



# 2019 AGD PACIFIC LEGAL POLICY PROGRAMS INFORMATION

The Australian Attorney-General's Department (AGD) is inviting Pacific island countries to apply to participate in AGD's Pacific Legal Policy Programs in Canberra. AGD uses a competitive application process to select participants for both the Pacific Legal Policy Champions Program, and the Pacific Legal Policy Twinning Program (the Pacific Legal Policy Programs).

The Pacific Legal Policy Programs aim to build the capability of Pacific law and justice agencies to develop and implement policy to respond to criminal activity and improve community safety, contributing to regional stability and security and supporting economic growth. These programs are part of Australia's commitment to building legal capacity in the Pacific region. It complements the bilateral and regional legal assistance provided by AGD through the Pacific Police Development Program.



# The Policy Champions Program

The Policy Champions Program will be delivered in Canberra from 14 to 25 October 2019. There are seven places available on this program.

## Placement

The Policy Champions Program aims to build the capacity of Pacific law and justice officers to develop rigorous public policy proposals and enable them to be 'champions' for good policy development practices.

The intensive two-week program includes a Train-the-Trainer component where participants will be trained and supported to deliver the Pacific Legal Policy Development Course (the Course) to their home agency and across government. Participants will explore legal policy-making processes and best practice models through presentations and discussions with expert legal policy officers, subject matter experts and government stakeholders on priority policy issues from across the Australian Government and academia.

We expect successful applicants to deliver the Course to their home agency within three months of their return home and actively engage with our network of Pacific policy alumni. We also strongly encourage contributions to *Talanoa*, the Pacific Islands Law Officers' Network (PILON) newsletter, about their experience with the Program.

Our monitoring and evaluation processes are important tools to ensure the Policy Champions Program strengthens the capacity of Pacific law and justice agencies to develop sound legal policy. We will require successful applicants and their managers to complete written surveys and short interviews to help us track professional development in order to measure program effectiveness. We will also seek feedback from participants during their placement to help us identify possible improvements to the program.

## Selection Criteria

Applicants must meet the below selection criteria. They must:

- work for a law and justice agency or in a government legal policy role in a PILON member country
- have at least two years of work experience in a legal policy environment and demonstrate an interest in continuing a career in legal policy
- demonstrate how participation in the Policy Champions Program will assist them in their current role (that is, why they are a suitable participant) and how they will use these skills on their return home
- demonstrate how participation in the Policy Champions Program will assist their home country and agency improve its capacity to develop policy and legislation
- demonstrate strong initiative and personal drive
- be able to work and engage in an English language environment, and
- be committed to a two week placement in Canberra between 14 to 25 October 2019.

# The Twinning Program

The program will be delivered from 14 October to 6 December 2019. During the first two weeks, the Twinning participants will undertake the Legal Policy Champions Program. There are three places available on the Twinning Program.

## Placement

The Twinning Program provides a unique opportunity for high-potential Pacific law and justice officers to undertake a two month placement in AGD to improve their legal policy skills, and progress an identified policy project specific to their home agency.

Successful applicants will be placed and work out of AGD's offices in Barton, Canberra for eight weeks.

In addition to completing the Policy Champions Program and policy course, we will provide a rigorous training program to improve participant skills in legal policy development and legislative reform.

This will include formal training sessions and group discussions with expert legal policy officers, lawyers, drafters and academics to encourage learning.

We expect successful applicants to deliver the Course to their home agency within three months of their return home, actively engage with our network of Pacific policy alumni. We also strongly encourage contributions to *Talanoa*, the Pacific Islands Law Officers' Network (PILON) newsletter, about their experience with the Program and/or their policy project.

Our monitoring and evaluation processes are important tools to ensure the Twinning Program strengthens the capacity of Pacific law and justice agencies to develop sound legal policy. We will require successful applicants and their managers to complete written surveys and short interviews to help us track professional development in order to measure program effectiveness. We will also seek feedback from successful applicants during their placement to help us identify possible improvements to the program.

## Policy Project

Over the course of the placement AGD will work closely with successful applicants on a priority legal policy or law reform project, nominated by, and considered to be a priority for, their agency and country.

Nominated legal policy or law reform projects must have a ***crime or policing focus*** to be considered.

Projects that align with regional policy priorities of the PILON and Pacific Islands Chiefs of Police (PICP), such as combating cybercrime, sexual and gender based violence, child abuse and/or illegal drugs, will be considered favourably.

The project may be one that the applicant and home agency is already working on, or one that they intend to develop or become involved with in the near future. The project should be a matter of strategic importance and priority for the agency that the applicant is likely to be involved in progressing on return home.

