



PAPUA NEW GUINEA

AUSTRALIAN DEVELOPMENT SCHOLARSHIPS Information for Intake Commencing 2011

From 01 June 2010, ADS and a range of other AusAID and NZAID human resources development programs will be delivered by a new facility called the Scholarships PNG Facility. This means a transition will take place between the existing scholarships facility (PATTAF) and the Scholarships PNG Facility.

PATTAF will commence promotion and eligibility processes for the 2011 ADS round and the Scholarships PNG Facility will finalise the selection, preparation and mobilisation of ADS awardees. Once the Scholarships PNG Facility is established, we will advise their contact details. In the meantime please direct all enquires to PATTAF (details below).

Country Strategy

The Country Strategy contributes to human resource development by concentrating Australian Development Scholarship Awards (ADS) on Papua New Guinea (PNG) development priorities.

ADS awards seek to provide men and women with the skills and knowledge to contribute to PNG's economic and social development within the priority areas of National and Provincial government and within the private sector and civil society.

The strategy embeds principles of equity and access through transparent decision making. AusAID strongly encourages women, people working in provincial locations and people with disabilities to apply.

Type, Level and Number of Scholarships

The ADS program is open to applicants from the PNG Public Service through the Public Category and the PNG private sector and civil society through the Open Category.

Selection will be based on national priorities and academic merit. Equal numbers of awards will be allocated to female and male applicants. A minimum of 30% of awards will be reserved for Public Category applicants.

For the 2011 intake there will be 130 awards available for study across four levels:

- TAFE
- Undergraduate
- Postgraduate
- Doctorate

The number of awards under each level will be determined by GoPNG stakeholders and AusAID.

Priority Sectors

The priority sectors and target agencies are identified through an annual Workforce Development Strategy for PATTAF agreed to by the Department of National Planning and Monitoring, National Training Council, Department of Personnel Management and AusAID.

Areas will include priorities identified through the PNG-Australia Development Cooperation program, the PNG medium and long term strategies, national training priorities and the PNG Strategic Vision 2050.

Information on priority areas is available from GoPNG agencies and the PATTAF website.



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The Application Process

The process for each category is explained below:

PUBLIC CATEGORY: The Public category is open to PNG public service employees who have gained endorsement from their agency. Public category bids must address specific and identified human resource capacity gaps in the applicant's agency and must address how the proposed course will strengthen the agency's organisational and institutional capacity.

Bids for places in the Public Category must be submitted through the training/human resource sections of the applicant's agency to the Department of Personnel Management (DPM) Human Resource and Training Section for endorsement.

Once verified by DPM and checked for compliance, all Public Category Bids are forwarded to PATTAF for short-listing by the Joint ADS Selection Committee comprising representatives from GoPNG and AusAID.

DPM has distributed Public Category Bid forms to all Government of PNG agencies and statutory bodies. If an agency's training and human resource section does not have these forms or information on how to complete the forms, applicants should contact PATTAF or DPM.

OPEN CATEGORY: Expression of Interest (EOI) forms are available from the National Training Council, Port Moresby through the Overseas Training Coordinator. Open Category EOI forms are also available through all Provincial and District Post Offices, Provincial Department of Labour offices, UPNG Open College Campuses and other sites noted on the PATTAF website.

Open Category EOI's should be endorsed by the applicant's employer where appropriate and submitted to NTC. Once Open category EOIs have been verified by NTC and checked for compliance, they will be forwarded to PATTAF for short-listing by the Joint ADS Selection Committee.

Closing Dates for Applications

All Public Category Bids must be submitted by line agencies to the Department of Personnel Management (DPM) Human Resource and Training Section no later than close of business, Wednesday 31 March 2010. Note: applicants line agencies may have an earlier closing date.

All Open Category EOIs must be submitted to the National Training Council Overseas Training Coordinator by close of business, Wednesday 31 March 2010.

Applications must be completed in full and submitted with all requested documents (certified photocopies, not originals). Incomplete applications are ineligible and will be regarded as non-compliant.

Short-listed applicants may be expected to attend group interviews and undertake an English proficiency test. Costs will be met by PATTAF. Medical examinations are compulsory and costs are reimbursed. Visa applications for awardees are processed by PATTAF.

Priority status (scholarship offer) awardees who do not meet the required English proficiency level will be required to complete a Foundation Program in Australia before commencing study in their chosen course.



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Special conditions and considerations

Under ADS awards policy it is mandatory that previous ADS awardees spend at least two years working or residing in PNG before being eligible to apply for a further award.

Applicants under the Public category can expect some form of on-going financial support during award and re-engagement upon return to PNG from their agency. Such agreements are between the awardee and their employer. AusAID has no ability to enforce such agreements. Public category awardees should clarify entitlements in writing with their agency before accepting an award offer.

Applicants under the Open Category are encouraged to consult with current employers to discuss issues of support, career progression and future re-engagement prospects.

For study in 2011 all ADS applicants may apply for overseas courses where similar courses are currently offered in PNG.

Veterinary Science has been identified as a critical capacity need in PNG and applicants are invited to undertake undergraduate courses that provide pathways to a veterinary science degree. This is an extremely challenging degree. Applications will only be considered where the applicant can clearly demonstrate at least one or more of the following:

- outstanding academic performance, particularly in appropriate science subjects
- experience in the field of animal husbandry and
- capacity to successfully complete the award.

No other degree will be considered for articulation (eg from Master to Doctorate) or for double degree awards.

Ten per cent (10%) of ADS awards will be reserved for people working in the PNG Higher Education Sector – including Academics, Administrators and appropriate PNG government agencies. These applications will be assessed for a demonstrated commitment to strengthening the PNG higher education sector.

Awardees are encouraged to make use of on-award study support programs provided by AusAID to assist awardees in completing their degree. Early use of these support programs is recommended as AusAID will be less inclined than in previous years to agree to extensions of awards. Such extensions are costly, deprive other Papua New Guineans the opportunity of undertaking a scholarship award, and extend the period of time awardees are away from their employing agencies and organisations.

Doctoral Awards

Applicants for Doctoral awards must be endorsed by their employer to be eligible for consideration. They must be employed at a tertiary education institution or a recognized research institution. Doctoral award applications must display sufficient academic or development impact merit and applicants must be well prepared for the Doctoral Award interview that is part of the short listing process. Applicants for Doctoral awards in 2011 are encouraged to commence a dialogue with prospective supervisors as early as possible and ensure they are well researched and their proposed program is well thought through.



Australian Government



Australia Awards

AUSTRALIAN DEVELOPMENT SCHOLARSHIPS

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Preparatory Training

It is mandatory for awardees to attend a pre-departure training course prior to departure for Australia. This course is designed to equip awardees with a range of academic skills and strategies for managing life and study in Australia.

Undertaking a study award in Australia is a challenging and potentially rewarding experience. The difficulty of balancing family life, study commitments and managing finances while in Australia should not be underestimated. The cost of living is expensive, especially in major cities. AusAID encourages all prospective applicants to thoroughly research options for study in Australia and the implications of either separating from family or taking family to Australia while undertaking study. The PATTAF website and Information Centre has more information available to help in making these decisions.

Contact Information

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