CRAWFORD FUND HENZELL AWARDS

Applications are invited from undergraduate students, in their second or subsequent years of study at an Australian university, interested in gaining experience of international agricultural research for their further study and careers.

This note provides general background information and will assist with the online application process.

Please note, funding to attend conferences overseas will not be considered and these awards are only available to Australian citizens or permanent residents.

The strict deadline for the online applications is close of business in your State or Territory, on **Friday, 14 May 2027.**

OVERVIEW

The Crawford Fund for Food Security is an Australian non-government organisation that encourages greater recognition in Australia of the importance of international agricultural research, development and training for food and nutrition security. We have a NextGen program to encourage the next generation in their related studies and careers.

In 2024-25, the Crawford Fund's existing NextGen suite of activities welcomed a new component. With the support of Ted and Frances Henzell and family, the Crawford Fund is now offering national awards to support brief visits by Australian undergraduate students, who are in their second or subsequent years, (including honours year) at an Australian university, to international agricultural research projects in developing tropical countries.

The Crawford Fund Henzell Awards:

- enable undergraduate Australian students to visit and experience agricultural projects in a tropical country involving Australian researchers and/or receiving Australian support.
- raise awareness in undergraduate students, studying any course broadly related to food and nutrition security, of the impact they can have through careers in agriculture for development.
- are particularly focused on encouraging applicants with limited travel experience in the target countries, whether personal or academic.
- ultimately, seek to grow the number of Australians involved in international agricultural research by exposing them to the available study and career pathways early in their university experience.

THE APPLICANT, ELIGIBILITY AND THEIR AREA AND LEVEL OF STUDY

These awards are available to young (ideally 25 years or younger)* Australian citizens or permanent residents who are at least in their second year studying at the undergraduate level (including honours) at an Australian university. Students can be studying in any degree of relevance to food production and food and nutrition security of benefit to tropical countries. This reflects the need for teams to be multi-disciplinary to successfully take on the task of improving food and nutrition security.

The purpose of the awards is to encourage undergraduate students to consider further study and careers related to food security. Therefore, applications should be for travel that can be carried out before final exams.

THE AWARDS

We acknowledge that connecting with an international project for an award visit can be challenging. In their application, the student can:

- **suggest a project**, where the student identifies and connects with a project of interest related to tropical agriculture, involving Australian researchers or which has Australian support. The student will have sought initial agreement from project leader/s to visit the project with related staff on hand. This must be to a tropical country in the Asia Pacific Region or Kenya, Tanzania, Mozambique, or Madagascar. With this option, the application process will request a draft budget and proof of agreement from the Australian project leader involved.

- **request assistance in identifying a project**, after unsuccessfully trying to identify a project. Applicants will be asked to indicate what efforts they have made in this regard. In this case, if the applicant is successful, the Crawford Fund will identify a visit which may include a visit to project/s identified by other applicants or work underway through the Crawford Fund training or mentoring programs, and/or Crawford Fund journalist visits. With this option, the application will not require a draft budget until later in the process.

It is envisaged that each year there may be a mix of both the above.

Where the Crawford Fund assists in identifying a suitable project for an award visit, the Fund will facilitate a briefing between the project leader/s of the work to be visited and the awardee prior to departure.

Depending on the number of students receiving awards each year, more than one awardee - not necessarily from the same university or State/Territory - may be involved in the same visit.

Visits should be for a minimum duration of approximately a week, including overseas travel. Any proposed visits longer than 10 days will be closely scrutinised in relation to safety and supervision.

No travel will be possible outside of the set program for the visit - for example, extensions for holiday or other purposes.

The award will cover economy class airfares and other international and in-country travel costs, accommodation, travel insurance, visa, and subsistence costs. They will not cover purchasing passports or pre-departure inoculations or health treatments which will remain the applicant's responsibility.

These awards can vary in amount but will be up to $5,000. Not all funds are released until after the awardee's return, with an amount of approximately $500 paid after the trip and all award requirements are complete.

The final decision on the location offered for a visit is to be made by the Crawford Fund – the applicant who is offered a trip can refuse it when it is offered and any change to an agreed award visit must be approved prior to departure.

Please note that the application is for travel that would be undertaken after receipt of the award and not travel already completed or partly underway.

SOURCING A POTENTIAL PROJECT

If you are unsure about how to connect to people, a project, or an organisation to research opportunities for your application, some options are:

- talk to university staff who are connected with your current studies for their assistance in identifying people they know at your university who may be involved in work in developing countries.

