**Centre for Brain Research (CBR)**

**Doctoral Scholarship Strategy**

* Nurture, recruit, and retain outstanding neuroscience research talent
* Support excellent neuroscience research and creation of high-quality research outputs
* Increase Māori and Pacific research scholarship (candidates, topics & supervisors)
* Develop and strengthen relationships with Māori and Pacific communities
* Support equity, diversity, and inclusivity in research (candidates, topics & supervisors)
* Strengthen, grow, and diversify the pipeline of research
* Develop and strengthen transdisciplinary research collaborations
* Boost knowledge mobilisation, research translation, and research impact
* Candidate excellence, which will be assessed by the applicant’s previous academic studies, research experience, relevant professional experience and the potential for the applicant to contribute to knowledge in the discipline.
* Project excellence, which will be assessed by the significance of the proposed research and its alignment with the research priorities of the faculty, schools and academic staff.
* Supervision excellence, which will be assessed by the strength of the supervisory team, the potential for development of supervision excellence and the growth of future faculty research leaders.

**Equity, Diversity and Inclusion**

The objectives of the CBR include supporting equity, diversity, and inclusion. As an applicant, you may have shared some information with the University about your gender and ethnicity, whether you are disabled, belong to the Rainbow community, or have a refugee background.

You have the option to share personal information as part of your personal profile, at <https://iam.auckland.ac.nz/identity>. If you choose to share personal information with the University and indicate that you would like the scholarship selection committee to be aware of your personal information when they consider your application, the scholarship selection committee will be able to access your information. This information will remain confidential to the selection committee and will not be used for any purpose other than considering your application. If you decide not to disclose your information, then the committee will only be aware of your gender and ethnicity.

**CBR Strategic Objectives**

The CBR has specific strategic objectives for our scholarship allocation and associated selection criteria (e.g. quality of research proposal, references etc.). Factors include but are not limited to:

* Māori applicants who do not meet the standard 7.0 GPA threshold (e.g. exceptional circumstances programme entry)
* Pacific applicants who do not meet the standard 7.0 GPA threshold (e.g. exceptional circumstances programme entry)
* support for excellent students and their research aspirations.
* support for high-quality, strategic research areas
* support for equity, diversity, and inclusion objectives, including support for candidates with disabilities and candidates from refugee backgrounds
* support for strategic partnerships, including 50:50 funding for joint PhDs
* scholarships allocated to supervisors to support their research programme, especially:
  + Early Career Researchers (within 8 years of doctoral graduation)
  + new hires

**Selection Criteria**

* For the 2023 round the priority for the CBR is to identify and support 2 Māori PhD candidates.
* These would usually be Māori applicants who do not meet the automatic 7.0 GPA threshold to qualify for a UoA scholarship
* The candidates will be working with CBR Principal Investigators or others within the CBR conducting research with a neuroscience focus

**Timeline**

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| **Scholarship Timeline** | **Round 1** | **Round 2** | **Round 3** | **Round 4** |
|  | **March 1 start** | **1 June start** | **1 September start** | **1 December start** |
| Applications close | 1 NOVEMBER: | 1 MARCH: | 1 JUNE: | 1 SEPTEMBER: |
| Completed applications start released to academic units (spreadsheet created by Doctoral Admission) | 15 NOVEMBER: | 15 MARCH: | 15 JUNE: | 15 SEPTEMBER: |
| Academic units confirm admission recommendations for UoADS Selection Committee consideration | 1 DECEMBER: | 1 APRIL: | 1 JULY: | 1 OCTOBER: |
| UoADS Selection Committees inform Dean of Graduate Studies of their advice - Dean of Graduate Studies undertakes quality assurance review and informs Doctoral Admissions and Scholarships Office of the recommendations for UoADS award: Council decision made | 15 JANUARY: | 15 APRIL: | 15 JULY: | 15 OCTOBER: |
| Doctoral Admissions and Scholarships Office inform applicants of the outcome and ask successful applicants to confirm acceptance and nominate their start date | 1 FEBRUARY: | 1 MAY: | 1 AUGUST: | 1 NOVEMBER: |
| Scholarships Office provide report on scholarship round for next meeting of BoGS - Scholarships Office inform each faculty/LSRI and SGS of awardees’ responses and scholarship start dates | 21 FEBRUARY: | 21 MAY: | 21 AUGUST: | 21 NOVEMBER: |
| Applicants offered UoADS may commence doctorate | 1 MARCH: | 1 JUNE: | 1 SEPTEMBER: | 1 DECEMBER: |
| Applicants offered UoADS may commence doctorate | 1 JUNE: | 1 SEPTEMBER: | 1 DECEMBER: | 1 MARCH: |
| International applicants with an international qualifying programme offered UoADS may commence doctorate | 1 SEPTEMBER: | 1 DECEMBER: | 1 MARCH: | 1 JUNE: |