University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship

**Code:** 43  
**Faculty:** All  
**Applicable study:** PhD, DClinPsy or the research component of an approved doctorate  
**Closing date:** No application required  
**Tenure:** Up to 36 months (see Reg. 9 & 10)  
**For:**  
**Number on offer:** Varies  
**Offer rate:** Annually  
**Value:** Up to $28,500 pa for 2021 plus compulsory fees and international health insurance (see Reg. 2). Available to domestic students and domestic fee-paying international students

**Description**

The Scholarship was established in 1996 and revised in 2016.

The intention of the Scholarship is to encourage and support academically excellent domestic and international students, who are paying domestic fees, to undertake doctoral study at the University of Auckland. Students who are undertaking their first doctoral programme will be assessed for scholarship eligibility and award at the time of application to the doctoral programme.

**Selection process**

- The Scholarship is awarded by the University of Auckland Council on the recommendation of the Dean of Graduate Studies, a Faculty Dean or the Director of a Large Scale Research Institute (LSRI).
- The basis of selection for Scholarships awarded by the University of Auckland Council at the recommendation of the Dean of Graduate Studies will be academic merit as measured by performance in the most recent qualifying programme for doctoral study (including standing of awarding institution).
- The basis of selection for Scholarships awarded by the University of Auckland Council at the recommendation of a Faculty Dean or the Director of an LSRI will be academic merit and any other factors the Dean or Director considers relevant in the circumstances.

**Regulations**

1. The Scholarship shall be known as the University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship.
2. The University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship provides a tax-free stipend of up to $28,500 per annum in 2021, with an annual cost of living adjustment to the stipend value, for up to 36 months (see Regulation 10 and Note II) for students enrolled in a PhD, DClinPsy or the research component of another approved doctorate. In addition, compulsory tuition fees will be covered for up to 36 months for all domestic students and for international students who are eligible to study under the domestic fees policy (see Note III). International students will also receive compulsory international student health cover. Part-time students will be paid pro-rata for up to 72 months (see Note
3. Students will be considered for the award of a University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship at the time of application to the doctoral programme only. Students who already have a doctorate are not eligible for consideration for a University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship. Students who have already been admitted to their doctoral programme are not eligible for consideration for a University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship (see Notes XXII, XXVI, XXVII and XXX).

4. The Scholarship may be awarded for full-time enrolment in the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy, Doctor of Clinical Psychology or the research component of another approved doctorate. The Scholarship may also be available to domestic students for whom socially compelling reasons make part-time enrolment preferable (see Note IV).

5. The Scholarship is tenable by domestic students and international students who are paying domestic fees.

6. The Scholarship will be awarded by the University of Auckland Council on the recommendation of the Dean of Graduate Studies, a Faculty Dean or the Director of an LSRI.

7. The Dean of Graduate Studies’ recommendation for the award of a scholarship will be based on academic merit as measured by performance in the applicant’s most recent qualifying programme for doctoral study (including standing of awarding institution) (see Notes V-VII and IX-XXII).

8. A Faculty Dean’s or the Director of an LSRI’s recommendation for the award of a scholarship will be based on academic merit (as at Note VIII) and any other factors the Dean/Director considers relevant in the circumstances (see Notes VII-X).

9. Subject to Regulation 10, domestic students and international students with a New Zealand qualifying programme will be required to enrol within 3 months of the date of their unconditional programme offer; subject to Regulation 10, international students with an overseas qualifying programme will be required to enrol within 6 months of the date of their unconditional programme offer, otherwise the scholarship offer will lapse (see Note XXIII). Awardees must also meet all requirements of their admission and scholarship offer before any payments will be made.

10. Scholarships offered on the basis of Regulation 8 must be taken up in accordance with Regulation 9 (including Note XXIII) or by 1 December in the year of offer, whichever take-up date is sooner, otherwise the scholarship offer will lapse.

11. The University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship will provide support for up to 36 months of study and payments will commence from the doctoral enrolment date. A further six months of scholarship funding, subject to Scholarships Committee approval, may be available (see Note XXIV). These durations shall be pro-rated for part-time scholarship awardees (see Note IV).

