

# Australia Awards In-PNG Scholarships Disability Inclusive Support



**Australia Awards In-PNG Scholarships support study in priority areas identified by the Governments of Australia and PNG, and are delivered through selected partner tertiary institutions in PNG.**

**Scholarship awardees develop the knowledge and skills to drive change and make positive contributions to PNG's development.**

**People with disability who meet the scholarship eligibility criteria are strongly encouraged to apply.**

**Successful applicants may be able to access additional support to enhance their study experience.**

## **What Is a disability?**

Disability can include physical, intellectual, psychiatric, sensory, neurological, and learning impairment, physical disfigurement or the presence in the body of disease-causing organisms (for example, HIV).

In some cases, a student with a disability may experience challenges that inhibit their full participation in the study program.

## **What is not considered a disability?**

Illness that can be corrected with interventions may not be considered a disability. Examples may include asthma that can be treated with medication and short-sightedness that can be corrected with glasses. Further, some treatments may not be covered by Australia Awards PNG support, for example physiotherapy or other health-related services.

## **Applying for a scholarship**

Scholarship applicants are encouraged to share information about their disability in their application. Australia Awards PNG can then assist people where appropriate and practicable.

An applicant who shares information about their disability in their application will be invited to complete a Disability Support Statement. This information will help Australia Awards PNG determine if support is required for further selection processes if the application is shortlisted for further consideration.



## Shortlisting and selection

**Applicants must meet the scholarship eligibility requirements**, including the entry requirements of the relevant partner tertiary institution and Government of PNG regulatory requirements (for example Grade Point Average and subject requirements).

Shortlisting and selection are undertaken on a merit basis with all applicants assessed in accordance with the standard procedures.

Applicants are assessed equally, regardless of ability and without discrimination. Reasonable accommodation and adjustments will be provided for people with disability to participate equally in selection processes.

## Preparing to study

If an applicant is offered a scholarship, they become a 'provisional awardee'. At that time, provisional awardees with a disability will be invited to undertake a further assessment to identify possible challenges to their full participation in their study and daily life during the academic year.

This disability assessment process identifies the reasonable adjustments and related disability support required and a Disability Support Agreement is then developed.

Using the Disability Support Agreement, Australia Awards PNG will provide appropriate mobilisation support and ensure the partner tertiary institution is prepared to manage the agreed reasonable adjustment for study and accommodation on their campus.

## While you are studying

Your agreed support will be in place early in Semester 1 of the academic year. Australia Awards PNG will:

- undertake an orientation visit early in Semester 1 of the academic year;
- undertake twice yearly monitoring visits to each partner tertiary institution to monitor all awardees' progress; and
- regularly communicate with you as an awardee with disability and the partner tertiary institution to monitor progress.

## After you graduate

You will have access to training and workshops to further enhance your skills and will become part of the PNG Australia Alumni Association (PNGAAA) and wider alumni network.

## In-PNG Scholarships Disability Inclusive Support Policy

For a copy of the policy please contact Australia Awards PNG.

### For further information:

Contact the Australia Awards In-PNG Scholarships team

**Email:** [incountry@australiaawardspng.org](mailto:incountry@australiaawardspng.org)

**Telephone:** 3211 766 / 7373 3800

More information about Australia's support for people with disability is available on the following websites:

<https://www.dfat.gov.au/development/topics/development-issues/disability-inclusive-development/disability-inclusive-development>

<https://humanrights.gov.au/our-work/disability-rights>