Boyd Clarke Liggins PhD Scholarship

Scholarship description

The Scholarship was established in 2016 and is funded by the Boyd Clarke Foundation. The intention of the scholarship is to encourage and support an academically excellent student to undertake full-time doctoral study that falls within one or more of the strategic research themes of the University of Auckland Liggins Institute.

The Liggins Institute has a number of overlapping research themes exploring the ways in which factors in the early life environment affect health throughout the life course and influence the health of following generations. A particular focus is on the effect of altered early life nutrition on later life health. Opportunities span basic science, clinical and translational research platforms.

Selection process

- Application is made to the Scholarships Office
- A Selection Committee assesses the applications
- The Scholarship is awarded by the University of Auckland Council on the recommendation of the Selection Committee

Regulations

1. The Scholarship will be known as the Boyd Clarke Liggins PhD Scholarship.
2. One Scholarship will be awarded, for a period of up to three years, and will comprise a stipend of up to $27,000 per annum plus compulsory domestic PhD fees and compulsory international student health insurance, where applicable (see Notes i and ii).
3. To take up the scholarship, the recipient must have paid the fees, or arranged to pay the fees, for full time enrolment in a PhD at the University of Auckland Liggins Institute undertaking research that falls within one or more of the strategic research themes.
4. The Scholarships are tenable by domestic and international students who are paying domestic fees (see Note iii).
5. The basis of selection will be academic merit, and the quality and nature of the research proposal. Successful applicants will have a GPA or GPE of at least 7.00 in their most recent qualifying programme for doctoral study (see Note iv).
6. The Scholarships will provide support for up to 36 months and payments will commence from the doctoral registration
date. A further six months scholarship funding, subject to Scholarship Sub-Committee approval, may be available.

7. The Scholarships will be awarded by the University of Auckland Council upon the recommendation of a Selection Committee comprising the Director (or nominee), the Academic Director (or nominee) and the Research Director (or nominee) of the Liggins Institute.

8. To comply with the full-time study requirement in Regulation 5, the amount of additional and paid work a Scholar may undertake either inside or outside the University shall not exceed a total of 500 hours per scholarship year.

9. The Scholarship may not be held concurrently with a University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship, or with any other New Zealand government or foreign government funded scholarships. However, it may be held with any other award or grant as long as a) the terms of that award or grant permit and b) the University of Auckland Council is informed and approves. The maximum allowable co-tenure amount is 75% of the stipend value of this Scholarship. If the value of the co-tenured scholarship exceeds 75% the emolument for the Boyd Clarke Liggins PhD Scholarship will be reduced to limit the additional co-tenured stipend value to 75%.

10. The University of Auckland Council, in consultation with the Director of the Liggins Institute, has the power to terminate or suspend a Scholarship if it receives an unsatisfactory report on the progress of a Scholar from the Head of Department or Thesis Supervisor.

11. The University of Auckland Council is not obliged to make an award if in any year there is no candidate of sufficient merit.

12. The University of Auckland Council has the power to amend or vary these Regulations, in consultation with the donor, provided that there is no departure from the main purpose of the Scholarship.

13. International students may only be outside of New Zealand for a maximum total of 12 months over the period of their enrolment in their doctoral degree and only for the purposes of conducting research (see Note iii).

14. Applications close with the Scholarships Office on 19 August in the year of the award.

15. Notes [i]-[viii] below are deemed to be regulations.

Notes

I. The student offered the scholarship must meet all requirements for admission in to their intended programme in order to take up the scholarship offer.

II. Compulsory fees are those only related to the relevant Doctoral study plus Student Services Fee.

III. To be eligible to pay domestic PhD fees, recipients who are permanent residents of New Zealand or Australia, Australian Citizens or international students 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. Four weeks annual leave per year, when spent outside New Zealand, does not count towards the 12 months that can be spent overseas.

IV. For the purpose of this Scholarship, academic merit is measured by the grade point average or grade point equivalent obtained in the applicant’s most recent qualifying programme for doctoral study. Where the most recent qualifying programme is an undergraduate honours degree (or equivalent undergraduate degree or integrated undergraduate or postgraduate degree), the grade point average or equivalent will be calculated over the final two years of full-time study (or equivalent) in the programme. In all other cases, the grade point average or equivalent will be calculated over the entirety of the most recent qualifying programme.

V. The recipient of the Scholarship will be required to give undertakings that they will comply with the regulations for the Scholarship and will notify the Scholarships Office of any change in their enrolment, employment or funding status. The University of Auckland may, in the event it can be established that the recipient of the Scholarship is not complying with these regulations, terminate the Scholarship and require the repayment of the funds received from the date of the breach.

VI. At the end of each year of registration the recipient of the scholarship will be required to submit a report to the donor outlining their progress to date.

VII. The scholarship holder must, in their third year, give a presentation of their research to the donor.

VIII. These regulations are subject to Senate and Council approval.