

MINISTRY OF CIVIL SERVICE AND ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS MAURITIUS

Ministry of Civil Service and Administrative Reforms
Circular Letter No 78 of 2013
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Date: 12 November 2013

From: Senior Chief Executive, Ministry of Civil Service and Administrative Reforms

To: Supervising Officers i/c Ministries/Departments

Australia Awards Scholarships 2015

The Australian Government, in partnership with the Ministry of Civil Service and Administrative Reforms, is offering a number of Australian Development Scholarships commencing in January 2015. The scholarships cover airfares, tuition fees, medical cover and a living allowance.

- 2. The scholarships proposed are for study at Master's level at Australian Universities in Australia in the following priority fields of study:
 - > Agriculture/Food Security
 - > Infrastructure
 - > Natural Resource Management
 - Public Policy
- 3. Study in Australia is subject to the successful applicant being issued with a visa by the Australian Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC). As part of the visa application process, immigration authorities require candidates to undergo a full medical examination.
- 4. The scholarships offered, are subject to applicants satisfying the following criteria:
 - should be a national of Mauritius;
 - should be an early or mid-career professional working in an eligible sector, in one of the listed priority fields;
 - must be at <u>least 25 and not more than 50 years</u> of age at the date of application;

- should possess, as a minimum, a 2nd Class Lower Division Bachelors degree (or equivalent) and must not already hold or be studying for a Master's degree;
- must have at <u>least three (3)</u> year's relevant post-graduation work experience.
 This work experience must be in a role relevant to the proposed field of study
 and the employment organisation type (e.g. public sector applicants should
 demonstrate public sector work experience, and so on). Preference will be
 given to candidates with greater periods of experience;
- must have a minimum English language proficiency equivalent to an overall IELTS score of 5.0 (equivalent TOEFL scores are also accepted). Those with overall scores of lower than 6.5 who are selected for an award will be supported to undertake between 3 and 9 months pre-course English language and will need to achieve a score of 6.5 at the end of this training with no band score lower than 6:
- should have a clear vision on how they will use the knowledge gained through the Master's degree to improve policy, practice or education in the proposed field of study; and
- people with disabilities will be given optional support services and female candidates are strongly encouraged to apply.
- 5. Applicants can download the preliminary application form and other documents from the Mauritius page of www.australiaawardsafrica.org or from this Ministry's website: http://civilservice.gov.mu.
- 6. Applications should be submitted either electronically as per instructions on the website: www.australiaawardsaustralia.org or in hard copy directly to Australia Awards (Africa), Pretoria Office, Senior Manager Awards, GRM International Pty Ltd, 1140 Prospect Street, Level 3, Building 3, Hatfield Square, Hatfield, Pretoria, 0028, South Africa. A copy of the application should be submitted to The Senior Chief Executive, Ministry of Civil Service and Administrative Reforms, Attn: Mr S. Ramasawmy, 4th Floor, Atom House, Royal Street, Port Louis. The deadline for submission of preliminary applications is Friday 13 December 2013.
- 7. Before submitting their application, applicants should imperatively need to obtain confirmation from their respective Supervising Officers that they would be released in the event they are selected for the scholarship.
- 8. Upon selection, officers of the civil service would be granted study leave with pay. The awardee will be required to enter into a bond in accordance with the provisions laid down in the Human Resource Management Manual.
- 9. It would be appreciated if the content of this Circular Letter could be brought the soonest possible to the attention of all eligible public officers serving in the different Divisions of your Ministry/Department, including Statutory Bodies falling under the purview of your Ministry.

(S. Seebaluck)
Senior Chief Executive

Copy to: Secretary to Cabinet and Head of the Civil Service