12. To comply with the full-time study requirement in Regulation 4, 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 scholarship year (see Notes IV and XXXII).

13. A University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship may not be held concurrently with any other doctoral scholarship funded by the University of Auckland (including scholarships funded by faculties), or with any postgraduate scholarship or grant awarded by the Universities New Zealand Committee, Tertiary Education Commission, New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Asian Development Bank, Education New Zealand or any other New Zealand government or foreign government-funded scholarships or grants or with Colfuturo Credito Beca. However, it may be held with any other study award or grant where the regulations for that award or grant permit, and where the University of Auckland Council so approves, up to an additional maximum of 50% of the stipend value of the University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship. If the value of the co-tenured scholarship exceeds 50% of the University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship stipend value, the emolument for the University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship will be reduced to limit the additional co-tenured stipend value to 50% of the University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship stipend value.

14. A Scholarship may be terminated by the University of Auckland Council should it receive a report from the Board of Graduate Studies that a candidate’s academic progress is unsatisfactory.

15. Notes [I]–[XXXV] below are deemed to be Regulations.

**Notes**
I. Students who have been offered a scholarship must meet all requirements for admission into their intended programme in order to take up the scholarship offer.

II. Compulsory fees are those only related to the relevant Doctoral study, plus Student Services Fee. In addition, for international students, the single student Health Insurance compulsory charge (as detailed on the tuition fees invoice) is covered by the Scholarship for the duration of the scholarship.

III. To be eligible to pay domestic PhD fees, recipients who are permanent residents of New Zealand or Australia, Australian citizens or international students may only be resident outside of New Zealand for a maximum total of twelve months over the period of their enrolment in their doctoral degree and only for the purposes of conducting research.

IV. Recipients of a University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship are normally required to be enrolled on a full-time basis. However, domestic students for whom socially compelling reasons make part-time enrolment preferable may apply to hold a scholarship on a part-time basis pro-rated. Socially compelling reasons include a) carer responsibilities for: pre-school and/or school-aged children; an invalid or disabled family / whanau member; or b) medical condition(s), impairment(s) or disabilities. Applicants will not be granted permission to hold a University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship on a part-time basis if they wish to undertake full-time paid employment or substantial part-time employment. Students who hold a scholarship on a part-time basis are subject to the same employment restrictions as full-time scholarship holders (i.e. 500 hours per scholarship year; refer Regulation 12 and Note XXXII) and are required to change to full-time enrolment if a change in their circumstances means they no longer qualify to hold the scholarship on a part-time basis.

V. All applicants who obtained a grade point average (GPA) of 8.00 or above (in their most recent qualifying programme) at a New Zealand university will be awarded a scholarship.

VI. All Māori or domestic Pacific applicants who obtained a GPA of 7.50 or above (in their most recent qualifying programme) at a New Zealand university will be awarded a scholarship.

VII. Outstanding applicants who completed their most recent qualifying programme outside New Zealand will be considered for a scholarship by the Dean of Graduate Studies on the basis of academic merit, as measured by performance in the qualifying programme. Matters considered by the Dean of Graduate Studies in relation to performance in the qualifying programme will include, but are not limited to, grade point equivalence (GPE) and academic record for qualifying programme, academic references and the standing of the institution at which the qualifying programme was completed.

VIII. Each Faculty Dean and the Director of an LSRI has the discretion to recommend to Council the award of a Scholarship to an applicant on the basis of academic merit and any other factors the Dean/Director considers relevant in the circumstances. Matters that may be considered by the Dean/Director in relation to academic merit include, but are not limited to, academic record, standing of awarding institution, academic references, cv, research and publication record. To avoid doubt, each Faculty Dean and the Director of an LSRI may choose not to exercise this discretion in any given year.

IX. Where a qualifying programme is the basis for entry to the doctoral programme, an applicant must have a GPE/GPA of 7.00 or above in that most recent qualifying programme to be eligible for scholarship consideration by the Dean of Graduate Studies, a Faculty Dean or the Director of an LSRI. Where a qualifying programme is entirely pass/fail, the University may generate a GPE only where the programme consists entirely of a thesis.

