

VANUATU

NZAID SCHOLARSHIPS

Information for intakes commencing 2009

Purpose of NZAID scholarships

NZAID scholarships are a component of NZAID's Vanuatu Development Strategy 2006-2010, which aims to provide direct and tangible developmental benefits to the people of Vanuatu consistent with the priorities of the Vanuatu Government. One of the core areas of concentration is human resources development including through the provision of tertiary scholarships.

NZAID scholarships seek to strengthen the human resource base in Vanuatu by supporting selected individuals to gain knowledge and skills in identified priority areas that will contribute to the sustainable development of key sectors in their country.

Type, level and number of scholarships

Under the New Zealand bilateral development assistance programme for Vanuatu, eligible citizens can apply for the following NZAID scholarships.

New Zealand Development Scholarships – Public category (NZDS-Public) are available to pre-service (i.e. school leavers) and in-service applicants (i.e. public, private or civil society sector employees). Up to six (6) NZDS-Public scholarships will be offered to eligible candidates for study beginning in the 2009 academic year. NZDS-Public scholarships are awarded for full-time study in New Zealand at undergraduate level (i.e. Diploma or Bachelors) or postgraduate level (i.e. Postgraduate Diploma, Masters or Doctorates (PhD) in priority areas for Vanuatu¹. Study at PhD level will only be considered where particularly strong development relevance and alignment to Vanuatu's priority training needs are demonstrated.

New Zealand Regional Development Scholarships (NZRDS) are available to pre-service and in-service applicants. Up to 25 NZRDS will be offered to eligible candidates for study beginning in the 2009 academic year. NZRDS are awarded for study in the Pacific region at undergraduate and postgraduate level (excluding PhDs).

Short Term Training Awards (STTA) are available for targeted, short-term vocational and skills-based training in New Zealand, up to a maximum of one year. STTA can include work attachments, short courses, or undergraduate Certificate or Diploma level technical training². STTA applicants must be employed and their employer must endorse their application.

Priority sectors

NZAID scholarships will be awarded for study or training in priority areas requiring human resource capacity enhancement in Vanuatu, including those identified by the Vanuatu Government (see Annex 1 for priority training needs relating to the public service), the Ministry of Education priority fields of studies (see Annex 2) and/or those linked to NZAID's development assistance focuses for Vanuatu, that is:

- education;
- strengthening governance; and

¹ There may be provision for eligible candidates to undertake a New Zealand qualification through Distance and Flexible Learning (DFL) under a NZDS-Public Tuition Fees only award. This mode of study enables key senior personnel to undertake part-time study while remaining employed in Vanuatu.

² STTA are not available for part-time or academic tertiary study.

- economic development.

Eligibility criteria

Applicants NZAID scholarships and awards must meet the following NZAID eligibility criteria before their application will be considered against the selection criteria, including any criteria specific to Vanuatu (listed on page 3).

Applicants must:

- be a citizen of Vanuatu (i.e. permanent residents are not eligible to apply);
- be residing in Vanuatu, preferably for at least two years prior to application;
- not have citizenship or permanent residence status of New Zealand, Australia or another developed country³;
- not be married or engaged to be married to a person who holds, or who is eligible to hold, citizenship or permanent residence status of New Zealand, Australia or another developed country;
- be aged 17 or over before the scholarship start date (also see page 3);
- be applying to commence a new qualification or training programme and not be seeking funding for a qualification or training already commenced in New Zealand or another country⁴;
- not have completed, or nearly completed, a qualification or training programme at a similar level (i.e. applicants must apply for a higher level qualification or training than any previously attained), unless strong developmental relevance is demonstrated;
- satisfy the admission requirements of the education institution or training provider at which the qualification or training is to be undertaken, including English language proficiency criteria;
- (for NZDS/NZRDS applicants applying from secondary school) have completed their senior schooling in Vanuatu;
- (for in-service applicants) have been working in Vanuatu, preferably for at least two years prior to application;
- have worked for two years in their home country since completing their highest tertiary qualification gained to date;
- be able to demonstrate a strong commitment to Vanuatu's public, private or civil society sectors (as relevant), and to the development of Vanuatu in general; and
- be able to take up the scholarship in the academic year for which it is offered.

