CRAWFORD -IN-QUEENSLAND STUDENT AWARDS

Applications are invited from honours and postgraduate students interested in gaining expertise and experience in international agricultural research.

OVERVIEW

The Crawford Fund encourages greater recognition of the importance of international agricultural research (IAR) and development in Australia, and increased support for IAR by Australian government and non-government organisations. To help promote active engagement in IAR, the Queensland Committee of the Crawford Fund is offering each year a small number of competitive research funding awards for tertiary students. The purpose of the Crawford-in-Queensland Student Awards is to facilitate active student participation in IAR projects to help them gain valuable experience and expertise in IAR.

Two types of award are available: Honours Research Scholarships and Postgraduate Student Awards. Applicants eligible for either award must already be enrolled at a recognised Queensland tertiary institute and engaged in a relevant biophysical or socio-economic aspect of agriculture, animal production, fisheries, forestry, natural resource management or food security.

The Honours Research Scholarship is open to applicants enrolled either at Honours Level (3-year degree course) or Fourth Year (4-year degree course); it takes the form of a bursary of $3,500 payable directly to the awardee to cover living or travel expenses. The Postgraduate Research Award is open to students enrolled at postgraduate (usually Masters or PhD) level; in this instance the award, to a maximum value of $3,500 per awardee, can be used for airfares and other travel costs, accommodation and subsistence, and/or operational research costs.

Both the Honours Research Scholarship and the Postgraduate Research Award are designed to facilitate novel engagement by the students with agricultural research and development assistance projects being undertaken in overseas countries where the students intend to work and gain experience. The projects that the students plan to link with can be governmental (e.g. ACIAR, university, FAO), non-governmental (NGO) or commercial (e.g. seed or R&D company). The purpose of the Awards is to allow the students to undertake additional research or project activities that would not otherwise be possible, rather than for ongoing postgraduate research projects already in place. Funding to attend research conferences overseas will not ordinarily be considered.

HOW TO APPLY

Applicants need to complete an application form and outline what novel research or project activity the Crawford-In-Queensland Award would allow them to undertake, how that would augment and add value, and what benefits would emerge from the experience. Proposals that can clearly demonstrate how the Award will deliver benefit to Queensland will have a clear advantage. This could be through stronger linkages in research areas of interest to Queensland industry, access to technical knowledge of local interest, or knowledge that will help foster Queensland–developing country commercial engagement. Proposals will only be considered if they include a signed statement of approval from the sponsoring agency (university, government, NGO or company) under whose auspices the student proposes to undertake the IAR activities associated with the award. It is expected that the successful applicants will be amenable to involvement in possible public awareness activities around the support provided.

Applications close on Thursday 29 March 2018 and should be sent to bob.lawn@crawfordfund.org with a copy of a (brief) CV.

A requirement of both awards is that awardees will provide a written report to the Queensland Crawford Committee describing what they achieved through their IAR project activity. It is expected the report will be the basis of some public awareness activities. The Committee may offer awardees a Crawford Scholar travel award to attend a Crawford Fund Parliamentary Conference in Canberra, in which case a separate report relating to the Scholar’s attendance at the Conference will also be required.
Q2 The Host IAR project or activity with which the applicant proposes to link

The project that the Applicant proposes to link to can be governmental (e.g. university, ACIAR, FAO), non-governmental (NGO) or commercial (e.g. seed company).

Provide details of the IAR project or activity that you plan to link with (who is conducting it, who funding it, where is it based, what are its main objectives).

Funding to attend research conferences overseas will not ordinarily be considered.

Q3 The proposal

Provide details of your proposal: what new research or project activity do you propose to do if you are successful in obtaining a Crawford Fund Award?

Describe how you propose to link with the Host IAR Project and describe how that matches the objectives of the Crawford Fund – that is, provide clear justification as to why you think the Crawford Fund should support your proposal.

While IAR is designed to assist the host country where it is conducted, effective projects are of mutual benefit to the home country. Proposals that can clearly demonstrate benefit to Queensland (e.g. through stronger linkages in research areas of clear interest to Queensland industry, access to technical knowledge of local interest, or knowledge that will help foster Queensland–developing country commercial engagement) will have a clear advantage.

Q4 Budget Complete either Section 4A or Section 4B only

Section 4A. The Honours Scholarship will provide a fixed stipend of $3,500, $3,000 payable at the time of the Award, and $500 payable on receipt of the agreed report by the Crawford Fund.

Section 4B. Postgraduate Research Award funds can be used for airfares and other travel costs, accommodation and subsistence, and/or operational research costs, to a maximum total value of $3,500 per awardee. Again, the final payment of $500 will be payable on receipt of the agreed report by the Crawford Fund.

For both the Honours Scholarship and the Postgraduate Research Award, the Crawford Fund support may be used to augment, but not substitute for, support from other sources. Provide brief details of cash and in-kind support available from other sources to support the Proposal described in Section 3.