Australian Government

Australia Awards
AUSTRALIAN DEVELOPMENT SCHOLARSHIPS

Vanuatu

AUSTRALIAN DEVELOPMENT SCHOLARSHIPS

Information for Intakes Commencing 2011

Country Strategy

Australia's long-term objective in providing aid to Pacific Island countries, including Vanuatu, is to help them achieve the maximum possible degree of self-reliance. In the interim, Australia's assistance aims to contribute materially to the achievement of the following five principal outcomes:

- better governance;
- stronger economic growth;
- greater capacity;
- better service delivery; and
- environmental integrity

Australia's aid program works within the framework that the Government of Vanuatu has set for itself, namely the Comprehensive Reform Program (CRP). The CRP endorsed in June 1997 envisages major improvements in service delivery, economic and public sector management, as well as economic growth led by the private sector.

In June 2006, the Government of Vanuatu released its new Prioritized Action Agenda (PAA) 2006- 2015 entitled "An Educated, Healthy and Wealthy Vanuatu". The main priority voiced in the PAA is "to create an environment for private sector growth", the next level of priority being human resource development.

Australian assistance to Vanuatu is guided by the Australia-Vanuatu Joint Development Cooperation Strategy 2005-2010 and focus on three objectives: Improved Governance, Raising Productive Capacity and Improving Service Delivery.

Australia's assistance to Vanuatu aims to strengthen the public sector generally (including the law and justice sector) and accords a high priority to the education and health sectors. Australia's governance assistance has shifted to a much stronger focusing on supporting structural reforms and government policies that promote economic growth and improve services to Ni-Vanuatu. In the health and education sector, Australia's assistance focuses on addressing overall planning and management and increased access to services to the rural and remote areas in Vanuatu. Greater emphasis is being placed on basic, technical and vocational education and community partnership with just over 30 per cent of total Australian bilateral aid spent in the education sector.

A strong human resource development program contributed to by the Australian Development Scholarships (ADS) underpins the reform program by supporting priority areas of development.

Type, Level and Number of Scholarships

In 2010, seventeen Open Equity scholarship holders and three Public Sector scholarship holders were sent to Australia for study. An increase in ADS will depend on the quality of applicants.

Priority Sectors

Open Equity applications are sought from people wishing to undertake undergraduate and postgraduate study (not PhD study) in six prioritized fields:

- Public Health Management
- Public Sector/Financial Management/Economics
- Engineering (Civil, Transport/Infrastructure, Aviation, Ports & Marine, Town Planning)
- Agriculture/Veterinary (including bio-security)
- Disability Studies
- Policing/Law Enforcement

ADS Public Sector applications are sought from people wishing to undertake postgraduate study (not PhD study) in prioritized fields decided by the Vanuatu Government. A list of these priority fields is available from the Vanuatu Training and Scholarships Coordination Unit (TSCU) office at Ministry of Education, Port Vila, Vanuatu (telephone (678) 23708).

The primary objective of the ADS program is to contribute to the development of Vanuatu's human resources. Whilst encouraging equity, selection for study in priority areas will be based on academic merit. Only Public Sector officers may apply for the Public Sector category through TSCU.

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Closing Dates for Applications

Applications for **Open Equity** scholarships open on 8 March 2010 and close on 14 May 2010. Applications for ADS **Public Sector** scholarships close on 31 May 2010.

The Application Process

Open Equity scholarship applicants apply for scholarships directly to the AusAID Port Vila Office, PO Box 111, Port Vila, VANUATU, telephone (678) 23341.

Public Sector scholarship applicants apply for scholarships directly through the Vanuatu Training Scholarships Coordination Unit at the Ministry of Education (PMB 028), telephone (678) 23708.

Restrictions

- Applicants outside of the selection criteria will not be considered;
- applicants must be Ni-Vanuatu citizens;
- applicants must be residents in Vanuatu two years prior to commencement of award;
- applicants must have completed a first degree or equivalent studies or completed University Entrance (Year 13, NZ Bursary, USP Foundation studies) with an exceptional academic record;
- applicants must have high English language proficiency (minimum of 6.0 IELTS or equivalent);
- applicants will be required to meet the entrance criteria of the relevant Australian tertiary institutions or TAFE;
- all other Eligibility Criteria as stipulated by the Vanuatu Government must be met. A full list is available from TSCU (Telephone Port Vila (678) 23708)

English Language Testing

ADS Open Equity and Public Sector applicants are required to provide International English Language Testing System (IELTS) test results. IELTS test is offered at the University of the South Pacific, Vanuatu Campus (Telephone Port Vila (678) 22748).

Other Scholarships

Regional Training/In-Country Scholarships/ Australian Leadership Awards and Fellowships

Please note that AusAID also supports Australian Regional Development Scholarships (ARDS) for studies in regional institutions through the TSCU (Telephone Port Vila: 23708).

Information on In-Country Scholarships for study at the Vanuatu Institute of Education (VIT), Vanuatu Institute of Teacher Education (VITE), Vanuatu Maritime College (VMA) and Agence Universitaire de La Francophonie (AUF) is available through AusAID, Port Vila office.

Australian Leadership Awards (ALA) supports and trains leaders who will advance reform, development and governance in the Asia-Pacific region. ALA scholarship are for those who currently hold, or have the potential to assume, leadership roles and can influence social and economic policy reform and development outcomes in their own countries and in the region.

Contact Information

AusAID staff is available to discuss the ADS application process and to assist with inquiries related to selection of courses and institutions.

Please telephone Port Vila 23341 or fax 22292 for further information and assistance.

Information about courses and institutions is available on the website: www.ausaid.gov.au/scholar or www.australianscholarshps.gov.au