

**Call for applications for
scholarships to undertake
postgraduate studies in Customs
Administration at Charles Sturt
University commencing February
2024**

To support the capacity of CARIFORUM States to implement the CARIFORUM-EU Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA), the CARICOM Secretariat with the financial assistance of the EU, has launched a project entitled “**Consultancy for Capacity Building in Competition, Public Procurement and Customs and Trade Facilitation**”. This project is being implemented by a consortium led by OCA Global Consulting and Technical Advisory Service S.L.U. (Spain) and which includes DMI (France) and Institute of Export & International Trade (UK).

On behalf of the consortium, **OCA Global CTA invites qualified CARIFORUM nationals to apply for one (1) of eight (8) available scholarships** for studies at **Charles Sturt University in Australia** leading to the award of a **Graduate Certificate in Customs Administration**. This postgraduate programme has been developed and is delivered by the **Centre for Customs and Excise Studies (CCES) in the United Kingdom (UK)**. The programme is professionally accredited by the **World Customs Organisation (WCO)**. It is an **online** programme which can be completed on a **full-time basis in six (6) months** or on a **part-time basis in one year**. Each scholarship will **cover all academic fees and the cost of all approved course materials**.

To be eligible to apply for a scholarship, candidates must:

- (i) Be a **national of a CARIFORUM State** (Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, The Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago);
- (ii) **Currently be employed with the government** of their respective CARIFORUM State in the fields of Customs administration, enforcement or management;
- (iii) **Be available** to commence the programme of study at Charles Sturt University in February 2024;
- (iv) At a minimum, **possess an undergraduate degree or its equivalent from an internationally recognised university or tertiary institution or alternatively, possess a minimum of three to five years appropriate work experience in Customs;** and
- (v) Be able to demonstrate such **proficiency in English** as will enable them to complete a programme of academic study at the postgraduate level in English.

To apply for a scholarship, interested persons are required to **submit the following documents as one (1) PDF file via email to CFEUPROJECT2023@gmail.com no later than 11.59 pm Eastern Caribbean Time on Monday 13 November 2023:**

1. **A personal statement not exceeding 750 words** indicating the applicant’s reasons for applying for the scholarship and outlining how the applicant believes the award of the scholarship will contribute to the applicant’s ability to support the development of capacity in Customs and trade facilitation in their respective CARIFORUM State;
2. **Curriculum Vitae** indicating the applicant’s educational qualifications, employment history and current position;

3. **Documentary evidence** of the applicant's current employment in the area of Customs administration, enforcement or management; and
4. **Copies of all relevant educational qualifications.**

A **Selection Committee** established by the CARIFORUM Directorate of the CARICOM Secretariat will create a shortlist of candidates. Only shortlisted candidates will be invited to a **selection interview**. Shortlisted candidates and final awardees will be selected with a view to achieving **gender balance** and **geographical diversity** amongst qualified applicants. As a condition of the award of a scholarship, each awardee must **consent to be bonded to remain in the service of their national government**, for a period of three years upon successful competition of the postgraduate programme.

More information about the Graduate Certificate programme in Customs Administration at Charles Sturt University can be obtained from the **programme website** at:

<https://study.csu.edu.au/courses/graduate-certificate-customs-administration>