Martin Blythe First in Family Scholarship

### Description

The Scholarship was established in 2017 and is funded by alumnus Martin Blythe, now resident in the USA.

The main purpose of the Scholarship is to assist students who are the first member of their family to attend university and who, because of financial hardship, may not otherwise be able to undertake a university degree.

### 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 Martin Blythe First in Family Scholarship.
2. One scholarship will be awarded for a period of up to one year, and will be of the value of $8,000.
3. To take up and be paid the Scholarship, the candidate must be enrolled full-time in the first year of their first undergraduate degree at the University of Auckland.
4. The Scholarship is tenable by students who are citizens or permanent residents of New Zealand, who have completed their final year at a New Zealand secondary school in the preceding year and who are intending to enrol full-time in the first year of an undergraduate degree at the University of Auckland in the year of application.
5. The basis of selection will be academic merit based on results at Level 2 or higher in the National Certificate of Educational Achievement (NCEA) or an equivalent qualification, and a personal statement outlining the candidate’s motivation to succeed at University and demonstrated financial hardship. The recipient must be the first member of their family to attend a university (See Notes I to II).
6. As a condition of tenure, recipients will be required to maintain a GPA of at least 4.00 (equivalent to a B- average) in each semester of study (see Note III).
7. The Scholarship will be awarded by the University of Auckland Council upon the recommendation of a Selection Committee comprising the Chair of the Scholarships Committee (or nominee), a representative of the Alumni Council, and a representative of the Department of Finance.
The Scholarship will be paid in two equal instalments in the third week of Semester One and Semester Two.

9. The Scholarship may not be held with a University of Auckland Top Achiever Scholarship, a University of Auckland Māori Academic Excellence Scholarship, a University of Auckland Pacific Academic Excellence Scholarship or a University of Auckland Academic Potential Scholarship. However, it may be held with any other scholarship, award or grant as long as a) the terms of that scholarship, award or grant permit and b) the University of Auckland Council is informed and approves. It is the responsibility of the recipient to declare to the Scholarships Office all other grant, award or scholarship funding received while in payment for this Scholarship.

10. The University of Auckland Council, in consultation with the donor, has the power to terminate or suspend a scholarship if it receives a report of unsatisfactory progress of a Scholar from Head of Department or School in which the recipient is enrolled.

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

12. The University of Auckland, 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 Scholarship.

13. Applications close with the Scholarships Office on 5 March.

14. Notes [I]-[V] below are deemed to be Regulations.

Notes

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

II. For the purpose of this scholarship, 'first in family' to attend university means the first member in their family, including parents and siblings, to enrol at a university. Adoptive and step parents and siblings are considered part of the nuclear family where they have lived with the applicant for the previous five or more years.

III. For the purposes of this scholarship, the recipient’s grade point average (GPA) is based on all the courses they undertake in each semester of study.

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. Failure to comply with this regulation will result in the termination of the scholarship.

V. Recipients of a Martin Blythe First in Family Scholarship 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 or funding status. The University of Auckland may, in the event that it can be established that a recipient of a Martin Blythe First in Family Scholarship is not complying with these regulations, terminate the Scholarship and require repayment of the funds received from the date of the breach.