

Amber McWilliams Memorial Scholarship in English or Drama

Code:	1048
Faculty:	Arts and Education
Applicable study:	BA(Hons), PGDip or MA in English or Drama
Closing date:	25 March 2025
Tenure:	One year
For:	Assistance with study
Number on offer:	One
Offer rate:	Annually
Value:	Up to \$10,000 or tuition fees for 120 points of study

Description

The Scholarship was established in 2019 and is funded by Professor Joanne Wilkes in memory of Dr Amber McWilliams (1975-2018). Amber McWilliams studied at the University of Auckland, completing both a Masters degree and a PhD in English. She went on to work as a tutor and lecturer in English and Drama at the University of Auckland, and taught a Medical Humanities paper at the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences.

The intention of the Scholarship is to encourage and support a student to undertake postgraduate study in English or Drama 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 Amber McWilliams Memorial Scholarship in English or Drama.
2. One Scholarship will be awarded annually, for a period of one year and will be of the value of \$10,000. Payments and tenure will be pro-rated for part-time students.
3. To be eligible for Scholarship consideration, an applicant must be i) a New Zealand Citizen or Permanent Resident (see Note III), ii) enrolled full-time or part-time at Waipapa Taumata Rau, University of Auckland in a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) (BA(Hons)), Postgraduate Diploma in Arts (PGDipArts) or the first 120 points of a 180 point Master of Arts (MA), in English or Drama in the year of the award (see Note IV). A grade point average (GPA) or grade point equivalent (GPE) of at least 7.00 (6.50 for Māori and Pacific candidates) in the applicant's final 120 points of undergraduate study in either English or Drama is required for Scholarship consideration.
4. The basis of selection will be academic merit as assessed by the applicant's GPA/GPE in the final 120 points of

undergraduate study in the subject intended for postgraduate study (English or Drama), and financial need as assessed by a personal statement and the criteria at Note V.

5. The Scholarship will be awarded by the University of Auckland Council on the recommendation of a Selection Committee comprising the Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Education (or nominee), the Major/Specialisation Leader of English and Drama (or nominee), and one representative of Amber McWilliams's family.
6. The Scholarship will be paid either in two equal instalments in Semester One and Two or as a compulsory fees credit in each semester of enrolment up to a total of 120 points of study, as soon as is practical after confirmation of the awardee's enrolment (that is, after the final date on which a student may add or delete courses without incurring a late enrolment fee (see Notes II and IV).
7. To be paid the Scholarship, the awardee must be enrolled in a BA(Hons), PGDipArts, or the first 120 points of a 180 point MA, in English or Drama.
8. The Amber McWilliams Memorial Scholarship in English or Drama may be held with any other scholarship, award or grant as long as the Regulations for that scholarship, award or grant permit and where 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 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.
10. The University of Auckland Council, in consultation with the donor, has the power to terminate or suspend a Scholarship if it receives a report of unsatisfactory progress by a Scholar from the Associate Dean (Postgraduate Taught) of the Faculty of Arts and Education.
11. 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 (see Note I). Failure to comply with this regulation will result in the termination of the Scholarship.
12. The University of Auckland Council can amend or vary these Regulations, in consultation with the donor, provided that there is no departure from the main purpose of the Scholarship.
13. Applications close with the Scholarships Office on 25 March in the year of the award.
14. Notes [I] – [VI] 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 only those related to the relevant programme of study, plus Student Services Fee.*
- III. New Zealand Permanent Residents have been granted a Permanent Resident Visa by Immigration New Zealand. For more information visit <https://www.immigration.govt.nz/new-zealand-visas/already-have-a-visa/becoming-a-permanent-resident>.*
- IV. The Scholarship may be taken up in either the first or second semester in the year of the award.*
- V. Financial need will be determined by a range of factors including current or past eligibility for a StudyLink Student Allowance, and personal financial circumstances.*
- VI. Awardees will be required to comply with the regulations for the Scholarship and must notify the Scholarships Office of any change in their enrolment or funding status. Waipapa Taumata Rau, 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.*