



An Australian Government Initiative



Australian Scholarships

THE PATHWAY TO EXCELLENCE

Australian Leadership Awards – Scholarships



The Australian Leadership Awards (ALA) program aims to develop leadership, build partnerships and linkages within the Asia-Pacific, and address priority regional issues. The ALA program is comprised of Scholarships and Fellowships. Awardees are selected from the public, private and community sectors within countries where Australia has a significant aid program.

ALA Scholarships and Fellowships are managed by the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID), the Australian Government's overseas aid agency. AusAID offers a range of scholarships to promote sustainable development in the Asia-Pacific region.

ALA Scholarships are academically prestigious awards offered to high achievers from the Asia-Pacific region

to undertake postgraduate study (Masters or Doctorate) and a leadership program in Australia. Awards are open to all fields of study, although study programs relating to the priority themes of shared regional interest – international trade, pandemics, security, climate change (including clean energy) – are encouraged. Postgraduate study will be undertaken at participating Australian higher education institutions.



ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES

The following are ALA Scholarship eligible countries:

• Afghanistan	• Indonesia	• Philippines
• Bangladesh	• Iraq	• Samoa
• Bhutan	• Kiribati	• Solomon Islands
• Cambodia	• Laos	• Sri Lanka
• China (excluding Hong Kong SAR and Macau SAR)	• Maldives	• Thailand
• Cook Islands	• Marshall Islands	• Timor-Leste
• Federated States of Micronesia	• Mongolia	• Tokelau
• Fiji	• Nauru	• Tonga
• India	• Nepal	• Tuvalu
	• Niue	• Vanuatu
	• Palau	• Viet Nam
	• Papua New Guinea	• Wallis & Futuna

VALUE

An ALA Masters Scholarship, taken over two years can be valued at up to A\$150,000.

An ALA Doctorate Scholarship, taken over four years can be valued up to A\$300,000.

The amounts above include the following benefits and support:

- Contribution to living expenses: \$26,009 per year
- A Leadership Development Program with a value of \$17,000

- Tuition fees
- Establishment Allowance on arrival: \$5,000
- Introductory Academic Program (IAP): \$2,000
- An annual, accumulative, Study Enrichment Allowance (SEA) to contribute toward field research, academic support, conference participation or the award holder's reunion travel costs: \$2,000 per year
- Return air travel to and from Australia
- The cost of health checks and visa applications prior to departure to Australia
- Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC) for the duration of the award (for award holder only)

GENERAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

ALA Scholarship applicants must:

- have obtained a tertiary qualification at least equivalent to an Australian Bachelor's degree
- be a citizen of an ALA eligible country
- reside in a country other than Australia
- not hold Australian or New Zealand citizenship or permanent resident status (unless applying as a citizen of the Cook Islands, Niue or Tokelau)
- not be married to/or a defacto of, or engaged to, a person who holds or is eligible to hold Australian or New Zealand citizenship or permanent resident status
- meet specified English language proficiency requirements and have received an Unconditional Offer from an Australian university.

See back page for more details.

REALISING YOUR LEADERSHIP POTENTIAL

Through the enhancement of leadership skills, ALA Scholarships seek to empower awardees to participate in social and economic policy and development outcomes in their own countries and in the region. Current and future leaders in the Asia-Pacific region are provided with a unique opportunity to explore and harness their leadership potential.

AusAID has invested A\$10.128 million over four years to deliver a comprehensive Leadership Development Program (LDP) to all ALA scholars.

The LDP comprises a three-day conference in Canberra, regional workshops and leadership coaching and practice opportunities. The LDP increases skills in leadership and enhances participants' understanding of the challenges at

national, regional and global levels. The LDP aims to help scholars realise their full leadership potential and provides important networking and collaborative opportunities for ALA scholars.

The LDP component of the ALA Scholarship is a valuable opportunity that is not offered through any other scholarship program in the Asia-Pacific region.

