Francis Small Scholarship

Description

The Scholarship was established in 2015 by Dr Francis Small, who graduated with a ME and PhD in Civil Engineering from the University of Auckland. This led to a successful career and he became the Managing Director of New Zealand Rail and Tranz Rail Ltd. His wish is to enable others to study for an ME and experience the opportunities that this will create for them.

The main purpose of the Scholarship is to assist a student to undertake research masters study in Engineering, especially where this funding would make a significant contribution to their financial needs. This Scholarship is shared with the University of Canterbury and therefore will be offered to University of Auckland students on a biennial basis.

Selection process

- Application is made to the Scholarships Office
- A Selection Committee assesses the applications
- The Scholarship is awarded by the University of Auckland Council on the recommendation of the Selection Committee

Regulations

1. The Scholarship shall be known as the Francis Small Scholarship.
2. One Scholarship will be awarded biennially, for a period of one year, and will be of the value of up to $20,000.
3. The Scholarship may be awarded to a student who is enrolling or who has enrolled full-time in a masters thesis with a points value of at least 90 points in a Master of Engineering (Research), a Master of Aerospace Engineering, or a Master of Earthquake Engineering (Research) in a topic related to Civil, Electrical, Mechanical or Chemical Engineering. Students who are enrolled in a masters programme of more than 120 points must be enrolled in the thesis or research component at the time of take-up of the Scholarship to be eligible for consideration.
4. To take up and be paid the Scholarship, recipients must be enrolled full-time in the masters thesis with a points value of at least 90 points.
5. The Scholarship is tenable by students who are citizens or permanent residents of New Zealand.
6. The basis of selection will be academic merit as assessed by the grade point average (GPA) or grade point equivalent (GPE) calculated over the most recently completed qualifying programme, the quality and nature of the proposed research, potential to contribute to the engineering industry and demonstrated financial need. A minimum GPA/GPE of 6.00 (5.50 for Māori or Pacific candidates) is required for Scholarship consideration (see Notes I and II).  
7. The Scholarship will be awarded by the University of Auckland Council upon the recommendation of a Selection Committee comprising the Dean of the Faculty of Engineering (or nominee), one member of Academic Staff from the Faculty of Engineering, appointed by the Dean of the Faculty of Engineering and one representative of the Engineering New Zealand Foundation.  
8. The Scholarship will be paid as a fortnightly stipend.  
9. The Scholarship may be held concurrently with any other scholarship, award or grant as long as the regulations for that scholarship, award or grant permit and the University of Auckland Council is informed and approves. It is the responsibility of the recipient to declare to the Scholarships Office all other scholarships, awards or grant funding received and for which the awardee receives payment while also in payment for this Scholarship.  
10. The University of Auckland Council is not obliged to make an award if in any year there is no candidate of sufficient merit.  
11. The University of Auckland Council has the power to terminate or suspend a Scholarship if it receives a report of unsatisfactory progress of a Scholar from the Associate Dean (Postgraduate – Research) of the Faculty of Engineering.  
12. The University of Auckland Council has the power to amend or vary these Regulations, in consultation with the Engineering New Zealand Foundation, provided that there is no departure from the main purpose of the Scholarship.  
13. Applications close with the Scholarships Office on 1 February in the year of the award.  
14. Notes [I] to [VII] below are deemed to be regulations.  

Notes

I. The most recently completed qualifying programme is defined as the most recently completed programme of study that qualifies the applicant for entry to the research masters programme for which they are applying. Where the most recently completed programme is a conjoint programme the GPA/GPE will be calculated over the relevant component of the conjoint programme. The maximum approved exchange or transfer credit that can be excluded from the GPA/GPE calculation for the qualifying programme is 60 points. Where the most recently completed programme is a Transitional Certificate, the qualifying programme is the Transitional Certificate and the most recently completed prior degree.

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

III. In making a recommendation for this scholarship the selection committee shall take into account other scholarships, bursaries and awards held by the candidates, with a view to achieving a fair distribution of monies among qualifying candidates.

IV. 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 and to assist the awardee with living costs while studying. Failure to comply with this regulation will result in the termination of the Scholarship.

V. Recipients of a Francis Small Scholarship will be required to give undertaking that they will comply with the regulations for the Scholarship and will notify the Scholarships Office of any changes in their enrolment or funding status. The University of Auckland may, in the event that it can be established that a recipient of a Francis Small Scholarship is not complying with these regulations, terminate the Scholarship and require repayment of the funds received from the date of the breach.

VI. Recipients will be required to submit a brief final report outlining their research and key findings to the Scholarships Office at the conclusion of their study.