

COMMUNIQUE

OFFER OF SCHOLARSHIPS UNDER THE NEW ZEALAND COMMONWEALTH SCHOLARSHIP AND FELLOWSHIP PLAN 2011/2012

Applications are invited from suitably qualified Mauritian nationals for the award of **two** scholarships (one male and one female) offered by the Government of New Zealand through "Universities New Zealand" for Masters and PhD Level study in New Zealand starting in February 2012. Preference will be given to applicants opting for one of the following fields of studies as set out by the New Zealand Government:

- **Leadership and Governance**
- **Economics**
- **Public sector governance and reform**
- **Environmental studies**
- **Education**
- **Health**
- **Agriculture and Fisheries**
- **Biosecurity and Food Safety**
- **Infrastructure and utility**
- **Human Rights and Gender**

Candidates are also advised to consult the List of Indicative Priority Fields of Study available for consultation on the Notice Board, Ground Floor of the Ministry of Education and Human Resources, MITD House, Phoenix, or on the following website:

<http://ministry-education.gov.mu>

For more details, please consult the following website:

www.aid.govt.nz

2. Eligibility Requirements

2.1 Qualifications

A. For a Master's Degree

- (i) SC/GCE 'O' level with credits in at least five subjects, including English Language, at one and same sitting;
- (ii) HSC/GCE 'A' level with three subjects at Principal level obtained at one and the same sitting; and
- (iii) A minimum standard of Upper Second Class Bachelor's degree.

B. For a PhD Degree

- (i) SC/GCE 'O' level with credits in at least five subjects, including English, at one and same sitting;
- (ii) HSC/GCE 'A' level in three subjects at Principal level obtained at one and the same sitting;
- (iii) A minimum standard of Second Class Bachelor's degree; and
- (iv) A good Master's degree.

C. An alternative qualification and equivalent to above.

2.2 Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible to be considered for a Commonwealth Scholarship, applicants must:

- (a) be residing in Mauritius for at least two years prior to application;
- (b) not have citizenship or permanent residence status of New Zealand or Australia, or another developed country;
- (c) not be married or engaged to be married to a person who holds, or who is eligible to hold, citizenship or permanent residence status of New Zealand, Australia or another developed country;
- (d) be applying to commence a new qualification and not be seeking funding for one already commenced at the Master's or PhD Level;

- (e) satisfy the admission requirements of the New Zealand education institution in which the qualification is to be undertaken, including English language criteria;
- (f) have been working in Mauritius for at least two years prior to application. Relevant evidence of being in employment should be submitted; and
- (g) be available to commence their academic studies in New Zealand by the start of the New Zealand academic year in February 2012;

Applicants cannot:

- (h) be studying full-time at post-secondary level;
- (i) convert another tertiary scholarship (either in New Zealand or in another country) to a Commonwealth Scholarship in New Zealand;
- (j) hold or have held, a New Zealand Government or Australia Government scholarship in the 24 months preceding the scholarship start date;
- (m) have benefitted previously from a New Zealand or Australian Government scholarship.

Note: Funding is not available for dependent. Students who choose to have their immediate family members join them in New Zealand will be responsible for their financial support.

3. Conditions of Scholarship

- 3.1 The scholarship covers tuition fees, allowances and international airfares as approved by the New Zealand authorities.
- 3.2 Applicants should **submit proof** of possessing an International English proficiency test result such as **IELTS or TOEFL** along with the application form. Original results should not date back to more than 24 months at the time applicant would commence his/her study.
- 3.3 **Candidates should have secured admission to their preferred New Zealand education institution. Evidence of such admission should be attached to the application form.**
- 3.4 The proposed level of study should be at a higher level than qualifications already earned.

- 3.5 Three references (not more than 24 months old) on official letterhead, supporting the scholarship application to study in New Zealand, and relevant to their proposed study programme or research topic should be submitted. References should be provided from the **applicant's current employer and a former lecturer or academic supervisor** (in an area of study relevant to the application), and where possible, **a relevant government or community based organization.**
- 3.6 Candidates applying for a Master's programme should submit a motivation letter of around **500 words**. Those applying for a PhD should submit a research proposals of around **1500 words** outlining the proposed research topic including research question and objectives and proposed methodology. The statement should also identify the significance of application of the proposed research topic to the development of Mauritius.
- 3.7 Candidates having already benefited from a scholarship through the Government of Mauritius will not be eligible to apply for this scholarship.
- 3.8 Candidates should ensure that originals along with copies of certificates, transcripts of final university results/marksheets and all other relevant documents relating to their qualifications are submitted to the Scholarships Section **by the deadline. Non-submission of these documents on time will result in their elimination from the selection exercise.**
- 3.9 Beneficiaries of scholarships must enter into a bond, thereby committing themselves to return to Mauritius immediately after completion of their studies and work for at least five years in the public or private sector.
- 3.10 Only the best qualified candidates will be selected. Candidates who would not have been informed of their nomination within six weeks as from the closing date for application should consider that they have not been selected.
- 3.11 The final decision to award the scholarships rests with the New Zealand Authorities.

4. Mode of Application

- 4.1 Applications must be made on the prescribed form available at the Scholarships Section, Ministry of Education and Human Resources, 1st Floor, MITD House, Phoenix, or downloaded from the Ministry's website:

<http://ministry-education.gov.mu>

Applicants may also submit applications on-line on the following website:

<http://www.gov.mu>

However, applicants should submit originals along with copies of all supporting documents within three working days after application for the scholarship online.

- 4.2 The completed Application Form along with all supporting documents should be submitted to the Scholarships Section of the Ministry by ***Tuesday 31st May 2011 at 14.00 hours at latest.***
- 4.3 Responsible parties of applicants not in Mauritius may apply on behalf of their wards.
- 4.4 Applicants already in employment, whether public or private, must fill in the application form in duplicate. One copy thereof along with the relevant supporting documents should be submitted to the Scholarships Section, and one copy to the applicant's employer who has to confirm, in writing, whether the applicant would be released for the course, and if so, on what terms and conditions. ***Such information should be made available by the deadline.***
- 4.5 A Communiqué will be placed on the Website in due course to inform applicants that the selection exercise has been completed.

17 February 2011

**Ministry of Education
and Human Resources
MITD House, Phoenix**