Moana Schwalger Memorial Pasifika Student Scholarship

Scholarship description

The Scholarship was established in 2012 in memory of the late Moana Schwalger, a colleague and friend of the partners and staff of Meredith Connell and a graduate of the University of Auckland. It is funded by Meredith Connell and the Pacific Lawyers’ Association.

The main purpose of the Scholarship is to encourage study in the Faculty of Law by Pasifika students.

Selection process

- Application is made to the Scholarships Office
- A Selection Committee assesses the applications
- Short-listed candidates may be requested to attend an interview (which may take place via video-conference)
- 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 Moana Schwalger Memorial Pasifika Student Scholarship.
2. One Scholarship will be awarded annually, for a period of one year, and will be of the value of up to $10,000 per annum (see Note i).
3. To take up the Scholarship, the recipient must be a Pasifika student (see Note ii) who has paid the fees, or arranged to pay the fees, for full-time enrolment in either a Master of Laws or Part III or Part IV of a Bachelor of Laws at the University of Auckland. Applicants must provide evidence of their Pacific Island descent.
4. The Scholarship is tenable by citizens and permanent residents of New Zealand.
5. The basis of selection will be academic merit (as measured by the GPA across all law courses (see Note ii) in the applicant's LLB or LLB (Honours) degree); and demonstrated participation in Pasifika cultural contexts.
6. The Scholarship will be awarded by the University of Auckland Council on the recommendation of a Selection Committee comprising the Dean of the Faculty of Law (or nominee), the Faculty of Law Academic Counsellor to Pacific Islands' Students (or nominee) and one representative of Meredith Connell. At least one member on the Selection Committee must be of Pasifika descent.
7. The Scholarship will be paid in one instalment.
8. The University of Auckland Council, in consultation with Meredith Connell (and the Pacific Lawyers’ Association), has the power to terminate or suspend a Scholarship if it receives an unsatisfactory report on the progress of a Scholar from the Dean of Law.

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

10. 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.

11. Applications close with the Scholarships Office on 10 December in the year preceding the award.

12. Notes [i]-[iii] below are deemed to be regulations.

**Notes**

I. **Pasifika applicants are defined as citizens or permanent residents of New Zealand who are of indigenous Pacific descent from any of the following islands:** American Samoa, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, French Polynesia, Hawaii, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, New Caledonia, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Rapanui (Easter Island), Rotuma, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Wallis and Futuna.

II. **The GPA will be assessed across all law courses in the applicant’s undergraduate Law degree, taking into account the number of points and grades obtained for each course.**

III. **Recipients of the Moana Schwalger Memorial Pasifika Student Scholarship may be offered work experience with Meredith Connell during and/or immediately following the tenure of this scholarship.**