ALA Scholarship Profile – Tiante Tarakia from Kiribati



AUSTRALIAN LEADERSHIP AWARDS – SCHOLARSHIP AWARDEE 2007

Tiante Tarakia is studying his Masters of Science in Renewable Energy – at Murdoch University in Perth.

Tiante works as an Assistant Energy Project Engineer at the Energy Planning unit within the Ministry of Public Works and Utilities and is responsible for the implementation of renewable energy projects, energy surveys and audits.

Tiante started his professional life as a teacher having obtained a Bachelor of Science majoring in Physics and Mathematics through the University of the South Pacific. Tiante taught science at outer island schools and

transformed a bare classroom into a fully functioning science laboratory. He successfully challenged the view that this could only be done with large sums of money and/or external funding – which of course the school did not have. Tiante sourced all materials locally and even fitted the gas and water.

He believes that inspiring people, coupled with honesty and good managerial skills, are the essential qualities of a leader.

Tiante has two visions for the future of Kiribati that he hopes he will contribute to through his scholarship. “Innovations in science and technology must be developed and accomplished by Kiribati. My country has rich resources in renewable energy which must be fully utilised. This can only be realised if human capacity is well developed through good education and training. My second vision is for my country to develop and adopt a science and technology policy which includes a sound energy policy, through which energy projects can be effectively implemented. I am still young but ambitious, I am confident that I can achieve my goals in the near future.”

Tiante's advice for other potential scholars – “Good communication skills are essential for any aspiring leaders, regardless of which field you pursue. Australia has excellent standards for education, it's a perfect choice for a scholar who has vision. ALA provides the opportunity.”

“Vision is the imagination to reach beyond the horizon. Fundamentally we must aim to help develop our countries.”

APPLICATION PROCESS

Applications are considered annually on a regionally competitive basis. Selection is based on leadership qualities and academic merit. Australian High Commissions and Embassies consider applications and recommend short-listed candidates to a final inter-departmental selection committee in Canberra. AusAID prefers online applications.

Applications can be submitted either:

- a) Online via the ALA Scholarship online application accessed via the AusAID website
<http://www.usaid.gov.au/scholar/ala.cfm>
- b) By mail to the appropriate Australian High Commission/Embassy or managing contractor.

Application forms can be downloaded from the ALA Scholarship page on the AusAID website or sought from the Australian High Commission/Embassy in each eligible country.

How to apply:

- a) Obtain a letter of unconditional offer from a participating institution.
- b) Thoroughly review the terms and conditions of the ALA Scholarship via the AusAID website to ensure you understand the scope of the scholarship offer.
- c) After 01 April 2008, download the scholarship application information and if necessary the paper-based application and from ALA Scholarship webpage.
- d) Collect the required documentation and information including referee reports, certified copies of previous academic qualifications and proof of English language proficiency.

- e) Submit your online or paper-based application before close of business, 30 June 2008. (Paper based applications must be received at the appropriate Australian High Commission or Embassy by 30 June 2008)

WHAT IS AN UNCONDITIONAL OFFER?

An unconditional offer is made by a university based on an application that you submit directly to that university.

An unconditional offer does not require you to complete any preliminary courses or to provide the university with further evidence before you can be admitted. **If an institution places any conditions on their offer to you, these conditions must be met before you submit your scholarship application to AusAID.**

A list of participating institutions can be found through the ALA Scholarship page on the AusAID's website:
http://www.usaid.gov.au/scholar/ala_institutions.cfm

If you need assistance in finding the right university and appropriate course please refer to the websites:
<http://www.studyinaustralia.gov.au>
OR <http://cricos.dest.gov.au/>

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

Applicants must have achieved appropriate results in one of the following English language proficiency test no longer than two years prior to the date of the application.

- IELTS: Test results with an overall score of at least 6.5 and no individual band less than 6;
OR the equivalent level.
- TOEFL. See the AusAID Scholarship webpage for details.



MORE INFORMATION

The information provided here is only part of the information that you need to consider before applying. For comprehensive information about the ALA Scholarship and application process please visit AusAID's Scholarship webpage at:

<http://www.usaid.gov.au/scholar/default.cfm>

www.usaid.gov.au