

Federated States of Micronesia (FSM)

Applying for an Australia Awards scholarship

Australia Awards scholarships in the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM)

Australia's international development assistance in the FSM helps promote prosperity, reduce poverty, and enhance political stability.

Australia Awards scholarships are prestigious international awards offered by the Australian Government to the next generation of global leaders in developing countries. Through study and research, recipients develop the skills and knowledge to drive change and help build enduring people-to-people links with Australia.

Applicants are assessed on their professional and personal qualities, academic competence and, most importantly, their potential to impact on development challenges in eligible countries.

Applications are strongly encouraged from women, people with disability and other marginalised groups.

Priority fields of study

The priority areas of study for FSM citizens are:

- Health
- International Law (Legal and Justice Studies) and International Relations
- Education
- Environmental Studies
- Agriculture and Food Security
- Marine Studies and Natural Resource Management
- Tourism
- · Economics (development planning and international trade)
- Information and Technology
- Engineering
- Business Administration (accounting and financial management).

The governments of Australia and the Federated States of Micronesia regularly review these areas of study together and adjust the emphasis of the program.

Level of study

Australia Awards Scholarships (AAS) provide citizens of FSM with the opportunity to obtain a qualification (*new* Bachelor's degree for Aviation Management study program only) and Master's degree of any field of study at an Australian tertiary institution, and Bachelor's degree, Postgraduate Diploma and Master's degree at partnered Pacific institutions through the Australia Awards Pacific Scholarships (AAPS).

PhD applications will not be available for the 2025 Intake.

Awards will be offered for commencement in 2025.

Australia Awards benefits

Australia Awards scholarships are offered for the minimum period necessary for the individual to complete the academic program specified by the Australian education institution, including any preparatory training. Scholarship recipients will receive the following:

- return air travel
- a one-off establishment allowance on arrival
- full tuition fees
- contribution to living expenses
- introductory academic program
- · overseas student health cover for the duration of the scholarship
- supplementary academic support
- fieldwork allowance for research students and Master by coursework which has a compulsory fieldwork component.

Eligibility criteria

Australia Awards applicants seeking study in Australia must meet all eligibility requirements detailed in the Australia Awards Scholarships Policy Handbook, available <u>here</u>.

Australia Awards applicants seeking study in the Pacific region must meet all eligibility requirements detailed in the Australia Awards Pacific Scholarships Policy Handbook, available <u>here.</u>

Country-specific conditions

In addition to the eligibility requirements, candidates from FSM must also meet the following conditions:

General country-specific conditions for Australia studies:

- must be an FSM citizen and be residing in and applying for the scholarship from FSM
- must be a minimum of 18 years of age on 1 February of the year commencing scholarship
- must have done research and satisfy all relevant admission requirements of the chosen study program at the preferred Australian institution
- must have a Bachelor's degree (note: If selecting the Aviation Management course, must have at least AA degree or 2-year equivalent undergraduate studies)
- must have at least 3-year work experience
- must have International English Language Testing System (IELTS) or Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) score at a pass rate of 6.5 for each band that is current at the time of application
- must not hold a Master's degree.

General country-specific conditions for Pacific studies:

- Must be an FSM citizen and be residing in and applying for the scholarship from FSM
- Must be a minimum of 18 years of age on 1 February of the year commencing scholarship.

For an Undergraduate degree:

- Must have an AA degree or 2-year equivalent undergraduate studies by the end of the spring or summer semester of 2024.
- Candidates who wish to study any programs at the University of the South Pacific (USP) and University of Papua New Guinea (UPNG) require an associate degree with a minimum GPA of 3.0.
 Candidates who wish to study Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) at Fiji National University (FNU) requires an Associate Degree in Health Careers Opportunity Program (HCOP) at the College of Micronesia (COM) with a minimum GPA of 3.5.

Candidates who wish to study other medical programs at Fiji National University (FNU) requires an Associate Degree in Health Careers Opportunity Program (HCOP) at the College of Micronesia (COM) with a minimum GPA of 3.0.

For a **Postgraduate** Degree:

- must have a Bachelor's degree by the time of submitting the application
- must have at least 3-year work experience.

Application dates

For study commencing in Australia and Pacific in 2025:

Opening date: 1 February 2024

Closing date: 30 April 2024 (11:59PM AEST)

Applications and/or supporting documents received after the closing date will not be considered.

The application process

Online applications

All applications must be lodged online through OASIS at https://oasis.dfat.gov.au/

Supporting documents

Applicants must submit all the relevant supporting documents listed in the Australia Awards Scholarships Policy Handbook for studying in Australia, and Australia Awards Pacific Scholarships Policy Handbook for studying in Pacific institutions.

Applicants must also provide the following documents to meet the specific requirements for FSM:

Required document	OASIS document type	Certified (Y/N)
Copy of Birth Certificate and valid Passport Bio-page	Proof of Citizenship	Yes
Copy of official academic transcripts	Academic Transcript	Yes
Copy of degree certificate(s)	Degree Certificate	No
Curriculum Vitae (no more than three pages	Other Document: CV or Resume	No
If employed, reference letter from employer supporting for your study program	Referee Report	No
Reintegration Plan or Re-Entry Plan back to FSM after completion of studies	Other Document: Reintegration Plan or Re-Entry Plan	No

The selection process

- Applications will be shortlisted after eligibility checking. Late applications will not be considered.
- Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.
- The selection process includes an interview. Applicants will be assessed against the following criteria:
 - academic competence
 - potential outcome, specifically the contribution to development outcomes in FSM.
 - professional and personal leadership attributes including relevant work experience.

- Successful candidates will be notified no later than 30 August 2024.
- Awardee travel will be subject to meeting the requirements imposed by the Australian Government, as determined by the federal Department of Home Affairs, Department of Education and by the relevant Australian State or Territory governments.

Preparatory training

Successful applicants will be required to attend:

- course counselling
- pre-departure briefing
- university's Introductory Academic Program
- other required preparatory study on arrival in Australia.

Frequently Asked Topics

- Applying from outside FSM application will not be accepted if the applicant is currently residing overseas.
- English Test Requirements for Australia Awards Scholarship (AAS) applicants if taken previously, secure a documentary evidence English Language Test results to support the scholarship application.

Further information

Information about the Australia Awards FSM can be found at https://fsm.embassy.gov.au/

More general information about the Australia Awards, Australia's aid program, and studying in Australia can be found at the following links:

- dfat.gov.au/people-to-people/australia-awards/pages/australia-awards-scholarships
- https://www.studyaustralia.gov.au/

Information about applying for student visas in the study country and Australia Awards scholarship entitlements and conditions can be found in the Scholarships Policy Handbooks:

- Australia Awards Scholarships Policy Handbook, available here.
- Australia Awards Pacific Scholarships Policy Handbook, available here.

Contact details

Australian Embassy – Pohnpei Federated States of Micronesia P.O. Box S Kolonia, Pohnpei, FM 96941

Phone: (691) 320-5448

Fax: (691) 320-5449

Email: australiaawards.fsm@dfat.gov.au Website: https://fsm.embassy.gov.au/ Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/AustralianEmbassyPNI