University of Auckland Rutherford Discovery Fellowship
PhD Scholarship in Molecular Metabolism

Scholarship description

The Scholarship was established in 2017 and is funded by a Rutherford Discovery Fellowship awarded to an academic staff member from the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences, at the University of Auckland.

The main purpose of the Scholarship is to support a student to develop their PhD research project on a specific topic within the general area of understanding the role of Beta-Catenin in supporting insulin research and the transportation of sugar into cells.

Selection process

- Nomination is made to the Scholarships Office
- 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 University of Auckland Rutherford Discovery Fellowship PhD Scholarship in Molecular Metabolism.
2. One Scholarship will be awarded, for a period of up to three years, and will include a fortnightly stipend of up to $27,500 per annum plus compulsory domestic PhD fees (see Notes i and ii).
3. The Scholarship may be awarded only to new students applying for admission to a PhD in the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences at the University of Auckland who meet all the requirements of these regulations and who will be conducting research within the general area of understanding the role of understanding the role of Beta-Catenin in supporting insulin release from the pancreas and the transportation of sugar into cells.
4. The Scholarship is tenable by full-time domestic and international students who are eligible to pay domestic fees (see Note iii).
5. The basis of selection will be academic merit (see Note iv) and the quality and nature of the research proposal. Matters that may be considered in relation to academic merit include, but are not limited to, academic record,
standing of awarding institution, academic references, CV, research and publication record. Where a completed programme with a University of Auckland GPA/GPE is the basis for entry to the PhD, an applicant must have a GPA/GPE of 7.00 or above in that programme to be eligible for scholarship consideration.

6. The Scholarship will be awarded by the University of Auckland Council upon the recommendation of a Selection Committee comprising the Associate Dean (Postgraduate), the Head of Department and the Principal Investigator.

7. Domestic and international students will be required to enrol within 3 and within 6 months respectively of the date of their unconditional programme offer, otherwise the scholarship offer will lapse. Awardees must also meet all requirements of their admission and scholarship offer before any payments will be made.

8. The Scholarship will provide support for up to 36 months of study and payments will commence from the doctoral enrolment date. A further six months of scholarship funding, subject to Scholarship Sub-Committee approval, may be available (see Note vi).

9. To comply with the full-time study requirement in Regulation 4, the amount of additional and paid work a Scholar may undertake either inside or outside the University shall not exceed a total of 500 hours per scholarship year (see Note viii).

10. The University of Auckland Rutherford Discovery Fellowship PhD Scholarship in Molecular Metabolism may not be held concurrently with a University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship or with any other New Zealand government or foreign government-funded scholarships or grants. However, it may be held 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, up to an additional maximum of 75% of the stipend value of the University of Auckland Rutherford Discovery Fellowship PhD Scholarship in Molecular Metabolism. If the value of the co-tenured scholarship exceeds 75% of the University of Auckland Rutherford Discovery Fellowship PhD Scholarship in Molecular Metabolism stipend value, the emolument for the University of Auckland Rutherford Discovery Fellowship PhD Scholarship in Molecular Metabolism will be reduced to limit the additional co-tenured stipend value to 75% of the University of Auckland Rutherford Discovery Fellowship PhD Scholarship in Molecular Metabolism stipend value.

11. 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 Associate Dean (Postgraduate) of the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences.

12. 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.

13. Notes (i) – (ix) below are deemed to be Regulations.

Notes

I. Further information about the project and possible topics can be obtained from the Principal Investigator – Troy Merry, t.merry@auckland.ac.nz.

II. Students who have been offered a scholarship must meet all requirements for admission into their intended programme in order to take up the scholarship offer.

III. Compulsory fees are those only related to the PhD study, plus Student Services Fee.

IV. To be eligible to pay domestic PhD fees, recipients who are permanent residents of New Zealand or Australia, Australian citizens or international students may only be resident outside of New Zealand for a maximum total of twelve months over the period of their enrolment in their doctoral degree and only for the purposes of conducting research.

V. Where the completed 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 programme.

VI. A further six months of scholarship funding, subject to Scholarship Sub-Committee approval, may be available to those PhD students who have held a University of Auckland Rutherford Discovery Fellowship PhD Scholarship in Molecular Metabolism.
VII. Recipients of a University of Auckland Rutherford Discovery Fellowship PhD Scholarship in Molecular Metabolism will be required to give undertakings that they will comply with the regulations for the Scholarship and will notify the Scholarships Office of any change in their enrolment, employment or funding status. The University of Auckland may, in the event it can be established that a recipient of a University of Auckland Rutherford Discovery Fellowship PhD Scholarship in Molecular Metabolism is not complying with these regulations, terminate the Scholarship and require repayment of the funds received from the date of the breach.

VIII. Paid work that is required as part of an approved doctoral programme (such as an internship for some named doctorates) or that is undertaken as part of an approved University of Auckland Internship, is not counted towards the 500 hours of additional and paid work that a Scholar may undertake while in receipt of a scholarship.

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