Pacific Communities Climate Change Public Policy Masters Scholarship

Description

The Scholarship was established in 2020 and is funded by a Vice-Chancellor’s Strategic Development Fund grant awarded to an academic staff member from the Faculty of Arts at the University of Auckland.

The main purpose of the Scholarship is to encourage and support a masters student in the Faculty of Arts at the University of Auckland who is undertaking a research project that relates to Pacific communities impacted by climate change and climate induced displacement in the Pacific.

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 Pacific Communities Climate Change Public Policy Masters Scholarship.
2. One Scholarship will be awarded, for a period of up to one year, and will be of the value of up to $19,250 (see Note II). Payments and tenure will be pro-rated for part-time students.
3. To be eligible for Scholarship consideration, applicants must be i) of Pacific ancestry (see Note III), ii) enrolled or enrolling in a masters thesis with a points value of at least 90 points in a Master of Public Policy (MPP) in the Faculty of Arts at the University of Auckland, and iii) intending to undertake research relating to Pacific communities impacted by climate change and climate induced displacement in the Pacific. Students who are enrolled in an MPP programme of more than 120 points must be enrolled in the thesis component at the time of take-up of the Scholarship to be eligible for consideration. Applicants must normally have a grade point average (GPA) or grade point equivalent (GPE) of 6.50 or above to be eligible for Scholarship consideration (see Regulation 4 and Note IV).
4. 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 a personal statement from the applicant on their academic background, and the quality and nature of the applicant’s research proposal.

5. The Scholarship will be awarded by the University of Auckland Council on the recommendation of a Selection Committee comprising the Co-director of the Centre for Asia Pacific Refugee Studies (or nominee), the Co-Head of School, the Director of the Public Policy Institute (or nominee) and an academic staff member from the Public Policy Institute, nominated by the Director.

6. To be paid the Scholarship, the awardee must be enrolled in the masters thesis with a points value of at least 90 points in an MPP.

7. The Scholarship will be paid as a fortnightly stipend. Payments will commence in the first semester of enrolment in the thesis as soon as is practical after confirmation of the awardee’s enrolment, that is, after the final date on which a student may add or delete courses without incurring a late enrolment fee. Payment to part-time students will be pro-rated.

8. The Scholarship will be tenable for one year, or equivalent if part-time, or until the date for completion of the requirements for the Master of Public Policy 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 Scholarship may be not be held concurrently with a University of Auckland Research Masters 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 approves. It is the responsibility of the awardee 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 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 Arts.

12. The University of Auckland Council is not obliged to make an award if it is determined there is no candidate that meets the criteria and/or no candidate sufficient merit.

13. The University of Auckland can 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 TBC in the year of the award.

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

Notes

I. Further information about the project and possible topics can be obtained from Associate Professor Jay Marlowe (jm.marlowe@auckland.ac.nz).

II. Additional funding to support field work costs may be available.

III. Pacific students are defined as students who are of indigenous Pacific descent from any of the following islands: Samoa, American Samoa, Tonga, Cook Islands, Niue, Tokelau, Fiji, Rotuma, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, New Caledonia, Papua New Guinea, Kiribati, Tuvalu, Palau, Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Wallis and Futuna, Hawaii, French Polynesia, Rapanui (Easter Island), Nauru and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Fiji Islanders of Indian descent may also be considered for this Scholarship.

IV. 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 degree.

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. Awardees will be required to 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 an awardee is not complying with these regulations, terminate the Scholarship and require repayment of the funds received from the date of the breach.