

Interested in working AND studying overseas?

Consider Pegasus – International Scholarships for Young Lawyers

Most of you may have encountered or heard from others about English lawyers travelling to Australia, other common law jurisdictions and even to the European Community to work as lawyers.

Well, let me be the one to give you the good news. Young Australian lawyers also have the opportunity to travel to England and gain three months' work experience with either one of the major London law firms (Norton Rose, Paisner & Co, Clifford Chance) or with barristers chambers, or both. But wait, there's more! They can do so whilst also having the privilege of further studying in their chosen area of law at one of England's leading universities. This opportunity is available through scholarships.

The source of this benefit is the Pegasus Scholarships Trust. The Pegasus Scholarship Trust was first established in 1987 under the Chairmanship of the Right Honourable, Lord Goff of Chieveley. It operates under the auspices of the Cambridge Commonwealth Trust and the Cambridge Overseas Trust, which in turn, were established in 1982 by the University of Cambridge, under the Chairmanship of His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales.

These trusts were set up to provide financial assistance for outstanding students from overseas who, without help, would be unable to take up places at Cambridge or Oxford. A total of up to six scholarships are offered each year to young Australian lawyers by the Cambridge Commonwealth Trust in collaboration with the Pegasus Scholarships Trust and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

Successful scholars live at London House and receive an allowance to assist in accommodation and living expenses. In addition the Trust arranges for the scholars to visit various noble legal institutions which are the fount of English justice, including the House of Lords and the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council.

Candidates who apply for a scholarship from the Trusts must have first gained by their own efforts the offer of a place at the University of Cambridge or University of Oxford in the normal way. The place which they must gain must be to read for the Master of Law (LLM) degree at Cambridge or BCL at Oxford. It is only these candidates who are eligible for and will be considered for an award of the Scholarship. Young lawyers must

keep in mind that the Trusts do not admit students to either of the universities or to any colleges of a university.

In submitting a single application for financial assistance, candidates who have obtained a placement will be considered for all the awards for which they are eligible through the Trusts.

Since there tend to be many more applicants than there are scholarships, it is important that those who seek admission should not solely rely on a grant of scholarship but also pursue every avenue of possible financial assistance including the UK Government awards and College awards as well as other sources in Australia.

Closing dates for the receipt of applications for scholarships are sometimes more than a year in advance of the applicant's intended starting date at the university. First term commences in September each year. So potential applicants are advised to apply for the scholarships from the trusts in good time. If they are offered a place in the university too late for them to be offered a scholarship for that year, it is open to them to seek deferment of their admission so as to apply for awards for the following year. Young lawyers should note that not all university faculties will grant deferment, but prefer instead to consider applicants afresh in the light of the competition for places that will prevail in the following year.

For those who are interested and for further details regarding the scholarships contact:

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