 

**Application for an Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research-FNU Scholarship**

for Masters (by Research or Coursework with a Master’s thesis research component) or PhD study (FNU faculty staff only) in association with an ACIAR project in agriculture, forestry, fisheries or agribusiness

Applications are now open for ACIAR funded postgraduate scholarships. Note that these scholarships are targeted at candidates who wish to pursue a Masters (Research or Coursework) or PhD at FNU. Scholarships will not be offered if applicants are unable to commit to a full Masters by Research or Coursework/Master’s thesis degree (up to 2-years duration) or a PhD (3 years duration). Text highlighted in blue is hyperlinked to useful information for your application (internet access is required to view).

All applicants are required to identify a research project or an ACIAR project from the [**list provided**](ACIAR%20Pacific%20Projects%20and%20topics%20for%20scholarships%202021.docx) and attach the following documentation with their completed application form:

1. Certified copies of academic transcripts
2. Two Academic or ACIAR project leader referee letters that highlight the applicant’s academic strengths and aptitude to conduct research.
3. PhD applicants are required to submit a letter of endorsement from faculty (Dean).

**PLEASE INDICATE WHICH SCHOLARSHIP YOU ARE APPLYING FOR**

[ ]  **MASTER OF SCIENCE IN AGRICULTURE (1 year coursework: 1 year Master thesis research (MTR901))**

[ ]  **MASTER OF SCIENCE BY RESEARCH**

[ ]  **PhD (FNU Faculty staff only)**

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| 1. Personal details
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| Family Name (as shown on Birth Certificate) |       |
| Married Name (if different from name on Birth Certificate) |       |
| Given Names (as shown on Birth Certificate) |       |
| Country of citizenship | **(note only citizens of Fiji, Samoa, Tonga, Vanuatu and Solomon Islands, Kiribati, Tuvalu are eligible to apply)**      |
| Residency | **Due to the current travel restrictions imposed by the global pandemic, only individuals currently residing in Fiji are eligible to apply for the 2021 Masters’ program intake.** |
| Gender | [ ]  Male | [ ]  Female [ ]  | Prefer to specify another way |
| Do you have a disability? |  [ ]  Yes |  [ ]  No [ ]  Prefer not to specifu  | Prefer not to specify |
| Date of BirthDay/month/year |   /  /   |  |  |
| English Language Proficiency | [ ]  Previous program taught in English | [ ]  IELTS test scores |  |
|  | *Please note scholarships are available as new enrolments only. Students currently enrolled in a Masters or PhD program are ineligible to apply for these scholarships.* |

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| 1. Proposed Study Program
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| Please selectWhich area are you applying under? [ ]  Agribusiness and Extension[ ]  Crop Science[ ]  Crop and Plant Protection[ ]  Forestry[ ]  Soil Science and Biosystems engineering[ ]  Animal science [ ]  Fisheries (including aquaculture)[ ]  Other specify………………………………………..The following research priority areas are based on ACIAR’s 2019 consultations with Pacific Island Countries. Student thesis research topics will align to one or more of the following research areas:[ ]  Soil fertility, and integrated management of water resources and waste water; [ ]  Aquaculture and horticulture products for improved nutrition[ ]  Agribusiness, including post-harvest management and food processing[ ]  Gender equity and women’s engagement in Pacific agriculture[ ]  Coconut-based systems for economic, social and environmental resilience[ ]  Forestry and agroforestry as contributors to agricultural practices which address climate change for sustainable livelihoods☐ ‘One Health’ approaches (integrating human, animal and environment health) and biosecurity (for crop, livestock and environmental health). Includes crop and plant protection and animal health.Student research topics must also align to one of the following options:[ ]  An active ACIAR research project (please select from the [ACIAR project list](ACIAR%20Pacific%20Projects%20and%20topics%20for%20scholarships%202021.docx)) and provide the project ID here  e.g. HORT/2020/125\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ [ ]  An ACIAR collaborative research partnership with an institution in your home country that is relevant to the area of study proposed (Please provide details with your research proposal in section 7)[ ]  To previous ACIAR engagements where an Australian scientist is willing to provide supervision[ ]  A non-ACIAR Australian project (e.g. Pacific Horticultural and Agricultural Market Access Program plus or Market Development Facility) where an international researcher is willing to provide co-supervision[ ]  If none of the above are available, research will be aligned to your home country Agricultural Sector Plan. |
| Do you currently hold any other scholarship from your own or another government or sponsor? | [ ]  Yes [ ]  No |
| If ‘Yes’, provide details |       |

