University of Auckland Law School’s Dean’s Doctoral Scholarships

Scholarship description

These Scholarships were established in 2016 and are funded by the Faculty of Law.

The intention of the scholarships is to encourage and support academically excellent students to undertake full-time doctoral study on an agreed topic in the Faculty of Law.

Selection process

- A Selection Committee assesses potential candidates
- Nomination is made to Council via the School of Graduate Studies
- The Scholarship is awarded by the University of Auckland Council on the recommendation of the Faculty of Law

Regulations

1. The Scholarships shall be known as the University of Auckland Law School’s Dean’s Doctoral Scholarships.
2. Up to five Scholarships will be awarded annually, depending on funding availability, for a period of up to three years, and will comprise a tax-free stipend of up to $27,000 per annum, with an annual cost of living adjustment to the stipend value, plus compulsory domestic PhD fees, or a contribution towards international fees of the equivalent sum, and compulsory international student health insurance, where applicable. Part-time students will be paid pro-rata for up to 72 months.
3. Recipients may also be offered employment as a Research Assistant or Graduate Teaching Assistant with the Faculty of Law (see Note ii).
4. The Scholarships will be awarded to new applicants applying for admission to a PhD at the University of Auckland Faculty of Law. Students already enrolled in a PhD at the University of Auckland Faculty of Law are not eligible for consideration for this scholarship.
5. To take up the scholarship, recipients must be enrolled in a PhD at the University of Auckland Faculty of Law and undertaking research on an agreed topic.
6. The Scholarships are tenable by domestic and international students.
7. The basis of selection will be academic merit, the quality and nature of the research proposal and the strength of the
doctoral application as a whole. Successful applicants will have a GPA or GPE of at least 7.00 (see Note iii).
8. Domestic and international students will be required to enrol and begin within 3 and within 6 months respectively of
the date of their unconditional programme offer, otherwise the scholarship offer will lapse (see Note iv). Awardees
must also meet all requirements of their admission and scholarship offer before any payments will be made.
9. 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.
These durations shall be pro-rated for part-time scholarship awardees.
10. The Scholarships will be awarded by the University of Auckland Council upon the recommendation of a Selection
Committee comprising the Dean of the Faculty of Law (or nominee), the Associate Dean Postgraduate (or nominee)
and the Director of Doctoral Studies (or nominee).
11. The Scholarships 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, they 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% of the University of Auckland Law School’s Dean’s Doctoral
Scholarship stipend value, the emolument for the University of Auckland Law School’s Dean’s Doctoral Scholarship
will be reduced to limit the additional co-tenured stipend value to 75% of the University of Auckland Law School’s
Dean’s Doctoral Scholarship stipend value.
12. The University of Auckland Council, in consultation with the Dean of the Faculty of Law, has the power to terminate
or suspend a Scholarship if it receives an unsatisfactory report on the progress of a Scholar from the Faculty’s
Associate Dean Postgraduate, Head of Department or Thesis Supervisor.
13. The University of Auckland Council is not obliged to make an award if in any year there is no candidate of sufficient
merit.
14. The University of Auckland Council has the power to amend or vary these Regulations, in consultation with the Dean
of the Faculty of Law, provided that there is no departure from the main purpose of the Scholarship.
15. Notes [i]-[vi] below are deemed to be regulations.

Notes

I. Compulsory fees are those only related to the relevant Doctoral study, plus Student Services Fee.
II. Recipients may by application be offered an opportunity to contribute to the Law School’s research agenda as a
Research Assistant (RA) or teaching programme as a Graduate Teaching Assistant (GTA). The University’s
employment restrictions of a maximum of 500 hours per scholarship year apply and taxable remuneration will be
based on the recipient’s experience.
III. 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
and 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.
IV. Domestic and international students are required to either a) enrol and begin their studies within 3 and within 6
months respectively of their unconditional offer in the programme or b) in exceptional circumstances, have obtained
approval from the Board of Graduate Studies for a delayed take up time. PhD enrolments and scholarship payments
must commence on the first of the month.
V. Each year recipients of the 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 Dean may, with the Support of the
Selection Committee, in the event it can be established that a recipient of the Scholarship is not complying with these regulations, terminate the Scholarship and require repayment of the funds received from the date of the breach.

VI. Scholarship holders must, in their third year, give a public presentation of their research in the Law School if requested. Failure to present is sufficient cause for the Dean of the Faculty of Law to exercise discretionary power to terminate or suspend the Scholarship.