Shane Peter Thompson First in Family Scholarship

**Scholarship description**

The Scholarship was established in 2017 and is funded by alumnus Shane Thompson. As the first member of his family to attend and graduate University, the main purpose of the Scholarship is to assist another student who is also the first member of their family to attend university and who, because of financial hardship, may not otherwise be able to undertake a university degree.

**Selection process**

- Application is made to the Scholarships Office
- A Selection Committee assesses the applications
- Short-listed applicants may be required to attend an interview
- 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 Shane Peter Thompson First in Family Scholarship.
2. One scholarship of up to $8,000.00 per annum will be awarded annually, and will cover up to five years of study towards the completion of a first undergraduate degree including a conjoint degree (see Note i).
3. To take up and be paid the scholarship, the candidate must be enrolled full-time in the first year of their first undergraduate degree at the University of Auckland.
4. The scholarship is tenable by students who are citizens or permanent residents of New Zealand, currently in their final year at a New Zealand secondary school and intending to enrol full-time in a degree at the University of Auckland in the following year.
5. The basis of selection will be academic merit, motivation to succeed at University and demonstrated financial hardship. The recipient must be the first member of his or her family to attend a university. Short-listed candidates may be required to attend an interview (See Notes ii-iv).
6. As a condition of tenure, recipients will be required to maintain a GPA of at least 4.00 (equivalent to a B- average) in each year of study (see Note v).
7. The Scholarship will be awarded by the University of Auckland Council upon the recommendation of a Selection Committee.
Committee comprising the Chair of the Scholarships Sub-Committee (or nominee), a representative of the Alumni Relations and Development Department and one representative of the Donor (or nominee).

8. The scholarship will be paid as compulsory tuition fees credit in each semester of study (see Note i).

9. The scholarship may not be held with a University of Auckland Top Achiever Scholarship, a University of Auckland Māori Academic Excellence Scholarship, a University of Auckland Pacific Academic Excellence Scholarship or a University of Auckland Academic Potential Scholarship. 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. It is the responsibility of the recipient to declare to the Scholarships Office all other grant, award or scholarship funding received while in payment for this Scholarship.

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 Director/Head of Department or School in which the recipient is enrolled.

11. The University of Auckland Council is not obliged to make an award if in any year there are not candidates of sufficient merit.

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

13. Applications close with the Scholarships Office on 1 November in the year preceding the award.

14. Notes [i]-[vii] below are deemed to be Regulations.

Notes

I. Tuition/Compulsory fees are only those related to the relevant programme of study, plus Student Services Fee.

II. Students who are requested to attend an interview may have their travel costs reimbursed at the discretion of the Selection Committee. Alternatively, the interview may take place via video conference.

III. Financial need will be determined by a range of factors including eligibility for a StudyLink Student Allowance, and personal and financial circumstances.

IV. For the purpose of this scholarship, ‘first in family’ to attend university means the first member in their family, including parents and siblings, to enrol at a university. Adoptive and step parents and siblings are considered part of the nuclear family where they have lived with the applicant for the previous five or more years.

V. For the purposes of this scholarship, the recipient’s grade point average (GPA) is based on all the courses they undertake in each year of study.

VI. Payments under the terms of this scholarship remain tax-free as long as they are used directly for the payment of costs associated with an awardee’s programme of study. Failure to comply with this regulation will result in the termination of the scholarship.

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