UNIVERSITY STUDENT INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Australian Consulate-General Lae, Papua New Guinea

The opportunity

The Australian Consulate-General in Lae offers university students the opportunity to gain practical experience in an overseas Australian diplomatic mission and see first-hand how Australian foreign policy is implemented.

Interns work alongside Consulate-General staff in a small team, contributing to substantive, hands-on work across its operations and taking supervised responsibility for defined projects.

In 2027, the Consulate-General will mark ten years since its establishment in Lae in 2017. Interns during this period should expect to contribute to special anniversary activities marking this milestone.

What you will do

Depending on operational priorities and the intern's skills and interests, responsibilities may include:

- researching and contributing to briefs and reporting on political, economic, trade, development and other issues;
- supporting engagement with government, business, community and other stakeholders, attending selected meetings alongside Post officers, and assisting with reporting and follow-up;
- supporting Australian business, trade and investment engagement;
- gaining exposure to Australia's development cooperation and the delivery of consular services;
- contributing to public diplomacy, communications and stakeholder outreach;
- helping plan and deliver public events, official visits and representational activities; and
- taking responsibility for defined projects and other work aligned with Post/DFAT priorities.

What you will gain

The internship provides an opportunity to:

- develop a deeper understanding of the Australia–Papua New Guinea relationship;
- build practical skills in research, analysis, briefing and professional writing;
- develop skills in stakeholder engagement, public diplomacy, project management and event delivery; and
- gain experience in a cross-cultural, international professional environment.

The internship may be particularly relevant to students pursuing studies or careers in international relations, public policy, economics, international development, business and trade, communications, law or related fields.

For more information on the kind of activities undertaken at Post, view our Facebook page.

Who we are looking for

Applicants should be currently enrolled at a recognised Australian or Papua New Guinean university and demonstrate:

- a strong academic record and intellectual curiosity;
- an interest in Australia's international engagement, particularly with Papua New Guinea and the Pacific;
- strong written and oral communication skills;
- sound research, analytical and organisational skills;
- initiative, flexibility and good judgement;
- professionalism and discretion;
- the ability to work effectively in a small team; and
- cultural awareness and respect.

Knowledge of Papua New Guinea or the Pacific is desirable but not essential.

Duration and practical requirements

Internships run for a **minimum of three months** and would not be expected to exceed six months.

Applicants are responsible for arranging and meeting the costs of their own:

- travel to and from Lae, Papua New Guinea and accommodation (where applicable);
- comprehensive travel and medical insurance for the full period of the placement (usually provided through university arrangements);
- visas and immigration requirements, where applicable;
- living and other personal expenses; and
- any requirements associated with their university.

The internship is unpaid and does not constitute formal employment. The Consulate-General does not provide or fund accommodation, travel or insurance. Applicants must be at least 18 years of age.

Applicants should ensure they can meet these costs for the full placement before applying. A small stipend may be available to successful candidates but should not be relied upon as it will not cover all expenses.

The Australian Government advises travellers in Papua New Guinea to exercise a high degree of caution. Non-Papua New Guinean applicants should make themselves aware of safety and security requirements relevant to their particular circumstances and note that any transport or personal security arrangements will be the responsibility of the applicant.

Placements are subject to relevant Australian Government and Papua New Guinea immigration, security and administrative requirements.

How to apply

Applicants should provide by email to Consulate-General.Lae@dfat.gov.au no later than **9am** on **30 Nov 2026**:

1. a current CV;
2. a short statement outlining their interest in the internship, relevant skills and what they hope to gain from the experience (no more than 500 words);
3. their university course and current year of study;
4. their preferred internship dates and duration; and
5. details of any university requirements associated with the placement.

Applicants should confirm that they understand that travel, accommodation, visas (where applicable), insurance and living expenses are their own responsibility.

PNGAus Partnership
Yumi Stap Wantaim