Healthier Lives National Science Challenge Masters Scholarship in Population Nutrition

**Code:** 1083  
**Faculty:** Medical & Health Sciences  
**Applicable study:** Masters research in Population Nutrition  
**Closing date:** 11 October 2021  
**Tenure:** One year  
**For:** Assistance with study  
**Number on offer:** Two  
**Offer rate:** One-off  
**Value:** Up to $14,000 plus contribution towards tuition fees of $6,847 each

**Description**

The Scholarship was established in 2020 and is funded by a Healthier Lives National Science Challenge grant awarded to an academic staff member from the National Institute for Health Innovation in the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences at the University of Auckland.

The main purpose of the Scholarship is to encourage and support Masters students in the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences at the University of Auckland who are undertaking research in public health, environmentally sustainable dietary practices, and/or equity in relation to health sector food policies.

**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 will be known as the Healthier Lives National Science Challenge Masters Scholarship in Population Nutrition.
2. Up to two Scholarship will be awarded, for a period of up to one year, and will be of the value of up to $14,000 each plus a contribution towards compulsory tuition fees of up to $6,847 each.
3. The Scholarship may be awarded to students who are enrolling or have enrolled full-time in the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences at the University of Auckland in a masters thesis or research portfolio with a points value of at least 90 points in either a Master of Public Health or a Master of Health Sciences, and undertaking research in healthy and sustainable dietary practices and/or equity in relation to health sector food policies, and who meet all the requirements of these regulations.
4. The Scholarship is tenable by citizens and permanent residents of New Zealand.
5. 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 recent qualifying programme, the quality and nature of the candidate’s research proposal, and a personal statement outlining the candidate’s interest in population health and nutrition, written and oral communication skills, self-motivation, and ability to work individually and as part of a team. Experience and/or skills in qualitative and quantitative research methods are desirable. Candidates must have a GPA/GPE of 7.00 (6.50 for Māori and Pacific candidates) or above in their qualifying programme to be eligible for scholarship consideration (see Note III).

6. The Scholarship will be awarded by the University of Auckland Council upon the recommendation of a Selection Committee comprising the Primary Investigator of the grant, the Associate Dean (Postgraduate Research) of the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences (or nominee), and the Director of the National Institute for Health Innovation (or nominee).

7. The Scholarship will be paid as a fortnightly stipend and a compulsory fees credit. Fortnightly payments will commence from the third week of the first semester of enrolment in the thesis or research portfolio.

8. The Scholarship will be tenable for one year or until the date for completion of the requirements for the degree as specified in the relevant regulations, whichever is sooner. To avoid doubt, a student cannot remain in receipt of this Scholarship while enrolled in an extension.

9. The Scholarships may be not be held concurrently with a University of Auckland Research Masters Scholarship, a University of Auckland Māori Postgraduate Scholarship or a University of Auckland Pacific Scholarship. However, it may be held 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 and grant funding received and for which the awardee receives payment while also in payment for this Scholarship.

10. 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 year during the tenure of this Scholarship.

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 Medical and Health Sciences.

12. The University of Auckland Council is not obliged to make an award if there is no candidate of sufficient merit.

13. The University of Auckland has the power to amend or vary these Regulations, in consultation with the Principal Investigator, provided that there is no departure from the main purpose of the Scholarship.

14. Applications close with the Scholarships Office on 11 October in the year of the award.

15. Notes [I]-[V] below are deemed to be regulations.

Notes

I. Further information about the project and possible topics can be obtained from the Principal Investigator – Professor Cliona Ni Mhurchu c.nimhurchu@auckland.ac.nz.

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

III. The most recent 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 qualifying 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 programme.

IV. Recipients of a Healthier Lives National Science Challenge Masters Scholarship in Population Nutrition 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 Healthier Lives National Science Challenge Masters Scholarship in Population Nutrition is not complying with these regulations, terminate the Scholarship and require
repayment of the funds received from the date of the breach.

V. Payments under the terms of this Scholarship remain tax-free as long as they are used 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.

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