



PIDA
AUSTRALASIAN
PACKAGING
INNOVATION & DESIGN
AWARDS 2026

ABA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
**DIPLOMA IN PACKAGING
TECHNOLOGY**



**Internationally recognised as the premier qualification
in the packaging industry.**



Criteria

APPLICATIONS CLOSE 27 February 2026

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**Australasian
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ANZ EXCLUSIVE ENTRY TO



**WORLDSTAR
GLOBAL
PACKAGING
AWARDS**

2026 ABA SCHOLARSHIP

Diploma in Packaging Technology

The Australasian Bioplastics Association (ABA), in collaboration with the Australasian Institute of Packaging (AIP), are pleased to announce that submissions are open for the annual Scholarship program which will enable one lucky person in Australia and/or New Zealand the opportunity to complete a Diploma in Packaging Technology.

In addition, the AIP will provide the winning candidate complimentary attendance at 3x training courses from the Institute's education portfolio.)

**All training courses to be attended whilst enrolled in the Diploma in Packaging Technology.*

Internationally recognised as the premier qualification in the packaging industry.

The Diploma in Packaging Technology is a Level 5 PIABC, 51-credit foundation degree-level qualification that prepares students to take responsibility for packaging operations at any level through the supply chain and can also lead to higher level study.

The course has been designed to take in to account the experiences of training through the pandemic and the results of research undertaken on the ideal learner journey. The course is comprised of short, bite-sized modules that you can study at a time and pace to suit you on a variety of devices.



WHY STUDY THE DIPLOMA IN PACKAGING TECHNOLOGY?

Completion of the Diploma in Packaging Technology demonstrates your commitment to your career and to the industry.

Students who successfully complete the Diploma in Packaging Technology are equipping themselves for progression within the packaging industry to a position where they can assume responsibility for packaging in a company at any point in the supply chain.

Networking opportunities abound, providing the opportunity to draw on the experience and knowledge of others.



“ I see undertaking the Diploma in Packaging Technology will help me to become a more well-rounded packaging professional. I recognise that I have areas where my knowledge can be improved and believe that the scholarship will assist me in developing my technical skills. ”

Angela Hanson AAIP

2026 ABA SCHOLARSHIP

Diploma in Packaging Technology

WHO IS THE COURSE AIMED AT?

Diploma in Packaging Technology students come from a variety of backgrounds and disciplines, but they all share a desire to broaden and deepen their knowledge and understanding of the packaging industry.

The Diploma is a Level 5 qualification (foundation degree level) so learners should expect a challenging and rigorous course that explores the packaging industry in detail. The AIP would recommend that those wishing to undertake the course to have a minimum of an undergraduate degree in sciences, food technology, engineering or industrial design; or to have previously graduated from the Certificate in Packaging course.

Practical and industry experience can be used as an alternative to formal qualifications and all learners ideally come with good communication, numeracy and IT skills.

BENEFITS TO THE BUSINESS

- Drive innovation and efficiency in your business
- Staff motivation
- Staff equipped to drive development and innovation
- Best practice to maximise profit
- Access the experience of the industry

BENEFITS TO THE INDIVIDUAL

- A recognised professional qualification
- Add value to your business, prove your worth
- Great networking opportunities
- Broaden and deepen your knowledge and skills
- Membership of a chartered professional organisation



“The Diploma in Packaging Technology gives the students a good perspective in the different packaging technologies. It gives a good understanding of the different types of packaging especially for those who have little educational background on packaging. With the new knowledge, I hope to inspire others to look at a more holistic view on packaging and how the packaging materials and technologies interact with each other.”

Leanne Tan Dip.Pkg.Tech. MAIP



HOW IS THE DIPLOMA IN PACKAGING COURSE STRUCTURED?

UNIT 1: PACKAGING IN TODAY'S WORLD

Unit 1 introduces the students to the subject of packaging by examining what packaging is used for and what it does for the product and the user, both within its broad social, economic and marketing context, and meeting its specific functional, environmental and aesthetic requirements.

By the end of this unit students should understand:

1. The role, functions and impact of packaging in the world today.
2. The structure and interactions of elements in the supply chain from raw material to end use and disposal.
3. How active and intelligent packaging technologies can enhance traditional packaging methodologies.
4. How packaging complies with regulatory practices.
5. The factors that impact upon the environmental sustainability of packaging.
6. How packaging communicates and satisfies consumer needs.

