University of Auckland Scholarship for Students from Refugee Backgrounds

**Description**

The Scholarship was established in 2016 by funds received from the University of Auckland alumni and friends.

The University recognises that students from refugee backgrounds are likely to experience barriers to accessing and succeeding at the University. The primary purpose of the Scholarship is to mitigate the economic barriers faced by students from refugee backgrounds so that they can access undergraduate study and the transformative potential of a tertiary qualification.

**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 University of Auckland Scholarship for Students from Refugee Backgrounds.
2. Up to five Scholarships will be awarded annually, each for a period of one year, and will be of the value of up to $5,000 each.
3. To be offered the Scholarship, candidates must be currently enrolled in Year 13 at a New Zealand Secondary School and intending to enrol full-time in a degree at the University of Auckland in the following year.
4. The Scholarship will be offered to students who are citizens or permanent residents of New Zealand and come from a refugee background (see Note I).
5. The basis of selection will be academic merit based on results at Level 2 in the National Certificate of Educational Achievement (NCEA) or an equivalent qualification, and demonstrated financial need (see Note II).
6. The Scholarship will be awarded by the University of Auckland Council on the recommendation of a selection committee.
committee comprising the Chair of the Scholarships Committee (or nominee), the Pro Vice Chancellor (Equity) (or nominee) and one representative of Alumni Relations and Development.

7. The Scholarship will be paid in two instalments: one in the first, and one in the second semester (see Note III).

8. The Scholarship may not be held concurrently with a University of Auckland Academic Potential Scholarship or a University of Auckland Top Achiever Scholarship. However it may be held with any other scholarship, award or grant as long as a) the terms of that scholarship, award or grant permit and b) the University of Auckland Council is informed and approves.

9. 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 relevant Head of Department or Disciplinary Area.

10. The University of Auckland Council is not obliged to make an award if in any year there is no candidate of sufficient merit.

11. The University of Auckland Council 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 1 November in the year preceding the award.

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

Notes

I. Refugee background refers to students who have themselves or whose parents/primary guardian(s) have been granted refuge in New Zealand.

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

III. Payment will be made in the third week of each semester upon confirmation of eligible enrolment.

IV. 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.

V. Recipients of a University of Auckland Scholarship for Students from Refugee Backgrounds 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 University of Auckland Scholarship for Students from Refugee Backgrounds is not complying with these regulations, terminate the Scholarship and require repayment of the funds received from the date of the breach.