Michael Synnott Scholarship

**Code:** 576  
**Faculty:** All  
**Applicable study:** Māori or Pacific students entering any undergraduate degree  
**Closing date:** 31 January 2025  
**Tenure:** Up to four years  
**For:** Tuition fees assistance and/or course-related costs  
**Number on offer:** One  
**Offer rate:** One every three or four years  
**Value:** Up to $5,000 pa

**Description**

The Scholarship was established by Mark and Sally Synnott in memory of Mark’s brother, Michael Synnott, to encourage students of Māori and Pacific descent residing or attending schools in the area commonly referred to as South Auckland to attend the University of Auckland.

**Selection process**

- Application is made to the Scholarships Office  
- A Selection Committee assesses the applications  
- Short-listed applicants may be required to attend an interview  
- The Scholarships are awarded by the University of Auckland Council on the recommendation of the Selection Committee

**Regulations**

1. The Scholarship shall be known as the Michael Synnott Scholarship.  
2. One Scholarship will be awarded every three or four years, depending on the length of the recipient’s undergraduate degree programme, and will be to the value of up to $5,000 pa (see Note I).  
3. The Scholarship will be awarded to a candidate of Māori or Pacific descent who intends to enrol in their first undergraduate Bachelors or conjoint degree at the University of Auckland and who is currently residing in or attending a secondary school in the suburbs of Otara, Papatoetoe, Mangere, Manurewa, Otahuhu and Papakura in the region of Auckland commonly referred to as South Auckland.  
4. The Scholarship is tenable by a New Zealand citizen or permanent resident.  
5. The Scholarship will be awarded on the basis of academic achievement 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 financial need, leadership potential and potential to succeed at University (see Note II). Short-listed candidates may be required to attend an interview.  
6. The Scholarship shall be awarded by the University of Auckland Council on the recommendation of a Selection Committee comprising the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Equity) (or nominee), the Director of the Schools Partnership Office.
(or nominee) and the Donor (or nominee).

7. To take up and be paid the Scholarship the recipient must gain admission to the University of Auckland with a grade point equivalent (GPE) of 3.00 or above, and be enrolled fulltime in an undergraduate degree.

8. To continue to receive the Scholarship, the recipient must maintain a grade point average (GPA) of 3.00 or above (equivalent to a C+ average) in each semester of the award (see Note III).

9. The Scholarship will be paid as a tuition fees credit and/or as a contribution to course-related costs.

10. The Scholarship may not be held concurrently 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, 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.

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 relevant Head of School or Department.

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

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

14. Application close with the Scholarships Office on 31 January in the year of the award.

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

Notes

I. The recipient of the Scholarship may receive additional funding assistance of up to $5,000 each year at the Donor’s discretion, subject to their annual performance.

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

III. For the purposes of this Scholarship, the recipient’s 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 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 Michael Synnott 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 Michael Synnott Scholarship is not complying with these regulations, terminate the Scholarship and require repayment of the funds received from the date of the breach.