



United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

TIMOR-LESTE SCHOLARSHIP 2010

INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS

1. Introduction

The Human Rights and Transitional Justice Section (HRTJS) of UNMIT is pleased to announce the 2010 United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) – Timor-Leste Scholarship Competition. The scholarship, funded by the OHCHR, is a competitive, merit-based scholarship open to East Timorese who meet specific selection criteria. One (1) scholarship will be awarded for a Master Programme in Human Rights at the Centre of Human Rights of the University of Essex, United Kingdom, from September 2010 to September 2011.

The objective of the scholarship competition is to identify and support the human rights education of an academically talented and practically experienced East Timorese in the field of human rights who is expected to assume leadership roles in his/her community. The Master Programme in Human Rights of the University of Essex offers multidisciplinary courses dealing with Economic, Social, Cultural, Civil and Political Rights. Living and studying abroad is also a great opportunity to obtain an understanding of a foreign culture. For more information about the Master Programme please have a look at:

http://www.essex.ac.uk/human_rights_centre/current_students/postgraduates/index.aspx

2. Scholarship Description

Description

The Scholarship is available on a competitive basis to East Timorese individuals interested in completing a Master's degree in Human Rights at the Centre of Human Rights of the University of Essex.

Provisions and Conditions

The Scholarship recipient will receive the following:

- Tuition and fees payable to the University of Essex.
- Monthly maintenance allowance for housing, food, books and incidental expenses.
- Transportation expenses to Essex and return to Timor-Leste.
- Visa fees.

Visa

Scholarship recipients are required to come on the United Kingdom student visa and are subject to all provisions of the United Kingdom student visa regulations.

The intent of the scholarship is for the participant to return to Timor-Leste upon completion of the programme and share and apply the knowledge and experience gained in the United Kingdom. After completing the academic programme, the scholarship holder must fulfil a three-year home residence obligation.

Policy on dependents

THE OHCHR is unable to provide the level of financial support that comfortably meets the needs of a family budget.

3. Application and Selection Procedures

Selection procedure

The application and selection procedure consists of the following three steps:

- Submission of completed application (for more details see below).
- A pre-selection will be conducted of applicants based on their education and work experience. These persons will be invited for an interview before an independent selection committee.
- At least, three applicants will be invited for the International English Language Testing Service (IELTS), paid by OHCHR. A score of at least 6.5 is necessary to fulfil the language requirements for the Master Programme of the University of Essex. The results of the interview and the IELTS will weigh equivalent in the determination of the selection of the candidate.

Application packet

The application packet may be obtained from the HRTJS, UNMIT, Oribigado Barracks, Dili, and the UNMIT Offices in Baucau, Maliana, and Suai. For more information in Dili, please contact, Lilit Umroyan by telephone: 00670 731 1542 or email to: umroyan@un.org. All email inquires should indicate in the subject line: "OHCHR – Timor-Leste Scholarship 2010".

Via Internet: All applications documents contained in the application packet may also be found at the following Internet site: www.unmit.org

A complete application must consist of:

1. The completed application form in English
2. Two (2) essays in English of 500 words. For essay topics, please see the form accompanying the application form.
3. Two (2) letters of academic references completed on the attached official Reference form. **Two separate forms** should be completed by a university lecturer and/or professor.

Note: It is recommended that applicants choose their referees carefully and encourage them to provide as much information as possible about the applicant.

The person completing a reference form must seal it in an envelope and sign the back of that envelope prior to giving it to the applicant for submission with their application.

4. A copy of official academic records from secondary school and university or college. An official record bears the actual signature of the registrar and the embossed seal or official stamp of the issuing institution. If official documents are in Indonesian, the institution must provide a certified English translation. Failure to obtain these academic records may result in disqualification.
5. If official high school, college or university records are unavailable because they were destroyed, please write an explanation and prepare a written statement for high school, college or university with the following information clearly printed or typed:
 - Applicant's full name
 - Name and location of the high school, college or university
 - Years attended
 - Date of graduation
 - Names of instructors
 - Brief description of all courses taken
 - Final grade

An official of the institution or an official from the Department of Education must sign this written statement.

Submission of Application

Completed applications must be submitted to UNMIT, Obrigado Barracks, Dili, by **5pm, on Monday, January 18, 2010.**

Applicants may contact Lilit UMROYAN at anytime to discuss their applications, asking questions regarding the English test, the interview, the IELTS test or any other aspect of the selection process. Telephone: 00670 731 1542 or email: umroyan@un.org. All email inquires should indicate in the subject line: "OHCHR – Timor-Leste Scholarship 2010".

Dates and Deadlines

Applicants please note these important dates:

- Closing date for applications:
 - **On Monday by 5pm, January 18, 2010** applicants must have submitted complete applications to UNMIT, Obrigado Barracks, in Dili or the UNMIT Regional Offices in Baucau, Maliana, and Suai.
- Interview:
 - **On Friday, January 29, 2010**, by 2pm, a notice will be posted at the gate of UNMIT in Dili listing the names of people who will be invited to the interview. The notice will also provide information about the time and place of the interview. The notice may also be found at www.unmit.org

- **In early February 2010** the interview will take place at UNMIT, Obrigado Barracks.
- IELTS Testing:
 - **In middle February 2010** a notice will be posted at the gate of UNMIT in Dili listing the names of three (3) people who will be invited to the IELTS. The notice may also be found at www.unmit.org
 - **Around March 2010** IELTS English testing. The venue will be communicated to the selected people.

4. Eligibility and Selection Criteria

The student admitted to the Master Programme in Human Rights at the University of Essex will pursue postgraduate degree courses.

The selection of three applicants who will have the chance to do the IELTS test will be made by an independent academic selection committee.

Please note the following important eligibility and selection criteria:

- Applicants must be citizens of Timor-Leste.
- Applications must hold a first university degree in Law, Political Science, International Relations, Sociology or a related discipline.
- Preference will be given to applicants who have at least a good B degree (good upper second class honours degree).
- Work experience in the field of human rights is highly desirable and considered as a strong asset.
- Applicants must demonstrate English proficiency. Good knowledge of English language is a key element in every part of the selection procedure.
- Applicants must be available for IELTS in Dili around March 2010.
- Applicants who will be interviewed, will be reviewed according to the following criteria:
 - Motivation to undertake in-depth studies in human rights – by completing their studies and returning to Timor-Leste to make a contribution to their country's development.
 - Ability to communicate clearly in English.
 - Expected adaptability to a new environment.
 - Demonstrate ability to engage in rigorous academic work.
 - Leadership experience and/or potential