- identify staff at your university who are already involved in international agriculture for development associated with the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) or any of the international agricultural research centers in the CGIAR or AIRCA. Talk it over with them and see if they will agree to have you accompany them on a training or research visit.
- search on the ACIAR website for projects associated with your area of interest, or for projects in which your university is engaged, and identify the project leader to discuss if they will have you accompany them on a training or research visit.
- Search on the Crawford Fund website for recent training or mentoring work by your university to identify staff who have previously travelled and connect with them for suggestions.

HOW TO APPLY

Applicants will need to complete an online application form by close of business on **Friday, 14 May 2027.**

Applicants will be asked to explain their interest and/or motivation in receiving a Henzell Award – for example, your interest in agriculture for development, an understanding of its impact and benefit, and any existing plans for future study or a career in food and nutrition security. For those new to the area of international agricultural research, you may like to read through information on the Crawford Fund website on the impact and mutual benefit of related work available here.

The applicants can come from any undergraduate degree at an Australian university which would enable them to contribute to agricultural research for development in the tropics, to improve food and nutrition security. The application will include a request to explain how their degree sets them up to contribute. Students can come from a broad range of degrees beyond 'agriculture' – social sciences, environment, economics, gender, health, communication, business, finance - as we understand that international agricultural research needs skills far beyond the usual traditional studies in agricultural science.

As noted previously, it is possible for applicants to identify a preferred project/visit, or to seek assistance from the Crawford Fund for identification of a project/visit. Not having identified a proposed visit location will not preclude the student from being considered for a Henzell Award. However, you will be asked to explain the effort undertaken to (unsuccessfully) identify a project/visit.

The online application process differs for applicants who can identify a suitable project/activity and those who have tried unsuccessfully to do so.

All applicants will be asked to include a note of support for their application from either someone who is involved in the project/activity to be visited, or someone who knows the student's abilities and interest in ongoing study or a career related to food and nutrition security – additional academic and personal references can also be provided.

AWARD DECISIONS

The decisions by the Henzell Awards Advisory Panel on the final group of successful applicants are final and no further avenues for appeal, further information or consideration are available.

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Awardees are required to:

- engage with the Crawford Fund outreach program around the visit **before departure**. We will provide instructions on how you can upload material during your Henzell Award experience for our social media platforms if you can manage it.
- provide a written reflection with photos or a short video (blog of approx 450 words) after the project/visit, their experience and how it has encouraged them in their undergraduate studies with a focus on agriculture for development.

- make a 10 min presentation for delivery to the Henzell Awards Advisory Panel on the trip experience, to which the Henzell family, senior members of the Crawford Fund, and project leaders involved in each year's visits will be invited. This may be open to the public.
- be open to possible involvement in Crawford Fund NextGen events and other activities in the future.

PUBLIC AWARENESS

Applicants will be invited to participate in public awareness activities associated with the award. As noted above, awardees are expected to advise the Fund two weeks before they travel to help facilitate social media during their planned trip. Awardees are also required to provide a written report with photos to the Crawford Fund describing the trip and what they learned during their trip, with photos, within two weeks of completing travel. Successful applicants will be provided with all reporting requirements prior to signing their funding agreement.

FURTHER INFORMATION

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LinkedIn https://www.linkedin.com/company/the-crawford-fund/

NOTES TO FACILITATE COMPLETION OF THE ONLINE FORM

Before you begin
Please note that:

- funding to attend conferences overseas will not be considered
- funding related to travel associated with university course work/electives will generally not be considered
- these awards are only available to Australian citizens or permanent residents
- visits are restricted to projects underway throughout the Pacific, Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania, Mozambique, or Madagascar and in:

Bangladesh
Bhutan
Brunei Darussalam
Cambodia
India
Indonesia
Laos
Malaysia
Myanmar
Nepal
Papua New Guinea
Philippines
Singapore
Sri Lanka
Thailand
Viet Nam

The short online application form differs depending on whether you have been able to identify a project for the proposed visit or not.

It is possible to commence the form, save a draft and continue to complete later.

All applicants will be required to attach a brief CV (no longer than four pages), and a supporting note from a related university staff member supporting your application to travel. There is the option to provide additional personal or academic referees.

All applicants will be asked to explain their interest and/or motivation in receiving a Henzell Award.

Applicants who identify a project will be asked to include a budget outline for your overseas visit – a template is provided.

Your health and safety are paramount to us so you will be asked to explain your understanding of possible risks and provide details of the health and safety arrangements for your proposed trip.

Applicants who cannot identify a project will be asked how they tried (unsuccessfully) to identify a project.

