

Te Poutoko Ora a Kiwa | Centre for Pacific & Global Health Doctoral Scholarship

Faculty: All

Applicable study: PhD/Doctorate

Closing date: 3rd July 2023

Tenure: 36 months

For: Assistance with study

Number on offer: Two

Value: Up to $33,0000 pa for PhD/Doctorate study plus compulsory tuition fees

# Description

Te Poutoko Ora a Kiwa is a newly established University of Auckland Research Centre that focuses on collaborative research and action to address ‘wicked’ societal health challenges and promote health equity. Our four key areas of research are of particular importance to the Pacific region and Aotearoa New Zealand. These are: noncommunicable diseases (inclusive of mental health and sensory health); health impacts of the climate crisis; pandemic preparedness; and the health of children and young people. To address these issues, we take a transdisciplinary approach that promotes Pacific values, knowledge and priorities.

Our two key goals are to deliver high quality research to have a positive impact on our Pacific communities globally; and to foster a culture of learning through active engagement in transdisciplinary teamwork.

These doctoral scholarships align with our two key goals and our **strategic objectives**:

1. Develop Pacific research leadership and promote Pacific-led research at a global level.
2. Provide training opportunities to develop active global health contributors and leaders.
3. Undertake translational research which addresses regional health priorities and global targets.
4. Co-create research that generates evidence for actionable knowledge.

We therefore invite emerging scholars from the Pacific region and the globe to apply for this scholarship and work with us as a doctoral candidate within a transdisciplinary and co-creation model.

For any further information please contact Nalei Taufa (l.taufa@auckland.ac.nz)

# Application and Selection process

- **Application is made by emailing Nalei Taufa (****n.taufa@auckland.ac.nz****) by 3rd July 2023.**

- Your application must include:

 - CV

- Completed Initial Statement of Research Intent (template at the end of this document)

- Please ensure a supervisor is currently accredited with the University of Auckland.

- A Selection Committee assesses the applications based on the following criteria:

 - The student must have Pacific indigenous ancestry

 - The student must contribute to one of our four key research areas, our goals, and strategic objectives

 - A supervisor must be affiliated to Te Poutoko Ora a Kiwa

 - The student must consider how the research contributes to Pacific indigenous scholarship and how the research will engage with Pacific communities.

- The Scholarship is awarded by the University of Auckland Council on the recommendation of the Selection Committee

# Regulations

1. The Scholarship shall be known as the Te Poutoko Ora a Kiwa University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship
2. The Te Poutoko Ora a Kiwa University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship provides a tax-free stipend of up to $33,000 per annum in 2023, with an annual CPI adjustment to the stipend value, for up to 36 months full-time equivalent (FTE) for awardees enrolled in a PhD, MD, DClinPsy, or DocFA, or for up to 24 months FTE for awardees enrolled in the research component of an EdD or DHSc. In addition, the Student Services Fee and compulsory tuition fees for prescribed study for the doctoral programme will be covered (for up to 36 months FTE for the PhD, MD, DClinPsy or DocFA; for up to 24 months FTE for the research component of an EdD or DHSc) for domestic and international awardees who are eligible to study under the domestic fees policy (See Note II). The single student Health Insurance compulsory charge (as detailed on the tuition fees invoice) is also covered for the duration of the Scholarship for international students. Part-time awardees will be paid pro-rata for up to 72 months.
3. To be eligible for Scholarship consideration, an applicant must be i) a Pacific student (see Note II), ii) a citizens or permanent resident of New Zealand, and iii) enrolled, or enrolling, full-time or part-time in a PhD or Doctorate at the University of Auckland Waipapa Taumata Rau. A grade point average (GPA) or grade point equivalent (GPE) of at least 6.50 in their most recent qualifying programme for study is required for Scholarship consideration (see Notes III to IV).
4. Application for the Te Poutoko Ora a Kiwa University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship must be made as part of the application for the doctoral programme.
5. In order for the applicant to be considered for the award of a Te Poutoko Ora a Kiwa University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship, Regulations 5 and 6 and the domestic fees eligibility requirement of Regulation 10 must be satisfied, and the Board of Graduate Studies (or delegate) must have determined that the applicant may be admitted to a Waipapa Taumata Rau | University of Auckland doctoral programme.
6. Subject to Regulations 7 and 8, applicants can only be considered for the award of a Te Poutoko Ora a Kiwa University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship prior to receiving their offer of a place in the doctoral programme.
7. Applicants who already have a doctorate are not eligible for consideration for a Te Poutoko Ora a Kiwa University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship.
8. Applicants who transfer from a Waipapa Taumata Rau | University of Auckland research masters to a PhD degree will be considered for this Scholarship during the next available application round (See Notes III and VIII).
9. Applicants who transfer from another doctorate and who do not already hold a University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship will be considered for this Scholarship during the next available application round (See Note III).
10. The Scholarship may be awarded for full-time enrolment in the PhD, MD, DClinPsy, DocFA or the research component of the EdD or DHSc. The Scholarship may also be awarded to domestic applicants for whom compassionate and compelling circumstances make part-time enrolment preferable (See Note IX).
11. The Scholarship is tenable by domestic and international students who are eligible to pay domestic fees (see Note II), and who meet all the requirements of these regulations.
12. The Scholarship will be awarded by the University of Auckland Council on the recommendation of either i) the Dean of Graduate Studies (or nominee) directly; or ii) the Dean of Graduate Studies (or nominee), after advice from the relevant Selection Committee. The recommendation of the Dean of Graduate Studies (or nominee) is final and discretionary after taking into account all factors (including factors external to the particular student concerned). For the avoidance of doubt, the following Regulations 12 to 15 are expressly subject to this Regulation.
13. A Selection Committee, comprised of one of the Te Poutoko Ora a Kiwa Directors (or nominee), Deputy-Dean Faculty of Medical & Health Science (or nominee) and Director of ORSI (or nominee), will consider applicants nominated by University Research Centres (URCs) in accordance with the URC’s annual allocation and their strategic objectives and associated selection criteria as outlined on their public website.
14. Applicants who have been offered a Scholarship must meet all requirements for admission into their intended programme and all requirements of their Scholarship offer to take up the Scholarship. No payments will be made until all requirements have been met (See Note XIII).
15. Scholarships must be taken up by one of the dates prescribed in the letter of award, otherwise the Scholarship offer will be forfeited (See Notes III and XIII).
16. Te Poutoko Ora a Kiwa University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship payments will commence on the initial date of enrolment in the doctoral programme and will provide support for up to 36 months of full-time study (See Note XIV). A further six months of scholarship funding, subject to Scholarships Committee approval, may be available to candidates undertaking a PhD, MD, DClinPsy or DocFA. These durations shall be pro-rated for part-time scholarship awardees.
17. Holders of the Scholarship may apply to suspend their Scholarship for up to 12 months in total during the tenure of

