University of Auckland Pacific Postgraduate Scholarship

**Description**

The Scholarship is offered each semester to domestic Pacific students enrolled in any Masters or postgraduate level Bachelors (Honours) degree, or any Postgraduate Diploma.

Students will be assessed for scholarship eligibility when their application for postgraduate admission to the University of Auckland is approved. To be awarded this Scholarship, applicants must have obtained their most recent qualifying programme at a recognised university and have achieved a GPA of 7.50 or above in that programme.

**Selection process**

- The Scholarship is awarded by the University of Auckland Council on the recommendation of the Scholarships Committee

**Regulations**

1. The Scholarship shall be known as the University of Auckland Pacific Postgraduate Scholarship.
2. The Scholarship will comprise a stipend of up to $13,390 pa in 2020 paid in fortnightly instalments, plus compulsory fees for the programme (see Notes IX to XI). Payments and tenure will be pro-rated for part-time students (see Note V).
3. The Scholarship will be offered each semester to students who meet all the requirements of these regulations and enrol full-time at the University of Auckland in a Masters degree, a postgraduate Bachelors (Honours) degree or in a Postgraduate Diploma (see Notes I and II). The Scholarship may also be available to students who meet all the requirements of these regulations and for whom socially compelling reasons make part-time enrolment preferable (see Note V). Students cannot be considered for the Scholarship for a programme they have already commenced.
4. The Scholarship is tenable by Pacific students who are citizens or permanent residents of New Zealand who have completed their most recent qualifying programme at a recognised university (see Notes III to IV).
5. The basis of selection is academic merit, measured by the grade point average (GPA) assessed over the applicant’s most recent qualifying programme (see Note IV). A GPA of 7.50 or above in the applicant’s most recent qualifying programme is required for the award of a Scholarship.
6. The Scholarship will be awarded by the University of Auckland Council on the recommendation of the Scholarships Committee.

7. To take up the Scholarship, awardees must have enrolled in a Masters or postgraduate Bachelors (Honours) degree or in a Postgraduate Diploma by the next available semester after the date of their confirmed offer, otherwise their scholarship offer will lapse.

8. The Scholarship shall be tenable until the date for completion of the requirements for the degree or diploma as specified in the applicable programme Regulations (see Notes IX to XI). Fortnightly payments shall commence from Week 3 of the initial semester of programme enrolment. Masters recipients who commence their programme in December will receive their stipend payments from the third week of December.

9. 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 (See Notes V and VII).

10. When a student, through withdrawal or failure to meet any programme requirements, is no longer eligible to pursue the programme of study for which the Scholarship has been offered, the Scholarship shall be terminated. A student enrolled in a 240 or 300 point programme must achieve a GPA of 7.50 or above in the first 120 or 180 points of the programme respectively in order to retain the Scholarship. A student enrolled in a 360 point programme must achieve a GPA of 7.50 or above in each of the first two years of equivalent full-time study in the programme in order to retain the Scholarship.

11. A Scholarship may be terminated by the University of Auckland Council on receipt of a report of unsatisfactory academic progress from the student’s Head of Department or School.

12. A University of Auckland Pacific Postgraduate 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 so approves. If the value of the additional co-tenured stipends exceeds 75% of the value of the University of Auckland Pacific Postgraduate Scholarship stipend, the emolument for the University of Auckland Pacific Postgraduate Scholarship will be reduced to limit the value of the additional co-tenured stipends to 75% of the University of Auckland Pacific Postgraduate Scholarship stipend (see Notes I and VII to X).

13. Regulations [I]-[XII] below are deemed to be regulations.

Notes

I. A student who has been a recipient of a University of Auckland Māori and Pacific Masters/Honours/PGDip Scholarship or a University of Auckland Pacific Postgraduate Scholarship and who is applying for entry to a second postgraduate programme may be eligible to hold the Scholarship again, provided that the student is advancing from a Postgraduate Diploma or a Bachelors (Honours) degree to a Masters degree. A student who has been the recipient of a University of Auckland Māori Postgraduate Scholarship is not eligible to hold a University of Auckland Pacific Postgraduate Scholarship.

II. LLB (Hons), BE(Hons) or BFA(Hons) and any other undergraduate level Honours degrees are not approved degrees for the purposes of this Scholarship. Graduate Diplomas and PG Certificates are not approved programmes for the purposes of this Scholarship.

III. Pacific students are defined as citizens or permanent residents of New Zealand 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).

IV. Except in the case of the BMedSc(Hons), the most recent qualifying programme is defined as the most recently completed programme of study that qualifies the applicant for entry to the postgraduate programme for which they are applying. In the case of the BMedSc(Hons), the qualifying programme is always the first three years of full-time equivalent study in the MBChB or equivalent degree. Where the most recently completed 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 degree.

V. Recipients of the University of Auckland Pacific Postgraduate Scholarship are normally required to be enrolled on a full-time basis. However, students for whom socially compelling reasons make part-time enrolment preferable may apply to hold the 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 Pacific Postgraduate Scholarship on a part-time basis if they wish to undertake full-time paid employment or substantial part-time employment. Students who hold the 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 9 and Note VII) 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.

VI. 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. Failure to comply with this regulation will result in the termination of the Scholarship.

VII. Recipients of the University of Auckland Pacific Postgraduate 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 Māori Postgraduate Scholarship is not complying with these regulations, terminate the Scholarship and require repayment of the funds received from the date of the breach.

VIII. The University of Auckland Pacific Postgraduate Scholarship stipend will be reduced by the amount the additional value (excluding compulsory tuition fees) exceeds $10,042.50, which is 75% of the 2020 value of the University of Auckland Pacific Postgraduate Scholarship stipend.

IX. In exceptional circumstances (such as illness, injury or events beyond the control of the student) and upon submission by the student of appropriate evidence, the Scholarship may be deferred during tenure for a maximum of one year in total, following written approval by the Manager, Scholarships Office.

X. The stipend value must not exceed $13,390 per 120 points of enrolment, pro-rated for enrolment in 180 and 300 point programmes.

XI. A student cannot remain in receipt of this Scholarship while enrolled in an extension.

XII. Only those students who submit their applications by the official closing date for the programme are guaranteed consideration for the Scholarship.