to satisfy all requirements of the Department of Immigration and Border Protection to hold a DFAT (subclass 576) visa. This may mean that the AHC will need to withdraw an award offer if the recipient cannot satisfy the visa requirements.
- Applicants must inform the AHC of any connection or relationship to staff employed at Program Areas or with managing contractors so that the application may be properly and transparently managed.
**Australia Award Pacific Scholarships**

Currently Australia Awards Pacific Scholarships are offered to people from the Pacific to study at Pacific tertiary institutions in Papua New Guinea, the Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Fiji, Samoa and New Caledonia.

Full details of Australia Awards Pacific Scholarships can be found at


To be eligible for a scholarship applicant must:

- be born before 1 January 1999
- be a citizen of and a resident in the Australia Awards Pacific Scholarships participating country
- not have or be entitled to permanent residence in Australia; and not be married or engaged to be married to a person who holds or is eligible to hold Australian or New Zealand citizenship or permanent residence status (unless their country does not issue passports— the Cook Islands, Niue and Tokelau)
- meet specific eligibility criteria imposed by the Government of the applicant's country of citizenship
- not applying for the same level of qualification or degree already achieved
- satisfy the host government's immigration requirements for regional students
- not hold another scholarship during the period of the Australia Awards Pacific Scholarship
- not be transferring from another scholarship
- not hold or have held an Australian Government scholarship in the two years preceding the proposed time of commencement of the Australia Awards Pacific Scholarship.