their award (See Notes XV and XVI).

1. An awardee retains their Scholarship if they receive approval from the Board of Graduate Studies (or delegate) to change supervisors, topic, or academic unit, or to transfer to another Waipapa Taumata Rau | University of Auckland doctoral programme. Such changes have no impact on the period of tenure of the Scholarship.
2. The amount of additional and paid work a Scholar may undertake either inside or outside the University shall not exceed 750 hours per 12-month period of scholarship tenure (See Note IX).
3. Any additional tuition fee, stipend or top-up scholarship received from any other award or scholarship must be declared to the Scholarships Office upon receipt of the offer from the awarding body or receipt of the Te Poutoko Ora a Kiwa University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship offer, whichever is later (See Note XXII).
4. Scholarships Committee will determine if additional tuition fee, living stipend or top-up scholarships may be co- tenured with a Te Poutoko Ora a Kiwa University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship (See Notes XVII to XIX).
5. If a Scholarship holder is required to undertake an internship as part of their doctoral programme, or chooses to participate in an approved Waipapa Taumata Rau | University of Auckland internship while remaining enrolled in the doctoral programme, and receives an income from that internship that is equal to or in excess of the stipend of the Te Poutoko Ora a Kiwa University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship, the Scholarship will reduce to fees-only for the period of scholarship tenure that coincides with the internship.
6. If a Scholarship holder is required to undertake an internship as part of their doctoral programme, or chooses to participate in an approved Waipapa Taumata Rau | University of Auckland internship or industry placement while remaining enrolled in the doctoral programme, and no income is received from that activity, the Te Poutoko Ora a Kiwa University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship stipend may continue to be provided for the duration of the activity. If the income received is less than the stipend value of the Te Poutoko Ora a Kiwa University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship for the period of the internship, Scholarships Committee may agree to pay a partial stipend to bring the total net income to the current Te Poutoko Ora a Kiwa University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship stipend value for the period.
7. A Scholarship may be withdrawn at any stage of offer or tenure if incorrect, false, or misleading information is provided by the applicant to the University as part of the programme and scholarship application to the University, or relevant information is withheld. This includes circumstances where the information is unrelated to the assessment in offering the Scholarship.
8. Payments under the terms of this Scholarship remain tax-free under existing legislation as long as they are used for the payment of costs associated with an awardee’s programme of study and/or to assist the awardee with living costs while studying. Failure to comply with this regulation will result in the termination of the Scholarship.
9. Appeals are not permitted against any advice, nomination (or absence of nomination), recommendation or decision issued by the University of Auckland Council or by the Dean of Graduate Studies (or nominee) or by a duly constituted Selection Committee or URC regarding the award of a Te Poutoko Ora a Kiwa University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship. URCs and Scholarship Selection Committees have discretion in the judgement of the merits of applicants against strategic objectives and associated selection criteria when providing their advice and/or nominations to the Dean of Graduate Studies.
10. Notes [I]–[XXIV] below are deemed to be Regulations.

