

**THE AUSTRALIAN DEVELOPMENT SCHOLARSHIPS (ADS) and
THE AUSTRALIAN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT SCHOLARSHIPS (ARDS)
2009 INTAKE**

Preliminary applications are invited from Fiji citizens for tertiary study scholarships commencing in 2009 under the Australian Development Scholarships (ADS) scheme for institutions in Australia OR under the Australian Regional Development Scholarships (ARDS) scheme for institutions in the Pacific Region. Study programs can be undertaken by either Full-time or Distance and Flexible Learning (DFL) mode. The Full-time scholarships cover course fees, a living allowance and a return airfare where applicable, whilst Distance and Flexible Learning scholarships cover tuition fees and course related texts only.

Applicants can apply for one scholarship only – either an ADS or an ARDS scholarship, but not for both.

Level of study for which you can apply ADS scholarships offer Undergraduate and Postgraduate studies (not PhDs) for courses that are not available at an ARDS regional institution (see list below). ADS support Full-time studies only. ADS scholarships support a single rate of allowance; it does not pay an accompanied rate for families.

ARDS scholarships offer Undergraduate, Technical & Vocational, Postgraduate studies (not PhDs), and supports both Full-time and Distance and Flexible Learning (DFL) mode. However, the Distance and Flexible Learning modes, which include Part-time studies, are only for postgraduate level at the University of the South Pacific or the Fiji School of Medicine.

Selection

Scholarship awards will be based on academic merit, taking into account the academic attainment, work experience and relevance of proposed study to Fiji's human resource development needs in the areas of Economic and public sector reform, Health, Education, and Law and Justice. Equal numbers of scholarships will be awarded to males and females. The decision of the selection panel is final.

- Special consideration will be given to eligible students pursuing studies in the Pacific Policing Program at the University of the South Pacific.

Notification of the results of this Preliminary Application

Successful preliminary applicants will be sent ADS or ARDS applications forms.

IF YOU HAVE NOT RECEIVED AN ADS OR ARDS APPLICATION FORM BY FRIDAY 13th JUNE 2008, YOU HAVE NOT BEEN SUCCESSFUL. DO NOT CONTACT THE AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSION AS THE DECISION IS FINAL AND WILL NOT BE RE-CONSIDERED.

General Eligibility Criteria

Applicants:

- Must be citizens of Fiji and not have access to places in Australian higher institutions on the basis of Australian citizenship, or Australian permanent residence status, or eligibility to hold a New Zealand passport or have permanent residence in New Zealand.
- Must not be married to, or in a defacto relationship with a person who holds Australian or New Zealand citizenship or permanent residence status.
- Must not hold another scholarship simultaneously with an ADS or ARDS award, nor should they have held an Australian Government scholarship in the preceding 12 months at the time of application.
- Applicants for ADS must be applying to commence a new course of study and not be seeking support for a course they have already commenced in Australia.
- Must not transfer from a Fiji Government scholarship or any other scholarship during the tenure of that scholarship.
- Must be able to take up the award in the calendar year for which the award is offered.
- Must not be under any bonding or cost sharing arrangements at the time of commencement of an award.

Institutions

ADS scholarships are open to all universities in Australia.

ARDS scholarships will only be awarded for study at the following regional educational institutions:

- University of the South Pacific (Fiji, Vanuatu and Samoa)
- Fiji School of Medicine
- Fiji Institute of Technology
- Fiji School of Nursing
- Lautoka Teachers College
- Fiji College of Advanced Education
- Fiji College of Agriculture
- PNG University of Technology (UNITECH). Lae Campus
- Pacific Adventist University - Port Moresby
- Divine Word University (DWU) - Madang PNG
- University of Goroka – Goroka PNG
- University of Papua New Guinea (UPNG) Waigani Campus, Port Moresby
- University of Papua New Guinea (UPNG) School of Medicine Taurama Campus, Port Moresby

Country Specific Criteria

Technical/Vocational Training:

- Applicants must have an FSLC minimum aggregate mark of **250/400** or its equivalent (for English & 3 best subjects).
- Mature age applicants should have at least 5 years relevant work experience, achieved a pass grade at least either Form 6 or Form 7 level or equivalent or through some form of continuing education or work related training.
- Applicants should not hold either an undergraduate degree or a tertiary diploma.
- Applicants who have obtained a certificate level qualification may apply.
- As of 1 January 2009, applicants should be at least 17 years of age.

