Aitken Early Childhood Education (ECE) Travel Award

**Description**

The Aitken Early Childhood Education (ECE) Travel Award was established in 2015 and is funded by Bruce and Donna Aitken.

The main purpose of the Award is to provide a three week international experience between mid-January and mid-February at The Owl and Pussycat Early Childhood Centre in Wales for a student who will be completing Year 2 of the Bachelor of Education (Teaching) - Early Childhood Education, in the year of application.

**Selection process**

- Application is made to the Scholarships Office
- A Selection Committee assesses the applications
- Short-listed applicants will 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 Award will be known as the Aitken Early Childhood Education (ECE) Travel Award.
2. One Award will be made biennially and will cover return economy class airfares, travel insurance, meals, a daily allowance, accommodation and transport to and from the Early Childhood Centre.
3. The recipient will be an unpaid intern at The Owl and Pussycat Early Childhood Centre in Wales, and will be required to assist in the daily activities of the Centre as directed by the Director and Owner of the Owl and Pussycat Early Childhood Centre.
4. To take up and be paid the Award, the candidate must be enrolled and have paid the fees, or arranged to pay the fees, for full-time enrolment in Year 3 of a Bachelor of Education (Teaching) – Early Childhood Education (See note I).
5. The Award is tenable by students who are citizens or permanent residents of New Zealand.
6. The basis of selection will be academic merit and a written statement outlining how the applicant would benefit from an international ECE experience, and how it would contribute to their development as an ECE teacher (see Note ii). Short-listed applicants will be required to attend an interview.
7. The Award will be made by the University of Auckland Council upon the recommendation of a Selection Committee comprising of the Director of Early Childhood Education (or nominee), the Associate Director of Early Childhood Education (or nominee) and one representative of the donor.

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

9. The University of Auckland Council, 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 Award.

10. Applications close with the Scholarships Office on 31 August in the year preceding the award.

11. Notes [I]-[III] below are deemed to be regulations.

**Notes**

I. Travel should be undertaken in January / February of the following year.

II. For the purpose of this Award, academic merit is assessed as a Scholarships GPA or GPE obtained over the applicant’s most recent two years of full-time graded study (or equivalent).

III. The recipient of this Award will be required to present a brief report to the Faculty of Education and Social Work about their experience.