Queen’s Counsel Scholarship

Description

The Scholarship was established in 2020 and is funded by a group of alumni of the Auckland Law School who have been appointed Queen’s Counsel.

The main purpose of the Scholarship is to support undergraduate Law students who have achieved academically, but who are experiencing hardships or who may have been disadvantaged due to their personal circumstances.

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 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 Queen’s Counsel Scholarship.
2. Two Scholarships will be awarded annually, each for a period of up to one year, and will be of the value of up to $5,000 each.
3. To take up and be paid the Scholarship, the candidate must be enrolled full-time in Part II, III or IV of a Bachelor of Laws (LLB), Bachelor of Laws (Honours) (LLB(Hons)) or associated conjoint degree in the Faculty of Law at the University of Auckland.
4. The Scholarship is tenable by students who are citizens or permanent residents of New Zealand.
5. The basis of selection will be academic achievement and a personal statement outlining the candidate’s all-round ability, capacity to excel in the practice of law, commitment to the legal community through extracurricular activities commensurate with their year level of legal study (including, but not limited to, the Equal Justice Project, AULSS, the mooting society, TRT, PILSA, Rainbow Law), and financial or personal hardship. A grade point average (GPA) or grade point equivalent (GPE) of at least 5.00 (4.50 for Māori and Pacific candidates) is required for Scholarship consideration (see Notes I to II).
6. The Scholarship will be awarded by the University of Auckland Council upon the recommendation of a Selection Committee comprising the Dean of the Faculty of Law (or nominee), and two members of Academic Staff from the Faculty of Law, nominated by the Dean of the Faculty of Law.

7. The Scholarship will be paid in two equal lump sums in the third week of Semester One and Semester Two.

8. The Scholarship 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 or grant funding received and for which the awardee receives payment while also in payment for this Scholarship.

9. 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 the Dean of the Faculty of Law.

10. The University of Auckland Council is not obliged to make an award if in any year there are not candidates of sufficient merit.

11. 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.

12. Applications close with the Scholarships Office on 25 May in the year of the award.

13. Notes [I]-[IV] below are deemed to be Regulations.

Notes

I. For the purpose of this scholarship, academic achievement for students entering Part II, academic achievement is assessed as a Scholarships grade point average (GPA) or grade point equivalent (GPE) obtained over the applicant’s first year of full-time graded study. For students entering Part III or Part IV, academic achievement is assessed as a Scholarships GPA or GPE obtained over the applicant’s most recent two years of full-time graded study.

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

III. 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 and to assist the awardee with living costs while studying. Failure to comply with this regulation will result in the termination of the Scholarship.

IV. Recipients of a Queen’s Counsel 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 Queen’s Counsel Scholarship is not complying with these regulations, terminate the Scholarship and require repayment of the funds received from the date of the breach.

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