Undergraduate:

- Applicants must have an FSLC minimum aggregate mark of 300 out of 400 or its equivalent (for English and three best subjects).
- Mature age applicants should have at least 5 years relevant work experience, achieved pass grades at least either the Form 6 or Form 7 or equivalent results and/or have successfully undertaken some form of relevant tertiary studies either through tertiary institutions or work related training.
- Applicants should not hold an undergraduate or postgraduate degree.
- As of 1 January 2009, applicants should be at least 17 years of age.

Postgraduate:

- Applicants should have achieved above average results in their undergraduate degree(s) and have at least 5 years relevant work experience.
- Mature age applicants should have at least 10 years relevant work experience, achieved a pass grade at either the Form 6 or Form 7 or equivalent level, and/or have successfully undertaken relevant tertiary studies or some form of continuing education.
- No age limit, although a scholar's potential outputs on return from study will be assessed during selection time.

Distance and Flexible Learning Mode (USP and FSM only)

Those applying for a Distance and Flexible Learning (DFL) award must be applying to complete a program of study within a four-year time frame.

Preliminary Application Form for the 2009 Intake

To be considered eligible, applications **MUST INCLUDE** all of the following:

- (i) Completed application form.
- (ii) Curriculum Vitae from applicant detailing personal details, academic qualifications and work related experience (should be no more than four pages)
- (iii) Certified copies of all academic transcripts that specify percentage grades or marks for each stage of study undertaken.
- (iv) A certified copy of the FSLC official results notice if already sat for.
- (v) A certified copy of the FFSE official results notice if already sat for.
- (vi) A certified copy of the applicant's full birth certificate.
- (vii) A short statement providing details on proposed area of study and its relevance to the applicant's career aspirations in relation to Fiji's development needs (maximum one A4 page)

Note: Certified copies are photocopies which have been signed by a public notary, Justice of the Peace, respective school principal or academic registrar, after the sighting of your original documents.

Applications must include all details outlined above and should be submitted by **4pm, Friday 4th April 2008** to:

By Post: SPBEA , Government Buildings PO Box 2083, SUVA **OR** Delivered to: South Pacific Board for Educational Assessment , 26 McGregor Road, SUVA

Enquiries can be directed to the Scholarship Coordinator, South Pacific Board for Educational Assessment on telephone number 3315 839 or email address: scholarships@spbea.org.fj

APPLICATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE:

- South Pacific Board for Educational Assessment, 26 McGregor Road, Suva.
- District Education Offices in the Central, Eastern, Western and Northern Division
- Australian High Commission website: www.fiji.embassy.gov.au
- AusAID scholarship advertisement in The Fiji Times on these Saturdays in March: 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29

**THE AUSTRALIAN DEVELOPMENT SCHOLARSHIP (ADS) AND
THE AUSTRALIAN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT SCHOLARSHIP (ARDS)
PRELIMINARY APPLICATION FORM FOR 2009 INTAKE**

Family Name	Given Names :
Date of Birth	Age on 1 Jan 2009 : years
Postal Address	Contact telephone No. :
.....	Mobile No. :
.....	Email :

Permanent Residential Address

Please answer all the following questions (tick one box only)
Failure to answer ALL questions will render the application invalid

Sex Male Female

What is your intended field of study?

Which scholarship are you applying for? ADS ARDS
(Australia) (Pacific region)

On which basis? Full-time Distance and Flexible Learning Mode (USP & FSM PG only)

Which level of study? Technical/Vocational Undergraduate Postgraduate

Are you a Fiji citizen? Yes No

Do you have access to Australian or New Zealand Permanent Residency or Australian or New Zealand citizenship? Yes No

Are you married to or in a defacto relationship with a person who has Australian or New Zealand residency or Australian or New Zealand citizenship? Yes No

Are you studying in 2008? Yes No

If yes, (A) give details of course, level, and institution. (B) What qualification do you expect to gain in 2008?

(A) Course : Level/Year : Institution :

(B) Qualification :

Are you working? Yes No Years of work experience years

Do you hold a scholarship for tertiary studies? Yes No

Are you currently under any bonding arrangement? Yes No

If yes, please give details :

THIS PRELIMINARY APPLICATION MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY THE REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

I declare that the information contained on this form and all my correspondence is correct in every detail. I understand that the Government of Australia reserves the right to confirm the accuracy of the information in this application and any subsequent applications with a third party and that incorrect statements may result in my application being declared ineligible for an ADS or ARDS award.

Signed :

Date :