Tower Insurance Data Science Scholarship

Description

The Scholarship was established in 2021 and is funded by Tower Insurance.

The main purpose of the Scholarship is to recognise excellence in postgraduate Data Science studies at the University of Auckland.

Selection process

- Application is made to the Scholarships Office
- A Selection Committee assesses the applications
- Short-listed candidates will 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 Tower Insurance Data Science Scholarship.
2. At least one Scholarship will be awarded annually for a period of up to one year up to a total value of up to $10,000. Payments and tenure may be pro-rated for part-time students or students in the final semester of their programme (see Regulation 7 and Note I).
3. To be eligible for Scholarship consideration, an applicant must be i) a citizen or permanent resident of New Zealand, ii) enrolled in a Master of Data Science or Master of Professional Studies (Data Science), iii) have completed at least the first 60 points of the Master of Data Science or Master of Professional Studies (Data Science), and iv) have completed at least 30 points from COMPSCI 751, 752, 753, 760 or 762 and 30 points from STATS 762 or 763, 769, 782 and 784. A grade point average (GPA) of at least 7.00 (6.50 for Māori and Pacific candidates) across the best 30 points from COMPSCI 751, 752, 753, 760 or 762 and the best 30 points from STATS 762 or 763, 769, 782 and 784 is required for Scholarship consideration.
4. The basis of selection will be academic merit as assessed by the grade point average (GPA) calculated across the best 30 points from COMPSCI 751, 752, 753, 760 or 762 and the best 30 points from STATS 762 or 763, 769, 782 and 784 and the applicant’s interest in data science, future employment plans, desire for success and community
involvement as assessed by the quality of personal statement and performance in an interview. Short-listed candidates will be required to attend an interview.

5. The Scholarship will be awarded by the University of Auckland Council upon the recommendation of a Selection Committee comprising the Data Science Programme Director (or nominee), the Data Science and ICT Programme Manager (or nominee), and one representative of the donor.

6. To be paid the Scholarship, awardees must be enrolled in a Master of Data Science or Master of Professional Studies (Data Science).

7. The first instalment of the Scholarship will be paid in a lump sum in Semester Two. The second instalment will be paid in Semester One of the following year where applicable (see Note I). Payment to part-time students will be prorated on a case-by-case basis.

8. The Tower Insurance Data Science Scholarship may be held with any other scholarship, award or grant where the Regulations for that scholarship, award or grant permit and where 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.

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 Data Science Programme Director.

10. 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 of sufficient merit.

11. The University of Auckland can 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 4 July in the year of the award.


Notes

I. Payment to students enrolled in the final semester of their programme will be made in one lump sum.

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

III. Awardees will be required to comply with the regulations for the Scholarship and must notify the Scholarships Office of any change in their enrolment, employment or funding status. The University of Auckland may, in the event that 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.

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