

Hye Young Youn (Grace)

Country: Korea

Course: Advanced Diploma of Accounting

Institute: TAFE NSW - Sydney Institute, Ultimo College

Scholarship: Endeavour Scholarships and Fellowships



Travelling from the Republic of South Korea to Australia to undertake her 2008 Endeavour Award, Hye Young Youn (Grace) felt like a pioneer. Without any friends or relatives in Australia, she was nervous about what lay ahead.

However, Grace quickly realised that her Endeavour Vocational Education and Training (VET) Award gave her a great opportunity to study an Advanced Diploma of Accounting at TAFE NSW - Sydney Institute, Ultimo College.

Experiencing many cultures in the classroom

The course includes business computing, tax procedures, accounting systems and corporation laws. Grace enjoys the multicultural mix of her classes - "I not only have Australian classmates, but also peers from Bangladesh, India, Vietnam and South Africa" - and appreciates the chance to broaden her understanding of other countries and cultures.

Practical learning for professional recognition

One of the great attractions of her course of study at TAFE NSW is the focus on practical accounting rather than just theory. Grace strongly believes that when she returns to Korea in 2010, she will be able to apply what she has learned in her professional work.

"I believe this qualification will support me to be recognised as a licensed professional accountant in Korea. While much of the content is fundamentally in an Australian context, it gives me an excellent opportunity to learn Australian tax principles for comparison with Korea and other countries."

Endeavour Awards - opportunities for international links

"I strongly recommend an Endeavour Award, which is a prestigious award. I have been given the chance to study in Australia's well-organised facilities and develop long-term relationships with many highly qualified academics and professionals."

While somewhat disappointed that she does not have 'kangaroos jumping about in the backyard' as she had expected, Grace is thoroughly enjoying her Australian education experience.

The Endeavour Awards are the Australian Government's internationally competitive, merit-based program which provides opportunities for citizens of the Asia-Pacific, Middle East, Europe and the Americas to undertake study, research and professional development in Australia. Awards are also available for Australians to do similar programs abroad.

For more information about Endeavour Scholarships and Fellowships go to www.studyintafe.edu.au/scholarships