X. To avoid doubt, the following categories of applicants are not eligible for scholarship consideration by the Dean of Graduate Studies but may be eligible for scholarship consideration by a Faculty Dean or Director of an LSRI under Note VIII: (1) applicants without a qualifying programme or qualifying programme GPA/E; (2) applicants who completed their most recent qualifying programme both at a New Zealand institution and with a GPA of 7.00-7.99 (7.00-7.49 for Māori and domestic Pacific students); (3) applicants who completed their most recent qualifying programme both at a New Zealand institution that is not a university and with a GPA of 8.00 or above; (4) applicants qualifying for entry to the doctoral programme through the exceptional circumstances provisions of the relevant doctoral programme regulations, except as stipulated by Note XI.

XI. Applicants who qualify for exceptional circumstance entry to the PhD have a “qualifying programme”, and
(subject to Note IX) are eligible for scholarship consideration by the Dean of Graduate Studies, only where a pass/fail degree comprised entirely of a thesis is the basis for PhD exceptional circumstance entry and where the GPE is generated by the University pursuant to assessment under the PhD exceptional circumstance entry policy and procedures. Applicants who qualify for exceptional circumstance entry to the PhD on the basis of a pass/fail degree comprised entirely of a thesis have a “qualifying programme”, and are eligible for scholarship consideration by the Faculty Dean or Director of an LSRI subject to Note IX, provided the GPE is generated pursuant to assessment under the PhD exceptional circumstance entry policy and procedures.

XII. Where the most recent qualifying programme is an undergraduate honours degree (or equivalent undergraduate degree or integrated undergraduate and postgraduate degree or MBChB), the GPA/E under Notes V-VII and IX-X will be calculated over the final two years of full-time study (or equivalent) in the programme. In all other cases, save masters transfers, the GPA/E under Notes V-VII and IX-X will be calculated over the entirety of the most recent qualifying programme.

XIII. To be deemed a qualifying programme for the PhD, EdD or MD for the purposes of scholarship consideration under Notes V-VII and IX-X of these regulations, an individual programme must satisfy Regulation 13a and b of the PhD Statute or the qualifying programme requirements at Note XI of these scholarship regulations, or Regulations 2a and 2b of the relevant named doctorate regulations respectively.

XIV. Where an applicant for the PhD, EdD or MD has an individual qualification which satisfies Regulation 13a of the PhD Statute but not Regulation 13b of the PhD Statute, or satisfies Regulation 2a but not Regulation 2b of the relevant named doctorate regulations, and the Board of Graduate Studies allows (on a case-by-case basis for the purposes of programme admission) that qualification to be combined with a subsequent University of Auckland enrolment in an individual research course that satisfies Regulation 13b of the PhD Statute or Regulation 2b of the relevant doctorate regulations, the Dean of Graduate Studies may, on a case-by-case basis and subject to Notes XVII and XX, permit the combined GPA/E from that qualification and the research course to be considered the qualifying programme GPA/E under Notes V-VII of these Scholarship regulations (“combined GPA/E permission”).

XV. The Dean of Graduate Studies may not grant combined GPA/E permission under Note XIV or Notes XX-XXI where the applicant has a previous programme which satisfies both Regulation 13a and 13b of the PhD Statute Regulation or Regulation 2a and Regulation 2b of the relevant named doctorate regulations. In such cases, the applicant’s most recent programme that satisfies both Regulation 13a and 13b of the PhD Statute or both Regulation 2a and Regulation 2b of the relevant named doctorate regulations will be their “most recent qualifying programme” under Notes V-VII and IX-X of these Scholarship regulations.

