



Scholarship Application
July 27, 2011

Ministry of Finance Accountancy Scholarships Democratic Republic of Timor Leste

The objective of the Ministry of Finance Accountancy Scholarship (MoFAS) is to strengthen the profession of accountancy and public sector financial management in Timor Leste.

The scholarships are available to **all citizens** of Timor Leste.

The program is being developed and delivered in cooperation with Charles Darwin University in Darwin, Australia.

Type, Level and Number of Scholarships

The MoFAS will provide up to 10 scholarships for undergraduate study leading to a Bachelor's degree in accounting and up to 6 scholarships for postgraduate study leading to the award of a Master Degree in accounting or accounting practice.

A balance will be sought in the number of awards offered to men and women.

MoFAS scholarships are offered for the minimum period needed to complete the award, including any English language training to be delivered through NAVITAS in Darwin.

The Application Process

All applicants must present a written application in English in which they clearly explain their reasons for applying for the MoFAS and how they will be able to contribute to the development of Timor Leste. The application must be written in English and three copies must be submitted.

You *must* include a curriculum vitae (CV) and certified copies of the following supporting documents:

- Your RDTL birth certificate or passport,
- Your academic transcripts and graduation certificates (*ijazah*) from high school and university, and
- Certified English translations of these documents.

The Selection Process

An independent Selection Committee will consider all eligible applications. A short-list of candidates will be selected on academic grounds. These candidates will then take an English language proficiency test (IELTS) and those with overall IELTS score of 5 and above (for undergraduate) or 5.5 and above (for Masters) will be interviewed by the MoFAS Selection Committee. The interview team will assess the candidates' academic ability, clarity of aims of study, cultural adaptability and their reasons for pursuing a career in accountancy in the public sector in Timor Leste. Interviews will be undertaken in English only.



Selection Criteria

Scholarships will be awarded on the basis of academic merit, English language proficiency, basic numeracy skills and likelihood of successfully completing a program of study in Darwin, Australia. The final selection is objective and merit based. Approximately half the scholarships at each level will be awarded for women and half for men.

Candidates will undergo an assessment of their numeracy skills to ensure they will be able to meet the minimum standards required by the programs of study at Charles Darwin University.

Candidates must be willing to enter into a contract with the Ministry of Finance of Timor Leste that will require them to return to Timor Leste on completion of their studies and work for the Government of Timor Leste for not less than 7 years.

English Language Training

English language training is provided as part of the MoFAS program. Pre-English Courses (PCE) is conducted at NAVITAS at Charles Darwin University in Darwin, Australia. In order to enter university courses, candidates must generally reach a score of at least 6.5. Undergraduate awardees may also attend foundation studies for up to one year before starting their degree courses.

Requirements

- All candidates must: – be a citizen of Timor Leste and have lived in Timor Leste for at least five years;
- Be a resident and currently living in Timor Leste;
- Be a minimum of 18 years of age at the time of commencement of the scholarship;
- Satisfy Australian or New Zealand Government requirements for international student entry (health, character etc.);
- Not hold a scholarship that would give overlapping benefits;
- Be applying to commence a new course of study at a level higher than your current qualification;
- Be able to take up the scholarship in 2011/2012; and be endorsed by the Ministry or Government Agency for which you work, e.g. Ministry, Statutory Authority, Agency.
- All applicants must have very good English language skills;
- Applicants for postgraduate study must already hold an undergraduate (S1) degree or Master degree from an accredited and recognized university with an Australian Grade Point Average of at least 2.5 or its equivalent;
- Applicants for undergraduate study must have graduated from senior high school with an *average* final grade of 7 or its equivalent.
- Mature age applicants (21 years old and over) with suitable levels of work experience in government, civil society or the private sector who can demonstrate a capacity to be successful in accountancy studies may be eligible to apply for either undergraduate or master degree studies. They should possess a minimum of high school certificate with PASS and at least five (5) years of relevant professional experience



Submission of Applications:

Applications must be submitted to:

Afonso Aleixo Professional Development Program Implementation Officer or

Manuela Nelia Human Resources Manager

Human Resources Department

Palacio do Governo, Building No. 5

Av. Presidente Nicolau Lobato

Dili, Timor Leste

Closing date for applications has been extended to **close of business, Friday 12 August 2011**