



A facility to deliver Australia Awards and manage alumni engagement in the Philippines

Overview

We will soon be tendering for a managing contractor to administer the Australia Awards and alumni engagement in the Philippines.

For the Australia Awards, it is expected that the managing contractor will

- › oversee and manage activities related to the up to 120 Philippine scholars sent from the Philippines to Australia each year.
- › design and implement the Short Courses component of the Australia Awards in the Philippines. Short courses could be delivered either in Australia or in-country.
- › Assist in the Australia Awards fellowship process.

For the alumni component, we are seeking a managing contractor to develop and implement a strategy for maximising our return from high profile alumni. This strategy should go beyond simply engaging and providing networking opportunities, but also include further skills development for alumni and increasing the embassy's ability to link and leverage alumni in the delivery of its other priorities.

In addition to this, the alumni role will look after basic alumni processes, such as maintaining a database, supporting events, preparing a monthly newsletter as well as developing and implementing a strategy for maximising our return from high profile alumni.

Selection process and timing

We anticipate approaching the market in early 2017, with a proposed commencement in the second half of 2017 but no later than 1 September 2017.

When we approach the market, we expect to provide very broad parameters of what we are seeking to achieve through the Australia Awards and Alumni functions and looking at what we have seen work in the Philippines and in neighbouring countries.

We will be asking the market to propose specific designs, approaches and strategies that will best deliver the outcomes we are seeking so we can fully leverage the expertise of the market in deciding the best way to proceed with this work.

For example, we are likely to seek ideas from the market on:

- › How Australia Awards short courses could be utilised better, particularly in the private sector

- › Partnerships with the private sector in delivering Australia Awards and alumni engagement
- › Increasing the linkages between our scholarships program and other areas of the embassy and better tailoring the program study areas with sectors where we can make a meaningful impact
- › Innovation in the selection, promotion and design processes for scholarships to increase the quality of candidates in both the public and private sector that ensure a better return on investment when scholars come back
- › Best practice approaches to increasing the value we get from alumni
- › Dedicated measures for empowering women and people with disability

Background

Australia Awards

Australia Awards are long term development awards administered by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. In the Philippines, this is likely to include scholarships, fellowships and short courses.

To date, in the Philippines, the role of the managing contractor has primarily focused on scholarships which aim to contribute to the long term development needs of the country in line with our aid investment plan and other strategic goals in the region. They provide opportunities for scholars from the Philippines to undertake full time study at participating Australian universities.

The study and research opportunities provided by Australia Awards Scholarships develop skills and knowledge of individuals to drive change and contribute to Philippines development outcomes.

The exact number of scholarships varies each year, but over the past few years the number has been between 60 to 120.

Alumni Engagement in the Philippines

Australian alumni are a valuable part of the Australian government's efforts to promote a stronger and more substantive bilateral relationship between the Philippines and Australia. Through their training at Australian institutions, the alumni have become living testimonials that Australia is an excellent education destination and also continue to promote partnerships between the private and public sector aimed at contributing to Philippine development.

Australia makes big investments in its education sector and attracts a large number of international students. In 2014-2015, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) invested \$372.2 million in Australia Awards. Austrade Philippines reports that about 10,000 Filipinos are currently studying in Australia, with student enrolment increasing to 6,300 students in 2015 and a 100 percent increase in the last five years.

This information is provided for planning purposes only and it does not represent solicitation or constitute a request for proposal, nor is it a commitment to purchase or tender for any described services. The scale, scope and focus of any proposed program may change at any time and is subject to formal approval by the Australian and Philippine Governments before any procurement process will commence. Should a procurement commence, we anticipate commencing in early 2017. This information is subject to delays, revision or cancellations.