William Henry Staunton Memorial Scholarship

Code: 610  
Faculty: Medical and Health Sciences  
Applicable study: PhD students in the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences, with a preference for those undertaking cancer-related research  
Closing date: 12 April 2023  
Tenure: Up to three years  
For: Assistance  
Number on offer: One  
Offer rate: One every three years  
Value: Up to $26,000 pa

Description

The Scholarship was established in 2009 and is funded by the estate of the late Nancy Jones, in recognition of her father, William Staunton.

The main purpose of the Scholarship is to support a PhD student undertaking medical research in the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences at the University of Auckland, preferably in the field of cancer research.

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 shall be known as the William Henry Staunton Memorial Scholarship.
2. One Scholarship will be awarded once every three years (or more or less often depending on funds available), and will be of the value of $26,000 per annum, paid as a fortnightly stipend. Part-time students will be paid pro-rata for up to 72 months (see Note II).
3. The Scholarship may be awarded to new students applying or admission to a PhD in the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences at the University of Auckland who meet all the requirements of these regulations. Eligible candidates who have begun their PhD in the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences may also be considered for this Scholarship. Special consideration will be given to those candidates who are undertaking cancer-related research.
4. The Scholarship is tenable by full-time domestic and international students who are eligible to pay domestic fees (see Note I). The Scholarship may also be available to domestic students for whom socially compelling reasons make part-time study preferable (see Note II).
5. The basis of selection will be academic merit, the nature of the research and the potential contribution to medical progress, preferably in the field of cancer research. Matters that may be considered in relation to academic merit
include, but are not limited to academic record, standing of awarding institution, academic references, CV, research and publication record. Where a completed programme with a grade point average (GPA) or grade point equivalent (GPE) is the basis for entry to the PhD, a candidate must have a GPA/GPE of 6.00 or above (5.50 for Māori or Pacific candidates) in that programme to be eligible for scholarship consideration (see Note III).

6. The Scholarship will be awarded by the University of Auckland Council upon the recommendation of a Selection Committee comprising the Associate Dean (Postgraduate) of the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences (or nominee) and two members of the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences Research Committee.

7. Domestic students and international students with a New Zealand qualifying programme will be required to enrol within three months of the date of their unconditional programme offer, and international students with an overseas qualifying programme will be required to be enrolled within six months of the date of their unconditional programme offer, otherwise the scholarship offer will lapse. Awardees must also meet all requirements of their admission and scholarship offer before any payments will be made.

8. The Scholarship will provide support for up to 36 months of study, and payments will commence from the doctoral enrolment date in the case of new students, and from the date recommended by the Selection Committee and approved by the Scholarships Committee in the case of students who have already commenced their programme. A further six months of scholarship funding, subject to Scholarships Committee approval, may be available. These durations shall be pro-rated for part-time scholarship awardees (see Note II).

9. Subject to regulation 8, the Scholarship shall be tenable until the date of either submission or 48 months of active enrolment from the doctoral enrolment date, whichever is the earlier.

10. The amount of additional and paid work a Scholar may undertake either inside or outside the University shall not exceed a total of 500 hour per scholarship year (see Note V).

11. The William Henry Staunton Memorial Scholarship may not be held concurrently with any scholarship, award or grant funded by the University of Auckland. 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 recipient 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.

12. The University of Auckland Council has the power to terminate or suspend a Scholarship if it receives a report of unsatisfactory progress from the Associate Dean (Postgraduate Research) of the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences.

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

14. 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.

15. Applications close with the Scholarships Office on 12 April in the year of the award.

16. Notes [I]-[VII] below are deemed to be regulations.

Notes

I. 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.

II. Recipients of a William Henry Staunton Memorial 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 the William Henry Staunton 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 10 and Note V) 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.

III. Where the qualifying programme is an undergraduate honours degree (or equivalent undergraduate degree or integrated undergraduate and postgraduate degree), the GPA or GPE will be calculated over the final two years of full-time study (or equivalent) in the programme. In all other cases, the GPA or GPE will be calculated over the entirety of the qualifying programme.

IV. Any publications arising from work done by the recipient during the tenure of the scholarship shall acknowledge the assistance given by the William Henry Staunton Memorial Scholarship.

V. Paid work that is required as part of an approved doctoral programme 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.

VI. 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.

VII. Recipients of a William Henry Staunton Memorial 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 or funding status. The University of Auckland may, in the event that it can be established that a recipient of a William Henry Staunton Memorial Scholarship is not complying with these Regulations, terminate the Scholarship and require repayment of the funds received from the date of the breach.