



PRESS RELEASE

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New Zealand announces scholarships for Bhutanese applicants

The New Zealand Government has announced its fresh round of New Zealand Development Scholarships for Bhutanese citizens who wish to commence programmes of study at New Zealand academic institutions in 2018. Applications will be accepted only online and open on February 16 and close at 12 pm (NZ time) on March 30.

Established with the goal to support sustainable development in developing countries, these scholarships are tenable at one of New Zealand's world-class 10 universities or institutes of technology.

"I am pleased that New Zealand Development Scholarships are being offered again in Bhutan. This reinforces our growing relationship and offers opportunities to Bhutanese students to come to New Zealand and develop expertise in areas of Bhutan's skills requirement and New Zealand strengths, including renewable energy, agriculture development and private sector development," says Suzannah Jessep, the Acting New Zealand High Commissioner to India, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh and New Zealand chargé d'affaires for Nepal.

"Scholarship recipients will get to experience New Zealand's world-class education system which encourages independent and analytical thinking. The academic and practical skills they will gain will equip them to compete in any marketplace worldwide, and to contribute to the development of their home countries," adds John Laxon, Education New Zealand's Regional Director for South and South East Asia and Middle East.

The New Zealand Aid Programme is looking for outstanding candidates who are interested in studying subjects that can help improve the social and economic development of Bhutan. These scholarships cover courses related to renewable energy, agriculture development and private sector development. New Zealand Development Scholarships are available for Postgraduate Certificate (6 months), Postgraduate Diploma (1 year) and Masters Degree (1-2 years) programmes. Applicants are expected to meet the academic entry requirements (including English language ability) for their preferred programme of study and institution. Awardees are also required to return home for at least two years after finishing their studies.

The financial support offered through these scholarships includes full tuition costs, a fortnightly living allowance, an establishment allowance, medical and travel insurance, travel to and from your home country at the start and end of your scholarship, home leave or reunion travel (for some students), and assistance with research and thesis costs for most postgraduate research students. Detailed information, including where to apply online and the full range of eligible subjects, can be accessed at: www.mfat.govt.nz/scholarships.