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| 1. Study or Employment history
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| Current study or employment \*Attach extra sheets if necessary  |
| Position title or Program year or level |       |
| Starting date |   /  /   |
| Employer |       |
| Brief description of your duties and responsibilities(if employed) |       |
| Previous position/s | Provide details if previously employed |
| Position title |       |
| Starting date |   /  /   | Finishing date |   /  /   |
| Employing organisation |       |
| Brief description of your duties and responsibilities |       |

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| 1. Contact Details
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| Current residential address |
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|  |       |
| Town/City |       | Postal code (if any) |       |
| State/Province |       |
| Country |       |
| Home phone no. |       | Work phone no. |       |
| Mobile no. |       | Fax no. (if any) |       |
| Email  |       |
| Mailing address   |
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| Town/City |       | Postal code (if any) |       |
| State/Province |       |
| Country |       |

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| 1. Spouse details
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| If you have a dependant spouse provide their details. Note that a dependent spouse refers to a spouse who is currently unemployed and relies solely on the applicant for financial support.  |
| Family name |       | Provide family name and other names as shown in your spouse’s passport or other official identification document |
| Given names |       |
| Gender | [ ]  Male | [ ]  Female | Date of birth |   /  /     |
| Country of citizenship |       |

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| 1. Qualifications
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| **Please include any studies that you are currently undertaking and studies you have completed**. **Certified** **copies of all University results must be included with the application.**  |
| **Qualification name 1****(previous qualification)** |       |
| Level of Study  | [ ]  Postgraduate Diploma [ ]  Vocational, technical[ ]  Undergraduate Degree  |
| Name of institution |       |
| Country |       |
| Status (complete/incomplete) |       | Start Date |   /   /      | Finish date |   /   /      |
| **Qualification name 2****(including current studies)** |       |
| Level of Study |  [ ]  If Undergraduate - indicate which year you are currently in, or have most recently completed  |
| Name of institution(if other than FNU) |       |
| Country |       |
| Status (complete/incomplete) |       | Start Date |   /   /      | Finish date |   /   /      |
| Have you ever been awarded a scholarship, or other prize or distinction by your school, university, government or other organisation? If so, please give details, and year of award. |

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| 1. Research Proposal
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| Please limit your answers to 300 words per question. An example Research proposal can be provided. |
| Research Title: |
| ACIAR Project and ID (If known) |
| FNU Proposed Primary Supervisor (If known) |
| Proposed Secondary Co-Supervisor (If known) |
| BACKGROUNDa) **Please describe the issue you want to address or the Research Topic?** |
|   |
| b) **Short literature review (Please review the current literature on your research topic)** |
| c) Proposed Research Questions |
| **d)** **Research Methodology**(How would you go about undertaking this study?)  |
| **e)** **Research Outcomes** (Describe any new knowledge or benefits you anticipate as a result of this scholarship) |
| Outline your career objectives and goals? How will this scholarship support your long term career? |
| 1. Prior Research experience
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| 1. Do you have any prior research experience? If yes, please list below.

Have you co-authored any reports, papers or publications? If yes, please list below.Have you given any seminars, presentations or talks related to agriculture, fisheries or forestry? If yes, please list below. |
| b) What benefit will your study through this scholarship provide to:  |
| * You
* Your Community
* Your Employer
* Your Country
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| c) More than half of the world’s farmers are women. The empirical evidence is clear that women are disproportionately affected by poverty. Ensuring women have equal access to resources and decision making is a direct route to reducing poverty for all. This online article is useful [Practical Notes: Critical elements for integrating gender in agricultural research and development projects and programs by Jemimah Njuki](http://agrigender.net/uploads/JGAFS-132016-6-Paper.pdf). An initial step is to be aware of when and how women and girls are engaged and affected by your research area. How would you ensure that the data collected in your research are collected, presented and analysed separately for men and women? |
| Referees Please give names, position and full addresses, telephone, email and fax numbers of two referees) who are familiar with you personally and your studies. Referees should be able to comment on your academic ability and should be known to you in a professional capacity and not be family members or relatives. Referees must also provide a written reference on your skills and ability to conduct research.  |
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| Declaration:I declare that to the best of my knowledge the information provided by me in this application is true and complete. I authorize the Fiji National University to collect from, and disclose to appropriate third parties such information that it may require to establish and administer my account with the University. I undertake to comply with the rules and regulations of the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research Pacific Agriculture Scholarship Support Program and Fiji National University Higher Degree program. I fully understand that making false declaration is an offence under the law.  |
| Date |   /  /   | Signed |  |