Depending on the nature of the project, AGD may be able to provide remote or in-country mentoring and follow-up policy support for the project after completion of the program.

We strongly encourage applicants to look at the PILON website, including previous issues *Talanoa* ([www.pilonsec.org](http://www.pilonsec.org)), the PICP website (<https://picp.co.nz/>). Details of previous Twinning projects and

participants are also available on the Pacific Legal Policy Twinning and Policy Champions pages on the AGD website ([www.ag.gov.au](http://www.ag.gov.au)).

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you would like discuss possible projects at [Pacific@ag.gov.au](mailto:Pacific@ag.gov.au).

## **Selection criteria**

Applicants must meet the below selection criteria. They must:

- work for a law and justice agency or in a government legal policy role in a PILON member country
- have at least two years of work experience in a legal policy environment and demonstrate an interest in continuing a career in legal policy
- demonstrate how participation in the Twinning Program will assist them in their current role (that is, why they are a suitable participant) and how they will use these skills on their return home
- demonstrate how participation in the Twinning Program will assist their home country and agency improve its capacity to develop policy and legislation
- demonstrate the importance of a nominated legal policy or law reform project which is a priority for their agency that they seek to progress through the Twinning Program and explain the role they have (or intend to have) in that project
- demonstrate strong initiative and personal drive
- be able to work and engage in an English language environment, and
- be committed to a two month placement in Canberra between 14 October to 6 December 2019.

## Funding and logistical arrangements

AGD will pay for all travel and reasonable living expenses associated with each of the Programs, including:

- return economy flights between the officer's home country and Canberra
- appropriate visa cost (if applicable)
- accommodation for the period of the placement
- weekly allowance, and
- travel and medical insurance for the period of the Program/s.

Successful applicants are responsible for obtaining a valid passport and ensuring all necessary forms, including any visa applications, are correctly completed and returned on time. Participation is subject to the receipt of a visa and completing security screening from the Australian Government. Further information will be provided to successful applicants with the letter of offer.

For the Twinning Program, in order to meet the requirements of the AGD security screening process, successful applicants will need to provide a number of documents to prove their identity, education and employment to work in the department e.g. certified copies of passport, qualifications, police check, references.

## Privacy

AGD must deal with personal information in accordance with the Australian Privacy Principles (APPs), which are set out in the *Privacy Act 1988* (Cth). The APPs set out standards, rights and obligations for how we handle and maintain people's personal information. This includes how we collect, store, use and disclose personal information, as well as your rights to access or correct your personal information. The AGD Privacy Policy outlines how your personal information will be handled, including details on how you can seek access or correction of the personal information that we hold about you. The Privacy Policy also provides you with further information should you need to make a complaint about how AGD is recording and/or disclosing your personal information.

The Pacific Section of AGD collects personal information from applicants, including their personal contact details and work and education history. The Pacific Section will use this information to assess applications for the AGD Pacific Legal Policy Programs. Applicants who do not provide this information will not be selected to participate in the Programs. AGD will also use the personal information to undertake security screening and make logistical arrangements for placement of successful applicants in AGD for the Programs, as well as to identify other professional development opportunities. AGD may disclose applicants' personal information to other Australian Government entities such as the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and the Department of Home Affairs as part of the selection and placement process, the arrangement of logistics and to meet reporting obligations under Australian law.<sup>1</sup>

Further information about the AGD Privacy Policy can be found on the [AGD Website](#).

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<sup>1</sup> Australian Privacy Principle (APP) 5 – Notification of the collection of personal information

## How to apply

You can apply for either the Legal Policy Champions Program or the Legal Policy Twinning Program, or both programs by completing the Application Form. The Application Form is available for download from the AGD website, or you can email [pacific@ag.gov.au](mailto:pacific@ag.gov.au) to request a copy be sent to you.

Selection of participants is through a competitive process, with applications assessed against the selection criteria.

To apply, please send a completed and signed **Application Form** AND **current curriculum vitae (CV)** to [Pacific@ag.gov.au](mailto:Pacific@ag.gov.au)

**Applications are due by Wednesday 7 August 2019.**

All applicants will be notified in writing of the outcome of the selection process.

We strongly encourage applicants to look at the AGD website ([www.ag.gov.au](http://www.ag.gov.au)), the PILON website ([www.pilonsec.org](http://www.pilonsec.org)), and the PICP website (<https://picp.co.nz/>) to learn more about the AGD Pacific Legal Policy Programs and Australia's work in the Pacific when developing your application.

### Questions and further information

If you have any questions about your application, the application process or a proposed policy project, please email us at [Pacific@ag.gov.au](mailto:Pacific@ag.gov.au)