XVI. Where the MBChB is a qualifying programme under Note XIII and the final two years of the programme are ungraded, the following provisions apply: a) only a student who obtains a “distinction” in each of the final two years of the MBChB is deemed to have a qualifying programme GPA of at least 8.00 under Note V; b) a student who obtains a “pass” and a “distinction” across the final two years of the MBChB is deemed to have a qualifying programme GPA of 7.50 under Notes V-VI and IX-X; c) a student who obtains a “pass” in each of the final two years of the MBChB does not have a GPA of 7.00 or above under Note IX.

XVII. Where the MBChB is permitted to contribute to the qualifying programme GPA/E under Note XIV and the final two years of the MBChB are ungraded, the following provisions apply: a) only a student who obtains a “distinction” in each of the final two years of the MBChB and a GPA of at least 8.00 in the approved research course is deemed to have a qualifying programme GPA of at least 8.00 under Note V; b) a student who obtains a “pass” and a “distinction” across the final two years of the MBChB and obtains a GPA of 7.00 or above in the approved research course is deemed to have a maximum qualifying programme GPA of 7.00-7.99 under Notes V, IX and X; c) a student who obtains a “pass” in each of the final two years of the MBChB is not eligible for “combined GPA permission” under Note XIV.

XVIII. In the case of the DClinPsy, the GPA/E for the most recent qualifying programme is calculated over the entirety of the most recent programme that satisfies Regulation 2a of the DClinPsy regulations. Where additional courses are required for the applicant to satisfy Regulation 2b of the DClinPsy regulations, these grades shall also be included in the calculation of the GPA/E for the most recent qualifying programme under Notes V-VI and IX-X.
In the case of conjoint degrees, the qualifying programme for the purposes of Notes V-VII and IX-X is the component degree that is relevant to the proposed doctoral study.

Where the Board of Graduate Studies permits (on a case-by-case basis) a New Zealand university postgraduate programme that is primarily or entirely comprised of creative practice to be combined with a subsequent University of Auckland enrolment in a bridging programme for the purposes of satisfying Regulations 13a and 13b of the PhD Statute, the Dean of Graduate Studies may, on a case-by-case basis, give permission for the combined GPA to be considered the qualifying programme GPA under Note V, provided the applicant has a GPA of 8.00 or above (GPA of 7.50 or above for Māori or domestic Pacific students) in the (primarily) creative practice programme and a GPA of 8.00 or above (GPA of 7.50 or above for Māori or domestic Pacific students) in the bridging programme.

Where the Board of Graduate Studies permits (on a case-by-case basis) an international postgraduate programme that is primarily or entirely comprised of creative practice to be combined with a subsequent University of Auckland enrolment in a bridging programme for the purposes of satisfying regulations 13a and 13b of the PhD Statute, the Dean of Graduate Studies may, on a case-by-case basis, give permission for the combined programmes to be considered the qualifying programme under Note VII, provided the applicant has a GPA of 8.00 or above in the bridging programme.

Students who transfer from a University of Auckland research masters to a PhD degree will be assessed for this Scholarship at the same time as their application to transfer to the PhD is considered. For students transferring from a University of Auckland research masters degree of 240 points, the qualifying programme GPA under Notes V-VI and IX-X will be calculated over all completed points in the masters degree, and over no fewer than 120 points. Such students are ineligible for scholarship consideration where the completed masters points do not include at least a B+ result in a research component of at least 30 points. To have a qualifying programme GPA of 8.00 or above under Note V (or a GPA of 7.50 or above under Note VI), students transferring from a 120 or 180 point University of Auckland research masters degree must have a GPA of 8.00 or above (GPA of 7.50 or above for Māori or Pacific students) in any coursework undertaken for the masters programme and a GPA of 8.00 or above (GPA of 7.50 or above for Māori or Pacific students) in the New Zealand university programme that qualified them for admission to the masters programme. Where the New Zealand university programme that qualified the student for admission to the masters is an undergraduate honours or equivalent degree, or integrated undergraduate and postgraduate degree or MBChB, the GPA shall be calculated over the final two years of study (or equivalent) in that programme. In all other cases, the GPA shall be calculated over the entirety of the New Zealand university programme that qualified the student for admission to the masters programme. Students transferring from a 120 or 180 point University of Auckland research masters degree are ineligible for scholarship consideration where the New Zealand university programme that qualified them for admission to the masters programme does not also satisfy Regulations 13a or 13b of the PhD Statute. Students transferring from a 120 or 180 point University of Auckland research masters degree who were admitted to the masters programme based on a qualification completed at an overseas institution may be considered for a scholarship under Note VII, where GPE shall refer to that overseas qualification, provided they obtained a GPA of no less than 8.00 in any coursework undertaken for the University of Auckland masters degree. Such students are ineligible for scholarship consideration where the overseas programme that qualified them for admission to the masters programme does not also satisfy Regulations 13a and 13b of the PhD Statute. All students who transfer and are awarded the Scholarship and a) who were enrolled on a part-time basis during their masters degree, will have the tenure of their doctoral scholarship adjusted to account for the masters degree enrolment period on a full-time equivalent basis, and b) who were previously in payment of a University of Auckland Research Masters Scholarship, Māori Postgraduate Scholarship or Pacific Postgraduate Scholarship will commence payment for their University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship from the date specified by the Dean of Graduate Studies.

