

University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship

Code:	43
Faculty:	All
Applicable study:	PhD, MD, DClinPsy, DocFA or the research component of an EdD or DHSc
Closing date:	1 March, 1 June, 1 September, 1 November
Tenure:	Up to 36 months FTE
For:	Assistance with study
Number on offer:	Varies
Offer rate:	Up to 4 times a year
Value:	Varies

Description

The Scholarship was established in 1996 and revised in 2023.

The intention of the Scholarship is to encourage and support excellent domestic and international doctoral candidates who wish to conduct research which aligns with the strategic objectives of Waipapa Taumata Rau | University of Auckland. Applicants who are applying to enrol in their first doctorate will be assessed for scholarship eligibility and award at the time of application to the doctoral programme.

Selection process

- The Scholarship is awarded by the University of Auckland Council on the recommendation of the Dean of Graduate Studies (or nominee)
- The basis of selection will be alignment with the strategic objectives of the University, Faculty, LSRI or URC

Regulations

1. The Scholarship shall be known as the University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship.
2. The 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 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. Application for a University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship must be made as part of the application for the doctoral programme.
4. In order for the applicant to be considered for the award of a 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.
5. Subject to Regulations 7 and 8, applicants can only be considered for the award of a University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship prior to receiving their offer of a place in the doctoral programme.
 6. Applicants who already have a doctorate are not eligible for consideration for a University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship.
 7. 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).
 8. 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).
 9. 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).
 10. 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.
 11. 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 17 are expressly subject to this Regulation.
 12. The Dean of Graduate Studies (or nominee) will recommend, for awards, all Māori applicants with a New Zealand university qualifying programme GPA of 7.0 or above (See Note X).
 13. The Dean of Graduate Studies (or nominee) will recommend, for awards, all Pacific applicants with a New Zealand university qualifying programme GPA of 7.0 or above (See Note XI).
 14. A central Selection Committee, comprised of the Dean of Graduate Studies (or nominee), Director of Graduate Studies (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.
 15. Where resources allow, the central Selection Committee may also consider applicants for awards associated with new strategic opportunities.
 16. Where resources allow, the central Selection Committee may also consider faculty/LSRI/URC nominated Māori and Pacific applicants who do not meet the qualifying programme requirements of Regulation 12 or 13 for awards on the basis of significant alignment with University strategic objectives.
 17. Each faculty and Large Scale Research Institute (LSRI) Selection Committee, comprised of the relevant Associate Dean (Postgraduate Research) (or nominee), Associate Dean (Research) (or nominee), and Deputy Dean/Director (or nominee), will consider applicants for awards in accordance with the faculty's/LSRI's annual University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship allocation and their strategic objectives and associated selection criteria as specified on their respective public websites (See Note XII).
 18. 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).
 19. 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).
 20. University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarships 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.
 21. 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).

22. 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.
23. 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).
24. 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 University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship offer, whichever is later (See Note XXII).
25. Scholarships Committee will determine if additional tuition fee, living stipend or top-up scholarships may be co-tenured with a University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship (See Notes XVII to XIX).
26. 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 University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship, the Scholarship will reduce to fees-only for the period of scholarship tenure that coincides with the internship.
27. 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 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 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 University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship stipend value for the period.
28. 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.
29. 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.
30. 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 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.
31. Notes [I]–[XXIV] below are deemed to be Regulations.

Notes

- I. *The tax-free status of this Scholarship is under current legislation. The University of Auckland cannot guarantee this tax-free outcome.*
- II. *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.*
- III. *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.*
- IV. *Application Closes: 1 November, Scholarship Offer: 1 February (the following year), Enrolment Date: Domestic*

- Candidate/ Domestic Qualifying Programme: 1 March or 1 June (in the year of the offer), Enrolment Date: International Candidate with International Qualifying Programme: 1 March or 1 June or 1 September (in the year of the offer).*
- V. *Application Closes: 1 March, Scholarship Offer: 1 May (in the year of the application), Enrolment Date: Domestic Candidate/Domestic Qualifying Programme: 1 June or 1 September (in the year of the offer), Enrolment Date: International Candidate with International Qualifying Programme: 1 June or 1 September or 1 December (in the year of the offer).*
- VI. *Application Closes: 1 June, Scholarship Offer: 1 August (in the year of the application), Enrolment Date: Domestic Candidate/Domestic Qualifying Programme: 1 September or 1 December (in the year of the offer), Enrolment Date: International Candidate with International Qualifying Programme: 1 September or 1 December (in the year of the offer) or 1 March (the following year).*
- VII. *Application Closes: 1 September, Scholarship Offer: 1 November (in the year of application), Enrolment Date: Domestic Candidate/Domestic Qualifying Programme: 1 December (in the year of the offer) or 1 March (the following year), Enrolment Date: International Candidate with International Qualifying Programme: 1 December (in the year of application) or 1 March or 1 June (the following year).*
- VIII. *Where a master's thesis student is approved to transfer to a PhD and is subsequently awarded a 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 X). 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.*
- IX. *Awardees of a 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 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.*
- X. *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.*
- XI. *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.*
- XII. *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.*
- XIII. *To take up the scholarship means to commence doctoral enrolment and the tenure of the scholarship.*
- XIV. *Where a University of Auckland 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.*
- XV. *An additional 12-month parental-leave suspension may be considered where the holder becomes a parent during*

their tenure of the Scholarship.

- XVI. 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.*
- XVII. A 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, LSRI's 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.*
- XVIII. Where Scholarships Committee approves co-tenure, the combined stipend may not exceed 150% of the 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 University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship stipend.*
- XIX. The University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship stipend may be reduced in order to meet the requirements of Note XVIII.*
- XX. Applicants who have been offered a 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 University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship are not eligible to hold a subsequent University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship.*
- XXI. A candidate who is in receipt of this Scholarship may defer their 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.*
- XXII. 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.*
- XXIII. 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.*
- XXIV. 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.*
- XXV. These regulations are subject to Senate and Council approval.*