MSA Charitable Trust 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 admitted to the PhD programme at the University of Auckland Business School to undertake research on a topic which is judged by the selection committee to have the potential to impact on New Zealand business, business development in a globalising world or which involves applied economic or business research.

Selection process

- Application is made to the Scholarships Office
- A Selection Committee assesses the applications
- Short-listed candidates 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 Scholarships will be known as the MSA Charitable Trust PhD Scholarships.
2. Up to 3 Scholarships will 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 be awarded to students who have 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 and its potential impact on New Zealand business, business development or applied economic and business research; 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 on 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 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 by 31 March in the year of the award. 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.

14. Notes [i]-[v] below are deemed to be regulations.

Notes

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

II. The award of the Scholarship 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 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 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 to 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.