Applicants cannot:

- be studying full-time at post-secondary level;
- be transferring from another scholarship (either in New Zealand or in another country) to a NZAID scholarship;
- hold, or have held, a New Zealand Government or Australian Government scholarship in the 24 months preceding the NZDS/NZRDS start date (12 months for a STTA); or
- have been terminated from a New Zealand or Australian Government scholarship previously.

STTA applicants must be employed in the field of the proposed training at the time of application and their employer and the Public Service Commission where relevant must endorse their application.

³ A developed country is defined as a country not included on the OECD's Development Assistance Committee's list of aid recipients.

⁴ NZAID will not fund any students to continue a qualification they have commenced outside their home country. With prior agreement of the partner government, NZAID will consider funding qualifications that self-sponsored individuals have commenced studying part-time in the home country on a case-by-case basis.

All applicants are expected to continue residing in Vanuatu during the application and selection process.

If offered a scholarship or award, candidates must:

- be able to satisfy the immigration requirements for international student entry to the relevant study country (i.e. medical checks and police clearance/character checks, etc);
- not hold another scholarship during the period of the NZAID scholarship; and
- agree in writing that they will return to Vanuatu for a minimum period of two years following completion of their scholarship in order to contribute to their country's social or economic development.

Vanuatu specific criteria

Depending on the country-specific training needs, applicants may be currently completing their final year of senior secondary school, or those working in the public, private or civil society sectors. In addition to meeting the eligibility criteria above, applicants from Vanuatu must:

- meet any identified eligibility or selection criteria agreed by the Vanuatu Government and NZAID, available from the Training and Scholarships Coordination Unit; and
- be under 45 years of age at 1 January 2009.

English language requirements

New Zealand tertiary education institutions set their own admission requirements for English language proficiency. All applicants should check the IELTS⁵ or TOEFL⁶ score required for admission to their selected New Zealand education institution. As a guide, most New Zealand education institutions require:

- a minimum IELTS score of 6.0, with no band less than 6.0, for undergraduate level study; and
- a minimum IELTS score of 6.5, with no band less than 6.0, for postgraduate level study. Some postgraduate qualifications require a higher score, especially those in the health sciences and education fields.

It is mandatory for candidates to provide the **original** copy of their IELTS or TOEFL test result as a pre-condition of placement. Results must be no older than 24 months at the time of the scholarship start date.

Successful applicants who do not meet their education institution's English language proficiency criteria will be required to undertake English language training prior to commencing their academic study programme in New Zealand.

Application process

Applicants apply for NZDS-Public and NZRDS scholarships directly through the Training and Scholarships Coordination Unit (TSCU). TSCU scholarship application forms are available from:

Scholarships Office
Training and Scholarships Coordination Unit
PMB 9059
Port Vila

Applicants submit the completed scholarship application forms to TSCU by 31 May 2008. **Late applications will not be considered.** Public Service Commission Staff apply to the TSCU. The TSCU will pre screen applications to determine eligible applications and will forward a list of eligible and non

⁵ International English Language Testing System

⁶ Test of English as a Foreign Language

eligible applications from public servants to the Public Service Commission for final screening and selection.

It is important that all applicants clearly state their choice of qualification and education institution, or training, and include all requested certified supporting documents.

All applications must be completed in English, with certified true copies of official English translations (where the original document is not in English) attached to the application form. Applications with incomplete supporting documentation will not be processed.

Selection criteria

During the selection process, applications for a NZAID scholarship or award will be considered against the following selection criteria:

- the proposed study programme or training links with a priority human resource development training need identified by the Vanuatu Government; and/or
- the proposed study programme or training links to one of NZAID's identified priority development assistance sectors for Vanuatu (see page 1); and
- the applicant clearly demonstrates the **developmental** relevance and applicability of their proposed study or training programme to the human resource development training needs of their country;
- NZDS/NZRDS applicants must have a strong academic background. Applicants for postgraduate study must hold a recognised Bachelors degree of strong academic merit, in general relevant to the proposed postgraduate qualification. (Note: NZAID gives preference to candidates who do not already hold a degree from a developed country.) Where a nominated undergraduate study programme is available within the Pacific region, applicants are directed to apply to study at an approved Pacific regional institution through the NZRDS scheme;
- consideration of gender equity, including efforts to ensure the scholarships are offered equitably between male and female candidates;
- the applicant clearly demonstrates their links and commitment to their home country (e.g. services to their community, ability to influence change in a key development sector etc), supported by references. The proposed study or training programme must be relevant to:
 - recent paid and/or unpaid (volunteer) work experiences⁷;
 - the training needs of the employing organisation; and
 - identified employment opportunities on completion of their study.
- consideration of other factors which will contribute to the success of their studies or training (e.g. good character, positive study attitude and motivation to succeed).

