



Australia Awards – Vanuatu

Frequently Asked Questions – People with a disability

1. If I am a person with disability, how do I declare this?

If you identify as having a disability, it is encouraged you highlight this in your application form. Persons with disability will not be disadvantaged. The information provided will be used to ensure equal opportunity throughout the entire scholarship experience.

2. If I am a person with a disability, what kind of support will be provided?

The nature of a person's disability will be assessed by a technical specialist who will work with the individual to ensure adequate disability-support is provided throughout the scholarship experience. This support will be tailored to the needs of the individual and outline the support required to successfully live and study in Australia. Support may include taking a carer, provision of assistive devices or other support required to successfully live and study in Australia.

3. Are applications from persons with a disability assessed separately or in line with all other applicants?

All applicants are required to meet the eligibility criteria and are assessed in line with the objectives and priority areas of Australia Awards Scholarships in Vanuatu. The Australia Awards team will ensure any barriers for people with a disability are removed, however the selection criteria is consistent.

4. Will I still be required to undertake an English language assessment?

Australian institutions require an academic IELTS assessment as part of their admission process. Australia Awards will work with the applicant to ensure this English language assessment is undertaken fairly and without discrimination.

5. What support does Australia and/or the university provide for persons with disability?

All Australian universities are bound by a Disability Discrimination Act. Many Australian universities have dedicated disability services centres to enable students with a disability to participate fully in university life. The dedicated centre can help to arrange services. Australian universities also have health and counselling services that are free or offered at cheaper rates for students.

6. Will I be able to use public transportation?

Australia has an elaborate public transport infrastructure, comprising rail, tram, buses and taxis, linking different parts of a city. Most public transports are customized to enable wheelchair and baby pram access; trains and buses usually have exclusive spaces for wheelchairs too.

7. How I will be able to do my shopping /grocery and basic necessities?

Australia has well developed retail outlets, located at convenient locations across the cities and towns, where you can do weekly/monthly shopping at affordable prices. The retail stores are designed to enable wheelchair access. In addition, Australia has online (web-based) shopping options available.