The following notes relate to specific arrangements depending on whether or not you have identified a project for your award:

NOTES TO ASSIST THOSE WHO HAVE IDENTIFIED A PROPOSED ACTIVITY:

1.	**Your details** This section is of the form is straightforward, including questions about nationality or residency status, and asks for a short Curriculum Vitae to be attached.
2.	**Why should you be chosen for an award?** You will be asked to explain your interest and/or motivation in receiving a Henzell Award and visiting a research project in a developing country – for example, your interest in agriculture for development, any existing plans for future study or career in food and nutrition security.
3.	**Your university details** You will be asked to indicate your degree, university, and enrolment details (year of study) and how you understand your area of study will set you up to be involved in projects to improve food and nutrition security.
4.	**Referees** Applicants can provide personal or academic references to support their application, in addition to what is required elsewhere (see 9. below). These references will be one of the criteria by which your application is judged.
5.	**Proposed project/activity to which the applicant proposes to link** You will be asked for details of the project to which you have an agreement to link the award travel and engagement (who is conducting it, who is funding it, where it is based (noting which country), what are its main objectives including name and ID number if available from the funding agency or project leader).
6.	**The proposal** This section asks for relevant details of your proposed visit - describe your contact within the project (for example, supervisor), what are the proposed activities to be undertaken, and describe how that matches the objectives of the award. Explain how you will experience an agricultural project in a tropical country involving Australian researchers and/or receiving Australian support and why you think the visit will encourage your ongoing interest in further study or a career related to food and nutrition security. While international agricultural research is designed to assist the country where it is conducted, effective projects are of mutual benefit to the home country. Proposals that can clearly demonstrate how the project provides mutual benefit (to your State/Territory or to Australia more generally e.g. through stronger linkages in research areas of clear interest to industry, access to technical knowledge of local interest, or knowledge that will help biosecurity or foster commercial engagement) will have a clear advantage.
7.	**Health and safety** Your health and safety are paramount to us. The project leaders of your identified project should be able to assist with this section. We expect you to check with the project leader/s on arrangements so that the visit complies with the health and safety requirements of your institution and the project funding agency for travelling to the country for your visit. We expect you to check and comply with the DFAT Travel advice for your intended visit (see the SmartTraveller site). You will be asked to identify what you consider the key health and safety issues that may arise in the country you are visiting, and the arrangements and strategies planned to ensure your health and safety. You will also need to indicate if this includes insurance cover or if you will be seeking this with your travel booking. Adequate travel insurance must be in place prior to your travel as the Crawford Fund Limited will not be liable.

8.	**The budget –** template available here Award funds can be used for economy- class airfares and other travel costs, accommodation, and subsistence costs. These awards can vary in terms of amount but will be up to $5,000. The Crawford Fund support may be used to augment, but not substitute , support from other sources. In addition to completing the template you will be asked to provide brief details of any cash and in-kind support available from other sources to support your proposal.
9.	**Approvals** Whether applicants have identified a proposed project/activity or not, we need to know that you have approval to travel if your application is successful. You will be asked to upload a signed note of support, on university or institutional letterhead, for your attendance/involvement from someone who will be organising or attending the identified project/activity with you, indicating their role with the project. You may like to also ask this person to act as a referee for you (personal or academic) and this may also be used in the earlier referee section too.

NOTES FOR THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO IDENTIFY A PROPOSED ACTIVITY:

1.	**Your details** This section is straightforward, including questions about nationality or residency status, and asks for your Curriculum Vitae to be attached.
2.	**Why should you be chosen for an award?** You will be asked to explain your interest and/or motivation in receiving a Henzell Award and visiting a research project in a developing country – for example, your interest in agriculture for development, any existing plans for future study or career in food and nutrition security.
3.	**Your university details** You will be asked to indicate your degree, university, and enrolment details (year of study) and how you understand your area of study will set you up to be involved in projects to improve food and nutrition security.
4.	**Referees** Applicants can provide personal or academic references to support their application, in addition to what is required elsewhere (see 6. below). These references will be one of the criteria by which your application is judged.
5.	**Efforts at identifying an activity** You will be asked to explain or list the variety of ways that you attempted to identify a project for your award. We want to get an appreciation of your search, who you connected with, so we know that you made a reasonable attempt to find people at your university or elsewhere who are involved in international agriculture for development projects.
6.	**Approvals** Whether applicants have identified a proposed project/activity or not, we need to know that you have approval to travel if your application is successful. You will be asked to upload a signed letter of support, on university or institutional letterhead, for your application and travel for the award from someone related to your studies. You may like to also ask this person to act as a referee for you (personal or academic) and this may also be used in the earlier referee section too. You will be asked what factor related to food and nutrition security is of most interest to you, so that we can see what projects may be the best fit for you.

** Applicants older than 25 may be considered if they have limited overseas work/travel experience.*