

CRAWFORD-IN-VICTORIA INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH STUDENT AWARDS

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

OVERVIEW

The Crawford Fund encourages greater recognition of the importance of international agricultural research and development to Australia by actively engaging in international agricultural research in developing countries. The Victorian State Committee of the Crawford Fund offers a small number of competitive travel awards for tertiary students. The purpose of the awards is to facilitate active student participation in international agricultural projects, in order to help them gain valuable experience and expertise in developing countries. Only one or two awards will be made.

The awards are open to Honours and Postgraduate Students enrolled in a Victorian university, with priority given to Australian nationals and permanent residents. Applicants should be engaged in a relevant biophysical or socio-economic aspect of agriculture, animal production, fisheries, forestry, natural resource management or food security. Applicants should be enrolled either at Honours Level (following a 3-year degree course), the fourth year of a four-year degree course or in a postgraduate degree (Masters or PhD). The award takes the form of a bursary to a maximum value of \$3,000 per awardee, and can be used for airfares, other travel costs, accommodation and subsistence, and/or operational research costs.

The Crawford Fund International Agricultural Research Student Awards are designed to augment funding from other sources—for example, agricultural research and development assistance projects being undertaken in overseas countries by University staff where the students intend to work and gain experience. The projects that the students plan to link with can be governmental (e.g. ACIAR, FAO), non-governmental (NGO), commercial (e.g. seed or R&D company) or in association with a university. Funding to carry out research in Australia that is part of their degree work, or to attend research conferences overseas will not be considered, unless it contributes to developing linkages with the international agricultural research in developing countries.

HOW TO APPLY

Applicants need to complete an **application form** and outline the benefits expected from the Crawford Fund International Agricultural Research Student Award. The benefits of the award could be through stronger linkages in research areas of interest to Victorian industry; understanding the application of technical knowledge to different agricultural systems; or knowledge that will help foster developing country commercial engagement. Proposals will only be considered if they include a signed statement of approval from the university where the student is enrolled for the degree. It is expected that the successful applicants will be amenable to involvement in public awareness activities associated with the award. Awardees are expected to advise the Fund one week before they travel to help facilitate a short web report or social media around their trip. Awardees are also required to provide a written report of 500 words maximum with photos to the Victorian State Crawford Committee describing the project and what they learned during their Crawford Fund International Agricultural Research Student Award activities, within 2 weeks of completing travel.

The closing date for award applications is COB **Thursday, 29 March 2018**.

Applications with a brief CV should be sent to: Ted.Hayes@crawfordfund.org.

NOTES AND SELECTION CRITERIA

1	<p>The applicant</p> <p>Applicants must be enrolled at a recognised VIC tertiary institute in a relevant disciplinary area in agriculture, animal production, fisheries, forestry, natural resource management or food security.</p> <p>Applicants must be enrolled either at Honours level (3-year degree) or fourth year (4-year degree), or in a research degree at postgraduate level (Masters or PhD).</p>
2	<p>The host—international agricultural research project or activity with which the applicant proposes to link</p> <p>The project that the applicant proposes to link to can be governmental (e.g. ACIAR, FAO), non-governmental (NGO), commercial (e.g. seed company), or university based.</p> <p>Provide details of the international agricultural research project or activity that you plan to link with (who is conducting it, who is funding it, where it is based, what are its main objectives) and how you plan to link the proposed activity with the project.</p> <p>Funding to attend research workshops overseas will not be considered unless there is a strong case</p>
3	<p>The proposal</p> <p>Provide details of what you propose to do if you are successful in obtaining a Crawford Fund Award.</p> <p>Describe how you propose to link with the host organisation and describe how the project activities match the objectives of the Crawford Fund—that is, provide clear justification as to why you think the Crawford Fund should support your proposal.</p> <p>While this international agriculture initiative is designed to assist the host country where it is conducted, projects need to be of mutual benefit to Victoria, as well as of benefit to the applicant. Proposals that can clearly demonstrate benefit to VIC (e.g. through stronger linkages in research areas of interest to Vic industry, access to technical knowledge of local interest, understanding the application of technical knowledge to different agricultural systems, or knowledge that will help foster VIC–developing country commercial engagement) will have an advantage.</p>
4	<p>Budget</p> <p>The Crawford Fund Student International Research Awards can be used for airfares and other travel costs, accommodation and subsistence, and/or operational research costs, to a maximum total value of \$3,000 per awardee</p> <p>The Crawford Fund support is designed to augment 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.</p>
5	<p>Approvals</p> <p>Approvals are required from Authorised Officers representing both the Host University where the applicant is enrolled, and the Host Country Project or Activity with which the applicant proposes to link.</p> <p>The proposal should include comprehensive details of OHS (Operational Health and Safety) plans and the support being provided by the Host Institute (e.g. university) or the Host Country Project or Activity. Please indicate if this includes insurance cover.</p>
6	<p>Referees</p> <p>The Authorised Officers in Section 5 may also act as Academic Referees for the applicant or the applicant may wish to nominate other referee(s).</p>