Where exceptional circumstances exist, students may apply to the Scholarships Office to request an extension of take-up time for the Scholarship. Applications will be considered and determined on a case-by-case basis in consultation with the Dean of Graduate Studies as warranted. PhD enrolments and scholarship payments must commence on the first of the month.
XXIV. A further six months of scholarship funding, subject to Scholarships Committee approval, may be available to those PhD students who have held a University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship. Extensions are not normally available for students undertaking a 360 point doctoral programme unless there are significant extenuating circumstances.

XXV. The Scholarship will not cover any bridging programmes.

XXVI. Students who have been offered a University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship, and decline an offer of place, are eligible to be considered for both admission and a scholarship again at a later date provided they have not enrolled in a doctorate at the University and held some other doctoral scholarship at the University in the interim. Students who have commenced payment for a University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship are not eligible to hold a subsequent University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship.

XXVII. A student who applied to a University of Auckland doctoral programme and received an offer of place, but was not offered a University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship (whether or not the student applied for the scholarship), will not be eligible for consideration for a scholarship again if they make another application to a doctoral programme at a later date, unless the student’s subsequent application is based on a new qualifying programme.

XXVIII. A student who has previously terminated a University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship for health reasons may apply in writing to the Scholarships Committee for consideration to receive the remaining balance of the scholarship, up to the maximum allowable tenure, to support completion of their doctoral programme.

XXIX. Students who have already commenced payment may defer their University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship funding for up to one year in total during their tenure of the scholarship provided they do not hold some other doctoral scholarship in the interim.

XXX. The maximum combined period of scholarship tenure for students who a) transfer from one university-funded doctoral scholarship to another, or b) terminate one doctoral degree and commence another, or c) have completed one doctoral degree and return to commence a second, shall be a total of up to 36 months with a possible extension of up to six further months. Where a Masters student is approved to upgrade their partially completed degree to doctoral study and is subsequently awarded a University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship, the tenure of the Scholarship will be up to 36 months from the start date of the research component of their Masters degree.

XXXI. Recipients of a University of Auckland Doctoral 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 a University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship is not complying with these regulations, terminate the Scholarship and require repayment of the funds received from the date of the breach.

XXXII. Paid work that is required as part of an approved doctoral programme (such as an internship for some named doctorates) or that is undertaken as part of an approved University of Auckland Internship, is not counted towards the 500 hours of additional and paid work that a Scholar may undertake while in receipt of a scholarship.

XXXIII. University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship holders enrolled in the DClinPsy internship year may apply to the Scholarships Office for a stipend. If they provide evidence to the Scholarships Office that their net internship salary is less than the value of the University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship stipend they will receive a stipend to bring their income up to the value of the scholarship stipend.

XXXIV. University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship holders enrolled in the University of Auckland PhD Internship Programme for three months or less, and who are undertaking an unpaid internship, may continue to receive all or part of their Scholarship, subject to Scholarships Committee approval.

XXXV. 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.