



## Kiribati

### AUSTRALIAN DEVELOPMENT SCHOLARSHIPS

Information for Intakes Commencing 2009

#### Country Strategy

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Australian support for Kiribati is focused on four strategic areas: better educational outcomes, improved public sector performance, human resource development and urban renewal. This reflects the priorities of the Kiribati National Development Strategy 2004-2007, which emphasises sustainable growth in the economy through a focus on the development of human resources and economic reform. To help Kiribati realise the objectives of the National Development Strategies 2004-07, Australian and New Zealand development cooperation programs are being harmonised to enhance coordination of aid activities and to improve aid effectiveness.

Australia's support for improving the skills and qualifications of I-Kiribati students will continue to be a key focus for the aid program.

The majority of scholarships provided by Australia are for study at regional institutions, which is an appropriate and cost effective way of providing tertiary education to I-Kiribati students.

Australian Development Scholarships provide an opportunity for students to attend courses in Australia that are unavailable in the region but nevertheless are a development priority.

#### Type, Level and Number of Scholarships

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There are two scholarship categories – Public and Open. Public candidates are nominated by either the Public Service Office or the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, and are jointly agreed by the Government of Kiribati and AusAID. The Open category allows individuals to apply directly to an AusAID selection committee based on academic merit and relevance of study to Kiribati's development needs. A total of up to *(yet to be determined)* ADS will be available for the 2009 intake to be shared as needed between the Open and Public categories.

ADS scholarships will only be available up to Masters level and scholarships will only be available for subjects not provided in the region.

#### Priority Sectors

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Priority sectors include:

- education studies
- engineering (civil and mechanical)
- health (laboratory services, medicine & surgery, public health, orthotics & prosthetics, physiotherapy and dental surgery)
- public administration/management
- marine resources development/management
- computing & information systems
- economics (in region)
- legal studies.

#### Closing Dates for Applications

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The initial applications for the Open scholarship round must be in by 11 May 2008. Open round applicants who wish to apply for an ADS must have their formal application in to AusAID by 24 August 2008. Formal applications for Public ADS will have to be received at AusAID by 31 August 2008.

#### The Application Process

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The initial applications are assessed based on previous academic record, relevance of study to development aims, relevance of work history to desired course and the quality of the accompanying written submission. A short interview may be conducted to assess oral English language skills. This process is used to select the successful applicants and a group of reserve candidates.

Nominations for the Public round are assessed by the Public Service Office, for serving public servants, and Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport for school graduates. Applicants should contact these agencies for further information on the nomination process. Successful nominations are then discussed and confirmed during a joint AusAID/NZAID Government of Kiribati scholarship meeting.

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## Australian Scholarships

THE PATHWAY TO EXCELLENCE

### Special Restrictions

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- The age limit for commencement of undergraduate studies is 35 and for postgraduate studies 40.
- Doctorate and post doctorate studies are not accepted.
- Pilot training is not offered.

### English Language Training

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English language training is usually addressed during the bridging program at the relevant institution prior to the commencement of studies.

### Contact Information

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