# Notes

1. The tax-free status of this Scholarship is under current legislation. The University of Auckland cannot guarantee this tax-free outcome.
2. To be eligible to pay domestic PhD fees, awardees who are permanent residents of New Zealand or Australia, or citizens of countries other than New Zealand, may only be resident outside of New Zealand for a maximum total of twelve months over the period of their enrolment in their doctoral degree and only for the purposes of conducting research.
3. Pacific applicants are defined as citizens or permanent residents of New Zealand who are of indigenous Pacific descent from any of the following islands: Samoa, American Samoa, Tonga, Cook Islands, Niue, Tokelau, Fiji, Rotuma, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, New Caledonia, Papua New Guinea, Kiribati, Tuvalu, Palau, Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Wallis and Futuna, Hawaii, French Polynesia, Rapanui (Easter Island).
4. Application for programme, scholarship offer, and enrolment dates are as follows in Notes IV to VII. The University reserves the right to determine an application during a later round if it is not possible to conclude the matter in accordance with the dates specified in Notes IV to VII.
5. Where a master’s thesis student is approved to transfer to a PhD and is subsequently awarded a Te Poutoko Ora a Kiwa University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship, the tenure of the Scholarship will conclude up to 36 months FTE after the start date of the research component of their master’s degree, with a possible extension of up to six further months (See Note XVII). Masters transfer candidates do not receive backdated stipend or tuition fees for the period of their master’s enrolment that is transferred to a PhD enrolment.
6. Awardees of a Te Poutoko Ora a Kiwa University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship are normally required to be enrolled on a full-time basis. Full-time is defined as 40 hours of doctoral work per week for 47 weeks a year. However, domestic candidates for whom compassionate and compelling circumstances make part-time enrolment preferable may apply to the Scholarships Committee, through the Scholarships Office, to hold a scholarship on a part-time basis, pro-rated. Compassionate and compelling circumstances mean circumstances that are generally beyond the candidate’s control and have an impact on their ability to study full-time. For example: serious illness or injury, pregnancy or childbirth, care responsibilities for whānau, and traumatic experiences. Part-time is defined as 20 hours per week of doctoral work. Candidates will not be granted permission to hold a Te Poutoko Ora a Kiwa University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship on a part-time basis if they are undertaking full-time paid employment or substantial part-time employment. Candidates who hold a scholarship on a part-time basis are subject to the same employment restrictions as full-time scholarship holders (i.e. 750 hours per 12 month period) and are required to change to full- time enrolment if their circumstances mean they no longer qualify to hold the scholarship on a part-time basis.
7. To be deemed a qualifying programme for the purposes of scholarship consideration, an individual programme must satisfy Regulation 13a and b of the PhD Statute or the equivalent admission regulations for the relevant named doctorate respectively.
8. To be deemed a qualifying programme for the purposes of scholarship consideration, an individual programme must satisfy Regulation 13a and b of the PhD Statute or the equivalent admission regulations for the relevant named doctorate respectively. Pacific applicants are defined as peoples of indigenous Pacific descent from any of the following islands: Samoa, American Samoa, Tonga, Cook Islands, Niue, Tokelau, Fiji (iTaukei), Rotuma, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, New Caledonia, Papua New Guinea, Kiribati, Tuvalu, Palau, Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Wallis and Futuna, Hawaii, French Polynesia, Rapanui (Easter Island), Pitcairn Islands, Nauru, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands.
9. Where there is no applicant sufficiently aligned with strategic objectives in a given round, the Faculty/LSRI reserves the right to not make a recommendation to the Dean of Graduate Studies.
10. To take up the scholarship means to commence doctoral enrolment and the tenure of the scholarship.
11. Where a Te Poutoko Ora a Kiwa University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship is held at the time of conclusion of doctoral enrolment or withdrawal from the doctoral programme or termination of the awardee’s doctoral candidature, tenure of the Scholarship will terminate, effective on the date determined by the Scholarships Committee.
12. An additional 12-month parental-leave suspension may be considered where the holder becomes a parent during their tenure of the Scholarship.
13. In exceptional circumstances Scholarships Committee may approve a suspension of this Scholarship beyond the suspension periods stated in Regulation 21 and Note XV. Applications must be made in writing to Scholarships Office.
14. A Te Poutoko Ora a Kiwa University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship may not be held concurrently with any other doctoral scholarship funded by Waipapa Taumata Rau | University of Auckland (including scholarships funded by faculties, LSRIs and URCs) or with any postgraduate scholarship or grant awarded by the Universities New Zealand Scholarships Committee, or by a foreign government or agency. As per Note XXII, awardees must notify the Scholarships Office of any change in their funding status.
15. Where Scholarships Committee approves co-tenure, the combined stipend may not exceed 150% of the Te Poutoko Ora a Kiwa University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship stipend. For the avoidance of doubt, support that is not for the purposes of living costs is excluded from this calculation. For example, a grant to cover research costs or professional development would not have any impact on the Te Poutoko Ora a Kiwa University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship stipend.
16. The Te Poutoko Ora a Kiwa University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship stipend may be reduced in order to meet the requirements of Note XVIII.
17. Applicants who have been offered a Te Poutoko Ora a Kiwa University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship, and decline an offer of place, are eligible to be considered for both admission and a scholarship again at a later date provided they have not enrolled in a doctorate and held some other doctoral scholarship in the interim. Candidates who have been in receipt of a Te Poutoko Ora a Kiwa University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship are not eligible to hold a subsequent Te Poutoko Ora a Kiwa University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship.
18. A candidate who is in receipt of this Scholarship may defer their Te Poutoko Ora a Kiwa University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship funding for up to one year in total during their tenure of the scholarship, while maintaining their enrolment in their doctoral programme, provided they do not hold some other doctoral scholarship in the interim.
19. Awardees are required to comply with the regulations for the Scholarship and must notify the Scholarships Office of any change in their enrolment, employment, or funding status, or any change to the circumstances on which part-time tenure of the scholarship was approved. Waipapa Taumata Rau | University of Auckland may, in the event that it is satisfied that an awardee is not complying with these regulations, terminate the Scholarship and require repayment of the funds received from the date of the breach.
20. If an awardee is overpaid an amount in excess of a full fortnightly disbursement, the University may recover the overpayment by withholding future award payments at the same rate that the award was overpaid or, if the awardee is no longer enrolled, the University may recover the overpayment in line with standard debt collection practices.
21. If an awardee is overpaid an amount in excess of a full fortnightly disbursement after they are no longer eligible for the Scholarship, the University may recover the overpayment in line with standard debt collection practices.
22. These regulations are subject to Senate and Council approval.

