Applications have opened for the annual Victorian International Education Awards that celebrate the accomplishments and contributions of Victoria’s best and brightest international students.

Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade Philip Dalidakis today officially launched the awards and encouraged students to get involved by submitting an application to have their hard work recognised.

Now in its fifth year, the awards feature seven student awards and one Premier’s Award for International Student of the Year. Provider Awards will be presented on a biennial basis from 2018.

In 2016 the Andrews Labor Government proudly presented Applied Chemistry PhD student, Jessica Pandohee, with the Premier’s Award in recognition of her volunteer work with a number of student support organisations and environmental conservation groups.

International Student Award winners receive a scholarship of $10,000 to contribute to their studies at a Victorian institution, while the recipient of the Premier’s Award receives an additional $10,000 towards their studies.

Shortlisted applicants for 2017 will also have the chance to participate in professional development training run by Study Melbourne, which will include a mixture of personal development and leadership skills.

Applications for the Victorian International Education Awards are open until midnight on 23 August 2017.

Award categories for 2017 are:

- International Student of the Year – English Language Training
- International Student of the Year – Vocation Education and Training
- International Student of the Year – Higher Education
- International Student of the Year – Research
- International Student of the Year – Regional
- International Alumnus of the Year
- Victorian Student of the Year – Internationalisation
- Premier’s Award – International Student of the Year

For more information about the awards and application process, please visit studymelbourne.vic.gov.au/about-study-melbourne/programs-and-services/victorian-international-education-awards.

Quotes attributable to the Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade Philip Dalidakis

“Victoria’s international students are doing incredible things and we’re lucky to have them, so it’s important we give them the recognition they deserve.”

“These awards are an important part of our world class international education sector - a sector that is worth $7.1 billion to Victoria’s economy and supports over 30,000 Victorian jobs.”