

Alan Maxwell Science PhD Scholarship

Code:	1168
Faculty:	Science
Applicable study:	PhD in Physics, Computer Science or Mathematics
Closing date:	27 February 2025
Tenure:	Up to 36 months
For:	Assistance with study
Number on offer:	One
Offer rate:	Every two years
Value:	Up to \$33,000 pa plus compulsory fees

Description

The Scholarship was established in 2022 and is funded by a bequest from the estate of Alan Maxwell.

The intention of the Scholarship is to encourage and support academically excellent domestic, and international students who are paying domestic fees, to undertake a PhD in Physics, Computer Science or Mathematics in the Faculty of Science at Waipapa Taumata Rau, University of Auckland.

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 Alan Maxwell Science PhD Scholarship.
2. One Scholarship will be awarded every two years for a period of up to 36 months of full-time study and will include a stipend of up to \$33,000 per annum plus the Student Services Fee and compulsory tuition fees for all domestic and international students who are eligible to study under the domestic fees policy (see Notes II to III). The single student Health Insurance compulsory charge (as detailed on the tuition fees invoice) is also covered for the duration of the Scholarship for international students.
3. The Scholarship may be awarded for full-time study in a PhD in either Physics, Computer Science or Mathematics in the Faculty of Science at Waipapa Taumata Rau, University of Auckland.
4. To be eligible for Scholarship consideration, an applicant must be i) applying for admission to a PhD in either Physics, Computer Science or Mathematics in the Faculty of Science at Waipapa Taumata Rau, University of Auckland, ii) eligible to pay domestic fees (see Note III), and iii) intending to enrol full-time. Full-time candidates who have commenced a PhD programme in Physics, Computer Science or Mathematics in the Faculty of Science, may also be considered for this Scholarship. Applicants who already hold a doctorate are not eligible for consideration for this Scholarship.

5. The basis of selection will be academic merit, the quality and nature of the research proposal, and financial need as assessed by a personal statement and the criteria at Note IV. 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. The following criteria may also be taken into consideration: i) support for areas of research that are not currently well funded, and/or ii) enhancing equity and diversity in Physics, Computer Science and Mathematics.
6. The Scholarship will be awarded by the University of Auckland Council on the recommendation of a Selection Committee comprising the Associate Dean (Postgraduate Research) for the Faculty of Science (or nominee), and two members of Academic Staff from the Faculty of Science nominated by the Associate Dean (Postgraduate Research).
7. Applicants who have been offered a Scholarship must meet all requirements for admission into their intended programme and all requirements of their Scholarship offer to take up the Scholarship. No payments will be made until all requirements have been met (see Note V).
8. The Scholarship must be taken up by one of the dates prescribed in the letter of award, otherwise the Scholarship Offer will be forfeited (see Notes V and VI).
9. Scholarship payments will commence on the initial date of enrolment in the doctoral programme, or from the date recommended by the Selection Committee and approved by Scholarships Committee in the case of students who have already commenced their programme, and will provide support for up to 36 months of full-time study. A further six months of scholarship funding, subject to Scholarships Committee approval, may be available.
10. Subject to Regulation 9, 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.
11. Awardees may apply to suspend their Scholarship for up to 12 months in total during the tenure of their award (see Notes VII and VIII).
12. To comply with the full-time study requirement in Regulation 3, the amount of additional and paid work a Scholar may undertake either inside or outside the University shall not exceed a total of 750 hours per scholarship year (see Note IX).
13. Any additional tuition fee, stipend or top-up scholarship received from any other award or scholarship must be declared to the Scholarships Office upon receipt of the offer from the awarding body or receipt of the Alan Maxwell Science PhD Scholarship offer, whichever is later (see Note X).
14. 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/or to assist the awardee with living costs while studying. Failure to comply with this regulation will result in the termination of the Scholarship.
15. 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 Associate Dean (Postgraduate Research) of the Faculty of Science.
16. The University of Auckland Council is not obliged to make an award if it is determined there is no candidate that meets the criteria and/or no candidate of sufficient merit.
17. The University of Auckland Council can amend or vary these Regulations provided that there is no departure from the main purpose of the Scholarship.
18. Applications close with the Scholarships Office on 27 February in the year of the award.
19. Notes [I] – [XIV] below are deemed to be Regulations.

Notes

- I. *The tax-free status of this Scholarship is under current legislation. The University of Auckland cannot guarantee this tax-free outcome.*
- II. *Compulsory fees are those only related to the relevant Doctoral study.*
- 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. *Financial need will be determined by a range of factors including past eligibility for a StudyLink Student Allowance and personal financial circumstances.*
- V. *To take up the Scholarship means to commence doctoral enrolment and the tenure of the scholarship.*
- VI. *PhD enrolment must commence on either 1 June or 1 September for domestic candidates or international candidates with a domestic qualifying programme, or by 1 June, 1 September or 1 December for international candidates with an international qualifying programme.*
- VII. *An additional 12-month parental-leave suspension may be considered where the holder becomes a parent during their tenure of the Scholarship.*
- VIII. *In exceptional circumstances Scholarships Committee may approve a suspension of this Scholarship beyond the suspension periods stated in Regulation 11 and Note VI. Applications must be made in writing to Scholarships Office.*
- IX. *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 750 hours of additional and paid work that a Scholar may undertake while in receipt of a scholarship.*
- X. *The Alan Maxwell Science PhD Scholarship may not be held concurrently with any doctoral scholarship funded by Waipapa Taumata Rau, University of Auckland (including scholarships funded by faculties, LSRIIs or URCs) or any postgraduate scholarship or grant awarded by the Universities New Zealand Scholarships Committee, or by a foreign government or agency. As per Note XI, awardees must notify the Scholarships Office of any change in their funding status.*
- XI. *Where co-tenure is approved, the combined stipend may not exceed 150% of the Alan Maxwell Science PhD Scholarship stipend. For the avoidance of doubt, support that is not for the purposes of living costs is excluded from this calculation. For example, a grant to cover research costs or professional development would not have any impact on the Alan Maxwell Science PhD Scholarship stipend.*
- XII. *Awardees will be required to comply with the regulations for the Scholarship and must notify the Scholarships Office of any change in their enrolment, employment or funding status. Waipapa Taumata Rau, University of Auckland may, in the event 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.*
- XIII. *If an awardee is overpaid an amount in excess of a full fortnightly disbursement, the University may recover the overpayment by withholding future award payments at the same rate that the award was overpaid or, if the awardee is no longer enrolled, the University may recover the overpayment in line with standard debt collection practices.*
- XIV. *If an awardee is overpaid an amount in excess of a full fortnightly disbursement after they are no longer eligible for the Scholarship, the University may recover the overpayment in line with standard debt collection practices.*