Selection process

The Training and Scholarships Coordination Unit is responsible for screening **private sector employees', the Police Service Commission, the Judicial Service Commission, the Teachers Service Commission, students' and school leavers'** scholarship applications and, from these, determine a shortlist of priority and reserve nominees.

The Public Service Commission is responsible for screening **public servants'** scholarship applications and, from these, determining a shortlist of priority and reserve nominees which it forwards to TSCU.

TSCU will justly, fairly and without favouritism or bias, prioritise which donor the shortlisted public servant, private sector employee or school leavers' application will be allocated to, and - if not identified by the applicant - at which institution they will study at. Once TSCU has finalised the priority

⁷ Preference will be given to applicants who have worked in their home country for at least two years. In general, NZAID will not support individuals whose professional experience has mostly been obtained overseas.

and reserve listing in consultation with NZAID, the National Education Commission endorses the final NZAID scholarship listing.

The New Zealand High Commission (NZHC) in Port Vila receives the shortlisted priority and reserve NZDS-Public and NZRDS applications by the first week of August each year.

NZDS-Public: The NZHC submits the shortlisted applications to NZAID's Scholarships Unit in Wellington by 31 August for placement.

NZRDS: The NZHC submits the shortlisted applications to the New Zealand Diplomatic Post of the relevant study country in the Pacific region by 15 October for placement.

The NZHC or TSCU advises candidates of the outcome of their application between December and January.

Note: The final selections for NZDS and NZRDS are provisional pending receiving placement confirmation from the relevant institutions.

STTA application and selection process

Individuals, government agencies, community-based organisations (CBOs), or Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) identify a short-term training need. They contact the Department of Economic and Sector Planning (DESP) for a Government Investment Programme (GIP) project proposal form. The completed GIP form must be submitted to the relevant government department for the endorsement of the Director General (DG). Applications must include contact details, type of attachment or training required and if possible where the training will take place in New Zealand. Support letters are welcome from Chiefs, churches or Provincial Governments.

The Department of Economic and Sector Planning will assess the Short Term Training proposal and forward successful applications to the Public Service Commission (if the applicant is a civil servant) or the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) with recommendations for funding. DFA signs off on the recommendations and forwards the request to NZAID Port Vila. Shortlisted applicants will be asked to complete a STTA application form, which NZAID Port Vila will send to NZAID's Scholarships Unit and the STTA contractor in Wellington for placement and budget calculations.

Other scholarships

In addition to the scholarships above, candidates from Vanuatu are eligible to apply for two contestable scholarship schemes.

New Zealand Development Scholarships – Open Category (NZDS-Open)

In the Pacific region, New Zealand Development Scholarships in the Open category are offered for full-time, postgraduate study in New Zealand. Candidates from Vanuatu are eligible to apply for the NZDS-Open on a contestable basis with applicants from other eligible Pacific countries. Applications from those working in the private sector or civil society, or living in provincial areas, are particularly welcome. The number of scholarships may vary annually.

Note: NZDS-Open scholarships are available for study at postgraduate level only, i.e. applicants must have already completed a Bachelors degree.

Candidates apply directly to a New Zealand education institution in accordance with the NZDS eligibility criteria. Applicants must ensure that the education institution receives the completed application (including all supporting documentation) before the institution's close-off date (see Annex 2 for the list of participating education institutions and their deadlines or check the scholarships pages of the NZAID website - www.nzaid.govt.nz/scholarships/nzds.html).

Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan

Candidates from Vanuatu are eligible to apply for Commonwealth Scholarships for postgraduate study in New Zealand on a contestable basis with applicants from other developing Commonwealth countries. The New Zealand Vice Chancellors' Committee (schols@nzvcc.ac.nz) administers the selection process for the Commonwealth Scholarship scheme in New Zealand.

Information can be obtained from the nominating agency in Vanuatu, TSCU, or the Commonwealth Scholarships and Fellowship Plan website (www.csfp-online.org/hostcountries/nz.html).

Additional information

The purpose of NZAID scholarships schemes is for scholarship holders to gain knowledge and skills in specific subject areas that will assist in the development of their home country by contributing to identified human resource development training needs. It is a pre-condition of accepting a NZAID scholarship that scholarship holders return to their home country to take up a position that utilises their study or training for a minimum period of two years.

Female applicants, and applicants from minority and other disadvantaged groups, are strongly encouraged to apply as the New Zealand Government attempts to ensure equity amongst scholarship holders. Candidates from provincial areas are also encouraged to apply.

NZAID scholarships and awards must be taken in the year for which they are offered and cannot be transferred to the next academic year.

If offered a scholarship, travel to New Zealand is subject to medical clearance and a visa being issued by Immigration New Zealand. Successful applicants should allow a minimum two month period for their visa application (including medical and police clearance) to be processed.

Applicants must not have applied for New Zealand or Australian permanent residency. Applicants must not seek or apply for permanent residency or a work permit for New Zealand, Australia, or another country, while on scholarship.

Information on NZAID allowances and entitlements, and the conditions of NZAID scholarships, is provided on the scholarships pages of NZAID's website: www.nzaid.govt.nz/scholarships.html

NZDS and Commonwealth Scholarships schemes only: Where a student's study programme is 18 months or longer, and the student has at least 12 months remaining of their study programme to complete, the student can be joined by their spouse/partner and dependant children at a higher rate of stipend. NZAID may fund the airfares to New Zealand for a student's spouse/partner and up to two dependant children. **Eligibility criteria apply.**

NZAID funding may not cover all living costs. NZAID students and their families must carefully consider the costs of supporting a family in New Zealand or another study country, as the cost of living may be higher than that of their home country. **NZAID students may need to supplement the stipend with their own funds** to cover items on top of basic day-to-day living expenses.

Note: NZAID has the right to make a final decision on the offering of NZAID scholarships. NZAID has the right to amend terms and conditions of NZAID scholarships. Amendments will be posted on the NZAID website (www.nzaid.govt.nz/scholarships.html).

Address for further information

For further information regarding NZAID scholarships, please visit the scholarships pages of NZAID's website or contact NZAID staff at the:

New Zealand High Commission

La Casa d'Andrea e Luciano
Rue Pierre Lamy Street
(PO Box 161)
Port Vila
Vanuatu

Tel: (+678) 22 933

Fax: (+678) 22 518

Annex 1: Vanuatu Public Service Commission priority training needs for 2009

Following is the list of Public Service Commission priority sectors for regional scholarships for 2009:

Ministry of Health :

Department of Health and Public Health Management

- Health Promotion and Education
- Midwifery
- Health Management

Prime Ministers Office :

Department of Strategic Policy and Co-ordination

- Development Administration (Public Policy)
- Economics of Development (Public Sector Economist)
- High Level Negotiation Skills

Department of Language Services

- Translation
- Interpretation
- Basic Law Studies

Ministry of Agriculture, Quarantine, Fisheries and Forestry:

Department of Quarantine and Livestock

- Veterinary Medicine
- Entomology
- Plant Pathology
- Management
- Animal Science/Husbandry

Ministry of Finance and Economic Management :

Department of Customs and Inland Revenue

- Customs International Administration and Law
- Tax Administration and Policy
- Management
- Law
- Commerce

Department of Finance

- Software Engineering

- Information Technology (IT)
- Database Design
- Web Designing
- Advance networking skills/system administration skills (in terms of security)

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade and Business Development

Department of Tourism and Rural Development

- Tourism Management
- Tourism Marketing
- Eco-Tourism and Sustainable development
- Other areas that relate to tourism development
- Trade

Ministry of Infrastructure and Public Utilities:

Department of Public Works

- Environmental Engineering (Civil)
- Structure/Transportation/Soils and concrete
- Architecture and Building (Environmental)

