



Australia Awards

Australia Awards
Papua New Guinea
Institution
Development Grants
2026



Institution Development Grants (Teaching and Nursing Colleges) Guidelines 2026

Institution Development Grants support Papua New Guinea teachers' and nurses' colleges registered with the Department of Higher Education, Research, Science and Technology (DHERST) to strengthen institutional capacity, improve teaching and learning environments, and enhance the quality of higher education delivery.

1. Grant Categories

Eligible institutions can apply for up to **PGK150,000.00** for projects that must be completed within one year from the agreed start date. The table below lists some projects that the grant can support. Institutions are welcome to submit applications with other ideas.

Suggested Institution Development Grant Projects
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Renovations or upgrades to workspaces, classrooms or facilities (e.g. new furniture, lighting, painting, partitions, ablution blocks)▪ Installation of new equipment, technology or energy-saving devices (e.g. solar lights, water tanks, digital/e-learning systems)▪ Accessibility, student welfare and safety improvements (e.g. ramps, handrails, fence, footpath)▪ Learning and teaching resources (e.g. textbooks, specialist equipment, class sets, library reference books)▪ Technical expertise on course content/re-design or systems evaluation.▪ Computer lab if the institute does not have any at present.▪ Purchase of selected office equipment (e.g. multifunction printers and filing cabinets).▪ Designing teaching and learning resources.▪ Reviewing and/or designing of academic programs.▪ Implementing systems for enhancing students' academic learning and teaching.▪ Writing policy and guiding documents (e.g. Strategic Plans, Gender Equality, Disability and Social Inclusion (GEDSI); Prevention of Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Harassment (PSEAH) and Human Resource Management (HRM) policies).

2. Eligibility and Application Process

Eligibility

Grant applications must:

1. Be from a registered teachers or nurses' college with Department of Higher Education, Research, Science and Technology (DHERST).
2. Propose a project of a maximum 1-year duration with a maximum cost of up to K150,000.
3. Be submitted online through the SMARTY Grants portal.
4. Not be from a PNG University.
5. Not be from a Partner Tertiary Institution (PTI) with Australia Awards PNG.

Teachers and nurses' colleges in remote and rural areas, including those serving remote and marginalised communities are encouraged to apply.

Application Dates

Activity	Detail
Applications open	1 st April 2026
Applications close	31 st May 2026
Application submission	Applications must be completed and submitted through the SMARTY Grants portal. https://australiaawardspng.smartygrants.com.au/idg2026

Application Content

Item	Detail
Description	Details of the proposed project including its scope.
Duration	Proposed project duration of maximum one year.
Outcomes	Expected outcomes for the Institution.
Alignment	Project's alignment with PNG's Department of Higher Education, Research, Science and Technology's strategic plan.
Risks & mitigation	Consideration of project risks (barriers to success) and how they will be addressed.
Budget	<p>A budget of no greater than PGK150,000 in total for project that will be completed in one year</p> <p>Ineligible budget items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Recurrent costs such as office rental, office supplies, transportation costs or vehicle running expenses, insurance, electricity and other utility bills, cleaning costs. ○ General stationery, cameras, laptops, tablets and mobile phones to carry out the project. ○ Daily allowance for staff to attend workshop held at the institution. ○ Activities that will not be completed within the project timeframe. ○ Expenses involving the procurement of land and/or compensation payments of any type. ○ Tuition fees and related costs. ○ Any form of gifts. ○ Any personal expense. ○ Any other budget item deemed by Australia Awards PNG as not appropriate for project funding.
Gender Equality, Disability, Social Inclusion, Climate Change	Details on how the project will include at least one of the following in its management, design, delivery, participation or outcomes: - gender equality, disability, social inclusion or climate change.
Sustainability	A description of how the project will have lasting results or benefits that will continue beyond project completion.
Monitoring and Evaluation	An indication of measures that will be put in place to monitor progress and impact of the project.
Commitment	Endorsement of the application by the Principal/Chair of the Governing Council.

3. Grant Assessment and Award

Grant assessment criteria

Criteria	Assessment measure
Strategic purpose	Is the project aligned with PNG's Department of Higher Education, Research, Science and Technology's strategic plan?
Project scope and timeline	Does the project have a realistic scope and timeline?
Cross-cutting priorities	Does the project include at least one of the following - gender equality, disability, social inclusion or climate change - in its management, design, delivery, participation or outcomes?
Financial and risk management	Is the budget compliant and reasonable? Have the project's possible risks been sufficiently identified, along with appropriate mitigation measures?
Monitoring and Evaluation	What measures have been put in place to assess the impact of the project?
Sustainability	How will the project sustain its activities, outcomes and impact once grant funding has ended?

Grant award

Institutions successful in securing grants will be granted access to funds upon:

- Signing of a Grant Agreement outlining roles, responsibilities, timelines and payment milestones.
- Submitting three quotations from registered service providers to Australia Awards PNG. Payments will be made directly to the service provider's nominated bank account.

Quotations and invoices are not needed to submit an application. They will only be required after a grant is successful

4. Reporting and Accountability

Reporting

Required reporting	Details
Quarterly progress meeting	Institutions that receive grants will be required to have a quarterly meeting with the Higher Education Partnerships team to track progress on the project.
Completion report	Institutions will also be required to submit a completion report at the end of the project which must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Details of activities undertaken and completed, against the project plan and timelines. • Impact of grant activities on the institution, staff and students.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Details on how the project included at least one of the following - gender equality, disability, social inclusion or climate change - in its management, design, delivery, participation or outcomes. • Details of any barriers that slowed or restricted project implementation and how these were addressed; and, • Photos with captions.
Financial reporting	A financial report must be included in the completion report. It must provide evidence of actual expenditure with tax receipts, quotation assessment or bank statements.

Compliance and Accountability

Item	Requirements
Delays or disputes	If there are disputes or substantial delays in project implementation, Australia Awards PNG may seek additional reporting from the institution.
Cancelation or termination of grant	Australia Awards PNG may suspend and terminate the grant funding if it reasonably believes that the institution has breached the terms and conditions of the funding agreement, including any performance or reporting requirements; provided false or misleading statements in their application; or engaged in serious misconduct including acting illegally, negligently, or fraudulently.
Compliance with laws, guidelines and policies	Institutions must have regard to and comply with, relevant and applicable laws, guidelines, regulations and policies, including those in Australia and in PNG. They must also comply with DFAT and Australian Government policies, guidelines and procurement rules applicable to the Services and outlined in the Grant Agreement.
Promotion	Institutions are encouraged to seek appropriate opportunities for positive media and communications output following guidelines provided in the Grant Agreement.
Acknowledgement of funding	Australian Government funding of any grant activity should be appropriately acknowledged in publications, reports, at workshops, and in presentations at conferences and other public events. Further details will be provided in the Grant Agreement.

5. Contact Information

All queries in relation to the Institution Development Grants including applications or reports, should be sent to the Australia Awards PNG’s Higher Education Partnerships Team via email at:

hep@australiaawardspng.org