Odyssey Addiction Research Scholarship

**Description**

The Scholarship was established in 2020 and is funded by Odyssey, a not-for-profit organisation focussed on helping New Zealanders overcome alcohol, drug and gambling addiction problems.

The main purpose of the Scholarship is to encourage and support a masters thesis or PhD student in the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences at the University of Auckland who is undertaking research, based at Odyssey, that will add and build knowledge for treatment and interventions offered to New Zealanders with mental health and addiction challenges.

**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 Odyssey Addiction Research Scholarship.
2. One or more Scholarship will be awarded, for a period of up to one year, and will be of the value of up to $15,000 for PhD study and up to $5,000 for masters study. Payments and tenure will be pro-rated for part-time students.
3. The Scholarship may be awarded to a student who meets all the requirements of these regulations and enrolls full-time or part-time at the University of Auckland in a masters thesis of at least 90 points or a PhD and who is undertaking research into addiction. Research projects will be aligned to Odyssey services and will be congruent with Odyssey values (the pillars) and recovery approaches (see Note I).
4. The Scholarship is tenable by students who are citizens or 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, and the alignment of the research to the aims and objectives of Odyssey. 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 Notes I to III).
6. The Scholarship will be awarded by the University of Auckland Council upon the recommendation of a Selection Committee comprising the Director of the Centre for Addiction Research in the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences (or nominee), an Associate Director of the Centre for Addiction Research (or nominee) and a representative of Odyssey.

7. The Scholarship will be paid as a fortnightly stipend or a lump sum, dependent on the value awarded.

8. The Scholarship may not be held concurrently with a University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship, a University of Auckland Research Masters Scholarship, a University of Auckland Māori Postgraduate Scholarship or a University of Auckland Pacific Postgraduate 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 approved. 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.

9. 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.

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

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

12. Applications close with the Scholarships Office on TBC.

13. Notes [I]-[VI] below are deemed to be regulations.

Notes

I. The research will be Odyssey based and will inform and improve current practice, provide opportunity to showcase Odyssey work through publication and/or presentation and contribute to evidence-based practice. Further information on Odyssey can be found at www.Odyssey.org.nz.

II. For the purposes of a masters thesis programme, 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 entirety 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.

III. For the purposes of a PhD programme, where the qualifying programme is an undergraduate honours degree (or equivalent undergraduate degree or integrated undergraduate and postgraduate degree) the GPA/GPE will be calculated over the final two years of full-time graded study (or equivalent) in the programme. In all other cases, the GPA/GPE will be calculated over the entirety of the programme.

IV. The Scholarship must be taken up in either the first or second semester in the year of the award by recipients enrolled in a masters degree. In order to take up the Scholarship, PhD students must enrol within six months of the scholarship offer, otherwise the scholarship offer will lapse.

V. Recipients of an Odyssey House Addiction Research 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, employment or funding status. The University of Auckland may, in the event it can be established that a recipient of an Odyssey House Addiction Research Scholarship is not complying with these regulations, terminate the Scholarship and require repayment of the funds received from the date of the breach.

VI. 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.

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