**Prime Minister’s Scholarships for Asia - Criteria for Assessing Individual Applications**

**The goals of the PMSA are to:**

* strengthen New Zealand institutions’ connections with their counterparts in key Asian countries
* promote understanding of the strength and quality of New Zealand’s education system and raise awareness in Asia of New Zealand as a preferred education destination
* improve the international skills of the New Zealand workforce
* strengthen people to people connections between New Zealand and countries in Asia through participants building lifelong friendships and networks
* strengthen New Zealand’s ability to engage with key Asia trading partners
* improve New Zealanders’ understanding of Asia business practice and culture

**Importantly, proposed programmes must be** **demonstrably linked to New Zealand’s trade or economic agenda in Asia.**

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| **Criteria 1. The alignment of the candidate’s programme with scholarship goals** (mark out of 20, where 20 is high) | **Criteria 2. The quality of the proposed programme** (mark out of 10, where 10 is high) | **Criteria 3. The quality of the Candidate – The candidate’s personal attributes** (mark out of 20, where 20 is high) |
| Candidate’s application* Shows a clear understanding of all of the PMSA aims/goals and why they are important
* Clearly outlines how they, and their programme links to New Zealand’s education, trade and economic agenda in the region
* Outlines the benefits of proposed programme to individual in the short and long term
* Shows that this programme links with their career aspirations.
 | Candidate’s application* Quality of the course content and awarding institution is high, or quality of internship programme and internship placement organisation is high
* Programme represents good value for money
 | * Candidate demonstrates personal attributes that means they will represent both New Zealand and their home institution positively, particularly the value of their New Zealand education experience
* Candidate’s referee reports positively support application
* Overall impression of candidate is highly favourable
* Candidate has the ability to succeed in their chosen programme
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