UNIT 2: PACKAGING MATERIALS

Unit 2 allows the students to study the main packaging materials in terms of their raw materials, manufacturing and conversion processes, and how materials can be used together.

By the end of this unit students should understand:

1. The properties and manufacturing of glass packaging
2. The properties and manufacturing of metal packaging
3. The properties and manufacturing of fibre-based packaging
4. The properties and manufacturing of plastics packaging
5. Adhesives and adhesive properties
6. The manufacture and use of labels
7. The application and use of closure systems
8. How materials are combined to achieve the required properties
9. Printing and decoration processes used in packaging



“Undertaking the Diploma in Packaging degree will enable me to truly fill in the knowledge voids and become closer to my professional goals and personal aspirations. Once completing the Diploma I would like to be seen as an emerging leader in this industry and engage in discussing problems relating to the Elimination of Food Waste and Packaging Waste.”

Mark Saturnino MAIP



UNIT 3: PACKAGING PROCESSES

In Unit 3, students will study packaging machinery and packaging line operations in detail.

The Unit also introduces the students to many of the management functions associated with the design, development, production and use of packaging materials and components. These include design, decoration, line operations and quality systems.

By the end of this unit students should understand:

1. The Packaging design and development process.
2. Packaging machinery and line operations.
3. Quality and business management in packaging.

HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE TO COMPLETE?

This qualification has a recommended total learning time of approximately 510 hours split across working your way through the course content, revising, sitting the exams and researching and writing your project. The AIP expects the students to take between two and three years to complete the qualification. The AIP and the ABA expect the winner of the scholarship to complete the degree and fulfill the agreement to undertake the scholarship..



“ Being provided the opportunity to enrol in the Diploma in Packaging Technology degree I believe that it will broaden and deepen my knowledge and understanding of packaging and solidify my years of experience within the food and beverage industry.

I would like the degree to provide me with the foundations, courage, and heart to make tough calls, and to deliver long-term environmental and sustainable business objectives and legislative requirements. ” Tony Crowther AAIP



SCHOLARSHIP CRITERIA

THE ABA SCHOLARSHIP IS OPEN TO CANDIDATES WHO CAN SATISFY THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:

- ✓ The candidate must be currently employed in materials and/or packaging in Australia and/or New Zealand. (This can be in any industry eg: Food, Beverage, Pharmaceutical etc)
- ✓ The candidate must be able to demonstrate an interest in materials and packaging. Please include why you believe you are suitable for the scholarship and what difference this will make to your career.
- ✓ The candidate needs to be supported by the applicant's company for the period of the course - three years. (The course should be completed within three years or less by a graduate).
- ✓ The candidate must be willing to participate in a selection interview via the telephone/or Zoom.
- ✓ A Undergraduate Degree would be highly regarded in the candidate's application (industrial, science, mechanical, electrical, chemical, food, design, engineering etc.). All candidates must provide authenticated proof of qualifications.
- ✓ All candidates must provide written support and acknowledgment from their company.
- ✓ All candidates must provide 2 x references as to their competency.
- ✓ The candidate must be an Australian or New Zealand citizen or resident.

OTHER CRITERIA REQUIRED FOR ALL CANDIDATES:

- ☐ The ABA/AIP shall require half yearly reports on progress of the awardee.
- ☐ The ABA/AIP shall be free to use the awardees photograph and approved biography for a period of up to 10 years for the purpose of publicising the Scholarship. The awardee will make themselves available for media and public relations opportunities to assist the promotion of the scholarship program.
- ☐ The awardee will need to undertake, on completion, a presentation based on the dissertation requirement in the Diploma course to the members of both the ABA and the AIP.



WINNERS ANNOUNCEMENT

Winners will be announced at the 2026 Australasian Packaging Innovation & Design Awards ceremony on the Tuesday 28 July, Aviary, Crown Complex, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia.



**BUILD YOUR PACKAGING CAREER ON
FIRM FOUNDATIONS WITH THE AIP**

MAKE **2025** THE **YEAR YOU INVEST** IN YOUR **CAREER.**

ASK THE **AIP** HOW...

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**Australasian Institute
of Packaging**