



## AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSION SOLOMON ISLANDS

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**13 January 2020**

### **38 more Australia Awards scholars set to study in 2020**

Some of the 38 Solomon Islanders selected to receive prestigious Australia Awards scholarships for study commencing in 2020 have already begun departing Solomon Islands.

This year, 28 new scholars will commence study at Australian universities while another 10 will study at universities in the Pacific. Fifty per cent of the scholars are women. They will join more than 100 other Solomon Islanders who are already studying overseas under the Australia Awards program.

Deputy Australian High Commissioner Sally-Anne Vincent saw off the first group of scholars at Henderson International Airport last week, and encouraged them to make the most of the opportunity.

“Whether you will study in Australia or in the Pacific, I urge you to engage with the local culture and build friendships with people from all over the world. I encourage you to be good ambassadors for your family and your country,” she said.

Ms Vincent also encouraged the students to put every effort into their studies and make a positive contribution to the development of Solomon Islands when they return.

Australia is proud to have offered Australia Awards scholarships to Solomon Islanders since the 1980s.

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For media enquiries: Australian High Commission Solomon Islands Media Unit,  
Phone 21561 ext. 139, [SIMediaUnit@dfat.gov.au](mailto:SIMediaUnit@dfat.gov.au)

**(PHOTOS and captions overleaf)**



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*Deputy Australian High Commissioner Sally-Anne Vincent (centre) and colleagues farewell Australia Awards scholars*