OVERVIEW

To help promote active engagement in international agricultural research (IAR), the QLD Committee of the Crawford Fund each year offers a small number of competitive research funding awards for tertiary students. The purpose of the Awards is to facilitate active student participation in IAR projects to help them gain valuable experience and expertise in IAR. The Awards are not designed to fund postgraduate research projects as such. Rather, they are to allow the students to undertake additional research or project activities that would not otherwise be possible. Two types of award are available: Honours Research Scholarships and Postgraduate Student Awards.

ELIGIBILITY

Key criterion: To be eligible for either award, applicants must already be enrolled at a recognised Queensland tertiary institute and be 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 $4,500 per Awardee, can be used for airfares and other travel costs, accommodation and subsistence, and/or operational research costs.

SELECTION CRITERIA

The Crawford QLD Student Awards aim to provide a novel opportunity for students to incorporate an IAR component or experience into their studies, not to fund postgraduate research projects as such. That is, the Awards are to enable a novel activity that otherwise would not be possible without the Award.

The Awards are competitive and preference is given to strong proposals that as well as satisfying the above criteria, clearly demonstrate the following:

- Benefit to the target country for the IAR component
- Benefit to Queensland (e.g. through relevance to Qld industry, research experience / findings, strengthening collaborative links, commercial links etc)
- Linkage to countries in our near region (Pacific Island nations, PNG, Timor Leste, Indonesia)
- Clear justification as to why the Crawford Fund should support the proposal; that is, what is the specific ‘value-adding’ IAR aspect that is to be supported by the Award.

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

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

A requirement of the Crawford QLD Student Awards is that awardees will provide a written report to the QLD Committee describing what they achieved through their IAR project activity, using a pro-forma provided by the QLD Coordinator. It is expected the report will be the basis of some public awareness activities. In the event that the QLD Committee offers a Student Award applicant a Crawford Scholar travel award to attend a Crawford Fund Parliamentary Conference in Canberra, a separate report relating to the Scholar’s attendance at the Conference will also be required.