MSA Charitable Trust New Zealand Asia Institute PhD Scholarships

Scholarship description

The Scholarships were established in 2009 and are funded by the MSA Charitable Trust. The main purpose of the Scholarships is to fund postgraduate students who are enrolled or who have been offered a place on the PhD programme at the University of Auckland Business School to undertake research on a topic which is judged by the selection committee to advance the research agenda of the New Zealand Asia Institute. The theme of the research should focus on the business relationship between New Zealand and Asia and research findings should have beneficial implications for New Zealand economy, business or government.

Selection process

- Application is made to the Scholarships Office
- A Selection Committee assesses the applications
- Short-listed candidates may be invited to attend an interview with the selection committee
- 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 MSA Charitable Trust New Zealand Asia Institute PhD Scholarships.
2. Up to 2 scholarships may be awarded, depending on funding availability, for a period of up to three years, and will be of the value of a tax-free stipend of up to $27,000 per annum.
3. The Scholarships will only be disbursed once an applicant has enrolled, paid the fees, or arranged to pay the fees, for full-time enrolment in a PhD degree at the University of Auckland Business School. Payments will commence from the doctoral registration date or the date nominated by the Faculty and approved by the Scholarships Sub-Committee (whichever is the later date).
4. The Scholarships are open to domestic and international students.
5. The basis of selection will be potential academic merit; an assessment of the quality of the proposed topic of the research, its potential impact on New Zealand economy, business or government its impact on engaging productively
with Asia, its likelihood of advancing the research agenda of the New Zealand Asia Institute, and an assessment of
the applicant’s ability to complete the thesis in a timely manner. Consideration will also be given to leadership
potential, potential contribution to industry, past study and experience in areas relevant to the proposed topic, written
and verbal communication capabilities, interpersonal abilities, project management skills and demonstrated skills as
a self-starter.

6. Each scholarship will be awarded upon the recommendation of a Selection Committee comprising the Dean of the
University of Auckland Business School (or nominee), the director of the University of Auckland Business School
PhD Programme (or nominee) and one other professor from a discipline different from that of the director of the PhD
Programme. The donor will also have the right to nominate a representative if the Donor so chooses.

7. The Scholarships will be paid as a fortnightly stipend.

8. The MSA Charitable Trust New Zealand Asia Institute PhD Scholarships may be held concurrently with any other
study award or grant where the regulations for that award or grant permit and where the University of Auckland
Council so approves. Approval will usually be granted for co-tenure with other scholarships and grants up to the
value of NZ$10,000. Exceptions to the regulations will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

9. To comply with the full-time study requirement in Regulation 3, the amount of additional and paid work a PhD student
may undertake must not exceed 500 hours per year. International students must comply with the maximum number
of additional and paid hours set by the Ministry of Immigration.

10. The University of Auckland Council, in consultation with the Donor, has the power to terminate or suspend a
scholarship if it receives an unsatisfactory report on the progress of a Scholar from the Director of the University of
Auckland Business School PhD Programme, a Head of Department or the thesis supervisor.

11. The University of Auckland Council is not obliged to make an award in any year if 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 there is no departure from the main purpose of the Scholarships.

13. Applications close with the Scholarships Office on 2 May. The timing of the availability of the Scholarships will be
advertised from time to time. It is strongly recommended that potential applicants discuss the Scholarship with the
Scholarships Officer at the University of Auckland Business School’s Postgraduate and Research Office and
complete a Doctoral EOI prior to making a written application.

Notes

I. The Scholarships may be awarded at any time depending on funding availability.

II. The award of the Scholarships is conditional upon the ability of the University of Auckland and the Business School to
provide adequate supervision and resources.

III. Each year recipients of MSA Charitable Trust New Zealand Asia Institute PhD Scholarships must sign a statutory
declaration that, in the previous academic year, they have complied with the regulations for the Scholarship and that
they give an undertaking that, in the current academic year, they will notify the University of any change in their
enrolment status. The University of Auckland may, in the event it can be established that a recipient of a MSA
Charitable Trust New Zealand Asia Institute PhD Scholarship is not complying with these regulations, terminate the
Scholarship and require repayment of the funds received from the date of the breach.

IV. While the Scholarship will normally be for a period of three years, the Scholarship may be awarded for a lesser
number of years at the discretion of the Dean of the University of Auckland Business School. If a decision is made to
award the Scholarship for a period of less than three years the Scholarship may be extended up to three years
provided that the Selection Committee is convinced that the Scholarship holder is making good progress towards the
completion of the thesis. Scholarship holders applying for additional years of funding should do so to the University of
Auckland Business School Postgraduate and Research Office six months before funding ends. The Selection
Committee will make a judgement based on the written application and a progress report from the PhD student and a
joint report from the student’s Head of Department and thesis supervisor.

V. The Dean of the University of Auckland Business School may, from time to time, designate a disciplinary or
interdisciplinary area in which the Scholarship should be awarded provided that the proposed topic of the PhD research has the potential to impact on New Zealand business and/or business development in a globalising world.