Department of Vanuatu Meteorological Services

- Environmental Science (Meteorology)

Department of Ports and Harbour

- Aviation Management/Aviation Operations (CAAV)

Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources:

Department of Lands and Mineral Management

- Land Management
- Land and Real Estate Management
- Minerals and Geology
- Hydrology
- Surveying

Ministry of Education

- Policy-making
- Strategic Planning

- Information collection and processing
- Financial Management
- Managing Human Resources

Ministry of Internal Affairs:

- Town Planning

Public Service Commission:

- Corporate Governance
- Public Policy/Policy Technician
- Human Resource Management/Strategic Planning
- Public Administration

Annex 2: Ministry of Education Priority fields of study for 2009

- Agriculture
- Anthropology/Archaeology
- Architecture and Building
- Management and Business Administration (Business Studies, Accounting, Commerce, Banking and Finance, Economics, Management)
- Community Development
- Computing Science/Information System/Technology
- Chemistry
- Biology
- Engineering (Computer, Electrical, Civil, Mining, Telecommunication, Mechanical, Aviation/Aircraft Maintenance)
- Earth Science
- Environmental Science/Studies
- Education
- Economics
- Geography/Geographical Information System
- Health (Medicine/Diabetics, Midwifery, Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Dental, Health Statistics)
- Journalism
- Law and Legal Studies
- Linguistics and Language Studies
- Library Studies
- Marine Affairs/Science
- Mathematics
- Public Policy/Social Policy, Planning and Development (Postgraduate)
- Physics
- Real Estates and Land Use Planning
- Surveying
- Tourism
- Veterinary Science

Annex 3: Contact details for New Zealand institutions and NZDS-Open closing dates

NZDS-Open applicants apply directly to the New Zealand education institution where they wish to study. The application close-off dates listed in the table below only refer to **NZDS-Open** applications.

<p>University of Auckland Auckland International PO Box 92019, Auckland Mail Centre Auckland 1142, New Zealand Website: www.auckland.ac.nz Email: international@auckland.ac.nz Fax: (+64 9) 373 7405 Application close-off date: 1 May 2008</p>	<p>University of Otago International Office PO Box 56 Dunedin, New Zealand Website: www.otago.ac.nz Email: international.admissions@otago.ac.nz Fax: (+64 3) 479 8367 Application close-off date: 30 June 2008</p>
<p>AUT University International Student Centre Private Bag 92006 Auckland 1020, New Zealand Website: www.aut.ac.nz Email: international.centre@aut.ac.nz Fax: (+64 9) 917 9925 Application close-off date: 30 June 2008</p>	<p>Unitec Note: Up to Masters level only International Office Private Bag 92025 Auckland, New Zealand Website: www.unitec.ac.nz Email: international@unitec.ac.nz Fax: (+64 9) 815 4301 Application close-off date: 4 July 2008</p>
<p>University of Canterbury International Office Private Bag 4800 Christchurch, New Zealand Website: www.canterbury.ac.nz Email: international@canterbury.ac.nz Fax: (+64 3) 364 2171 Application close-off date: 1 June 2008</p>	<p>Victoria University of Wellington (VUW) Victoria International PO Box 600 Wellington, New Zealand Website: www.vuw.ac.nz Email: VUW-NZAID@vuw.ac.nz Fax: (+64 4) 463 5056 Application close-off date: 15 June 2008 (1 June for PhD)</p>
<p>Lincoln University International Centre PO Box 94 Canterbury, New Zealand Website: www.lincoln.ac.nz Email: international@lincoln.ac.nz Fax: (+64 3) 325 3879 Application close-off date: 30 June 2008</p>	<p>University of Waikato Waikato International Private Bag 3105 Hamilton 3240, New Zealand Website: www.waikato.ac.nz/international/ Email: int.centre@waikato.ac.nz Fax: (+64 7) 838 4269 Application close-off date: 15 June 2008 (1 June for PhD)</p>
<p>Massey University International Office Private Bag 11 222 Palmerston North, New Zealand Website: www.massey.ac.nz Email: international@massey.ac.nz Fax: (+64 6) 350 5698 Application close-off date: 1 June 2008</p>	