

Most Immediate



**MINISTRY OF PUBLIC SERVICE, ADMINISTRATIVE
AND INSTITUTIONAL REFORMS
MAURITIUS**

Date: 03 December 2019

Ministry of Public Service, Administrative and Institutional Reforms

Circular Letter No. 85

E/75/60/01/10

From: Secretary for Public Service

To: Supervising Officers in charge of Ministries/ Departments

Australia Awards Scholarships - Masters Degree 2021

The Government of Australia is offering scholarships leading to the award of a Master's Degree in the following fields of study for the year 2021 intake:

- Agriculture
- Artificial Intelligence
- Blue/ocean economic policy
- Extractives
- Financial Technology
- Information and Communications Technology
- Infrastructure
- Public Policy
- Specialised health courses (such as Biomedicine, Neurology, Endocrinology, Psychology, Inclusive Health, Mental Health)
- Sustainable development
- Technical and Vocational Education and Training
- Trade Policy

2. The study and research opportunities provided by Australia Awards Scholarships are meant to develop the skills and knowledge of public officers so that they can drive change and contribute to the development outcomes of their country.

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3. The Australian Government will cover the costs of tuition fees, return air travel, establishment allowance and living expenses as well as costs related to an introductory Academic Program, Overseas Student Health Cover and visa expenses.

4. Applications are invited from suitable candidates who wish to be considered for the above scholarships during the academic year 2021. For more information regarding course requirements, course contents and online application form, applicants may access the website of the Australia Awards on the following link: <https://www.australiaawardsafrica.org/awards/apply/>. The eligibility criteria for Australia Awards Masters Degree set out by the Australian Authorities are at **Annex**.

5. Applications should be submitted electronically to the Managing Contractor for the Australia Awards-Africa as per the instructions available on the website www.australiaawardsafrica.org.

6. **Applicants are strongly recommended to submit a copy of their application, through their respective Supervising Officers, to the Human Resource Development Division of this Ministry (attention Mrs J. Narayanasami Reddi). The closing date for submission of applications is 06 December 2019.**

7. Since **nominations for any of the above mentioned programmes are subject to the exigencies to the service**, applicants should imperatively seek and obtain confirmation from their respective Responsible Officers that they would be released in the event they are awarded the scholarship. The conditions for the release of an officer are as follows:-

- a) an officer shall be eligible for study leave with pay in accordance with paragraph 4.10.1(b) of the Human Resource Management Manual (HRMM) where he is nominated for an open scholarship which is considered as in-service training and the course is a priority field of study as determined by the Tertiary Education Commission. Where an officer is granted study leave with pay, he will be required to enter into a bond with the Government of Mauritius in accordance with the provisions laid down in the HRMM; and
- b) where the officer does not satisfy the conditions for the grant of study leave with pay, he may take advantage of leave without pay for study purposes in accordance with paragraph 18.4.82G of the 2016 PRB Report.

8. It would be appreciated if the contents of this Circular Letter could be brought to the attention of all eligible officers serving in the different Divisions of your Ministry/Department, as well as those in Statutory Bodies falling under the purview of your Ministry.



J. M. Simonet

Secretary for Public Service

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