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 eligible for Scholarship consideration, applicants must i) be a citizen or permanent resident of New Zealand, ii) come from a refugee background (see Note I), iii) be currently enrolled in Year 13 at a New Zealand secondary school or kura, and iv) intending to enrol full-time in the first year of a degree at the University of Auckland in the following year.
4. The basis of selection will be academic achievement 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).
5. 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.

6. To be paid the Scholarship, awardee’s must i) achieve admission to the University of Auckland, and ii) enrol full-time in a degree programme.

7. The Scholarship will be paid in two equal instalments in Semester One and Two, as soon as is practical after confirmation of enrolment after the final date on which a student may add or delete courses without incurring a late enrolment fee.

8. The Scholarship may not be held concurrently with a University of Auckland Top Achiever Scholarship, a University of Auckland Pacific Academic Excellence Scholarship, a University of Auckland Māori Academic Excellence Scholarship, or a University of Auckland Academic Potential Scholarship. However, it 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 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 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 School.

10. The University of Auckland Council is not obliged to make an award if it is determined there are no candidates that meet the criteria and/or no candidates of sufficient merit.

11. The University of Auckland can 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]-[IV] 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. Applicants need to demonstrate that they are experiencing financial hardship and that they are struggling to meet basic living costs. Incurred debt is not evidence of financial hardship.

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. Awardees 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 an awardee is not complying with these regulations, terminate the Scholarship and require repayment of the funds received from the date of the breach.