# Initial Statement of Research Intent

**Notes to the applicant:**

* Supervisor involvement in the development of the Statement of Research Intent is strongly advised. Contact your proposed supervisor(s) well in advance of the closing date for applications. Applicants may email Nalei Taufa l.taufa@auckland.ac.nz for advice about finding appropriate supervisors.
* You **must** get endorsement of the Statement of Research Intent from your proposed supervisor if you wish to be considered for a Te Poutoko Ora a Kwa University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship. Further information about scholarship opportunities for study with Te Poutoko Ora a Kiwa can be found at [Doctoral Scholarships](https://www.auckland.ac.nz/en/science/study-with-us/scholarships-and-awards/doctoral-scholarships.html).
* In addition to endorsing the Statement of Research Intent, your proposed supervisors must provide a letter briefly detailing the quality of the supervisory environment, including:
* The training, background, and track record of each member of the supervisory team.
* The role of each member in the supervisory team.
* The frequency with which candidate and supervisor(s) will meet and the mode of meeting.
* The transdisciplinary nature of the supervisory team.
* Please ask your proposed supervisor(s) to provide this information by the closing date. Supervisors can contact Nalei Taufa l.taufa@auckland.ac.nz for more information.

**Applicant details**

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| Name of applicant: |  |
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| Student ID (if known): |  |
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| Department/s in which proposed research will be conducted: |  |
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| Proposed supervisor/s: |  |
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| \* Applicants can find academics who are accredited to undertake doctoral supervision on the University Website and are expected to contact potential supervisors. Those unable to do so will be supported, but the application process may be delayed. If no appropriate supervisor can be identified, the application will be declined. |

**Area of research interest**

Provisional title of thesis or area of research interest

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Description of the proposed research (maximum of 600 words). Include the rationale for the project, the main research questions or knowledge gaps to be addressed, and an indication of the intended methodology.

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[ ]  I confirm that my proposed main supervisor has seen and endorsed the description of proposed research given above.

**Relevant research or professional background of the applicant**

Briefly summarise your previous research or professional experience relevant to your area of interest (maximum of 200 words).

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**How will you and your research contribute to Te Poutoko Ora a Kiwa?**

Please provide any other information relevant to your application or your eligibility for a Te Poutoko Ora a Kiwa scholarship that you wish to share (maximum of 300 words).

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