



Australian Government

AusAID

AUSTRALIAN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT SCHOLARSHIP (ARDS)

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST GUIDELINES FOR INTAKE YEAR 2013

Opening date: 22 February 2012

Closing date: 31 March 2012

Benefits

ARDS provides the opportunity for resident citizens from the Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau to undertake studies at post-secondary education institutions in the Pacific region for study levels of Technical/Vocational, Undergraduate, and Postgraduate (up to Masters level, only). The purpose of ARDS is to support training at the level and field of study that are expected to have the greatest developmental impact. Because Awardees are receiving valuable training and experience, they are required to return to their home country for two years, after the completion of their studies, to apply their skills and knowledge to assist in the development of their country.

ARDS awards cover successful applicants' tuition and institution fees, living expenses, basic overseas health coverage, tutorial assistance and economy class air travel back to your home country at the end of each year of study.

To APPLY, fill out and submit the ARDS 2012 Expression of Interest Form

Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible, Applicants must:

- have citizenship of either FSM, RMI or ROP;
- not have access (as an individual or by marriage/engagement) to Australian or New Zealand citizenship or permanent residence status;
- not hold another scholarship from any other source that would give overlapping benefits during the period of their ARDS award;
- not hold or have held an Australian Government Scholarship in the preceding 24 months at the time of application;
- be aged at least 18 years of age for an undergraduate study program
- Must have completed a two year Associate Degree/Foundation Course at College or due to complete in June 2012 with **GPA 2.8 or above**, **OR** be a mature age student (25 or more) who has a minimum of 5 years work experience and high school **GPA 2.8 or above**
- satisfy the admission requirements of the regional institution in which the course is to be undertaken;
- be able to take up the scholarship in the calendar year for which the scholarship is offered;
- satisfy regional government (Fiji, Vanuatu, Samoa, PNG, as applicable) requirements for international student entry (health and character checks, visa eligibility);
- not be transferring from another Australian scholarship or any other scholarship to ARDS;
- for postgraduate courses, applicants should preferably have been working in their country of citizenship for at least two (2) years immediately preceding the date of their scholarship application.



Australian Government

AusAID

- possess, as evidence of high academic merit, a qualification from a recognized institution for secondary, foundation, preparatory, voc-tech, undergraduate or postgraduate study; and
- reside in their country of citizenship during the application process.
-

Priority will be given to applicants seeking to study in the following sectors:

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| • Accounting | • Environmental Studies | • Medical Laboratory |
| • Agriculture | • Environmental Sciences | Technology |
| • Business Management/
Admin | • Finance/Banking | • Nutrition & Dietetics |
| • Dentistry | • Information Systems | • Nursing |
| • Economics | • Land Management | • Pharmacy |
| • Education | • Legal and Justice
Studies | • Public Health |
| • Engineering | • Marine Sciences | • Technical/Vocational
Studies |

Participating ARDS Institutions: Information on courses/programs may be obtained by visiting the relevant web site or calling the institution.

- University of the South Pacific (USP) – Laucala campus, Suva, Fiji www.usp.ac.fj
Bachelor studies in Commerce, Accounting, Economics, Environmental, Computing, Science, Statistics, Engineering, Marine Science.
Post Graduate and Master Studies in Business Administration, Climate Change, Education, Development Studies, Pacific Studies, Environmental, Science and Technology.
- USP - Emalus Law School, Port Vila, Vanuatu www.law.usp.ac.fj, law studies only
- Fiji Institute of Technology (FIT) – Suva, Fiji www.fit.ac.fj
Diploma and Advanced Diploma studies in Electrical Engineering, Building and Civil Engineering, Maritime and Fisheries, Automotive Engineering.
- Fiji School of Medicine – Suva, Fiji www.fsm.ac.fj
Diploma and Bachelor programs in Medicine, Dentistry, Public Health, Pharmacy, Medical Laboratory .
- Fiji School of Nursing – 3 yr Diploma studies, details from the scholarship offices
- USP – Alafua Campus, Samoa www.usp.ac.fj/index.php?id=alafua
Bachelor of Agriculture studies only is available

Preliminary Application forms will be available, starting 22 February 2012, at:
www.fsm.embassy.gov.au and from:

- The Australian Embassy, Pohnpei
- FSM National and State Scholarship Board Offices
- COM campus admission offices
- RMI Scholarship Office, USP/RMI Joint Education Office, CMI Financial Aid Office
- The Palau National Scholarship Board, PCC Financial Aid Office