Faculty of Education and Social Work Start Smart Merit Scholarship

Code:	670A
Faculty:	Education and Social Work
Applicable study:	Full-time study in first year of an undergraduate degree or undergraduate conjoint degree in the Faculty of Education and Social Work
Closing date:	10 October 2024
Tenure:	One year
For:	Assistance
Number on offer:	Up to 20
Offer rate:	Annually
Value:	Up to $2,500 each

Description

The Scholarship was established in 2011 and is financed by the Faculty of Education and Social Work.

The main purpose of the Scholarship is to support and encourage excellence of students entering their first year of an undergraduate degree in the Faculty of Education and Social Work, 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 shall be known as the Faculty of Education and Social Work Start Smart Merit Scholarship.
2. Up to twenty Scholarships will be awarded annually, each for a period of one year and will be of the value of up to $2,500 per annum each.
3. To be eligible for Scholarship consideration, an applicant must be i) a New Zealand Citizen or Permanent Resident, and ii) be enrolled, or intending to enrol, full-time in the first year of an undergraduate degree or undergraduate conjoint degree in the Faculty of Education and Social Work at Waipapa Taumata Rau, University of Auckland.
4. The basis of selection will be demonstrated academic excellence based on Level 2 or higher in the National Certificate of Educational Achievement (NCEA) or an equivalent qualification for school leavers; results of the most recent year of tertiary education for applicants who have completed study at another institution; results from a Foundation Programme; or education and training background for students being considered for entry to the university under Special Admission, and the applicant's personal achievements and all round ability as assessed by a personal statement. The personal circumstances of applicants may also be taken into consideration including

financial need, whether the applicant is the first in their family to attend a university, if the student comes from a refugee background, if the student has a disability, if the student has care responsibilities for whānau, or if the applicant comes from a rural area (see Notes II to VII).

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 Education and Social Work (or nominee) and two additional members of academic staff from the Faculty of Education and Social Work nominated by the Dean.
6. The Scholarship will be paid in two equal instalments in Semester One and Two, 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).
7. To be paid the Scholarship, awardees must i) have met programme entry selection criteria, including University Entrance, and the requirements of the Teaching Council of Aotearoa New Zealand or the New Zealand Social Workers Registration Board, ii) be enrolled full-time in an undergraduate degree or undergraduate conjoint degree in the Faculty of Education and Social Work (see Notes VIII and IX).
8. The Scholarship may not be held concurrently with the Faculty of Education and Social Work Start Smart City of Sails Scholarship. However, it may be held concurrently 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 and 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 by a Scholar from the Dean of Education and Social Work.
10. 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.
11. The University of Auckland Council 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 February in the year of the award and 10 October in the year preceding the award.
13. Notes [I]-[XI] below are deemed to be regulations.

Notes

I. The tax-free status of this Award is under current legislation. The University of Auckland cannot guarantee this tax-free outcome.

II. Financial need will be determined by a range of factors including eligibility for a StudyLink Student Allowance, and personal financial circumstances.

III. For the purposes of this Scholarship, 'first in family' to attend university means that no member of the applicant's immediate family, including siblings and parents, has completed a university qualification prior to the applicant's first year of study. Adoptive and step siblings and parents are included where they have lived with the applicant for five or more years.

IV. For the purposes of this Scholarship, refugee background refers to students who have themselves or whose parents/primary guardian(s) have been granted refuge in New Zealand.

V. Waipapa Taumata Rau, University of Auckland defines disability as any physical, psychological, cognitive or sensory impairment which may, in interaction with social and systemic barriers, limit a person's full and effective participation in university life on an equal basis with others.

VI. Care responsibilities for whānau/family is defined as providing care for someone close to them who needs help with everyday living because of a health condition or disability to support them to live with dignity and participate more fully in society. Care responsibilities could include looking after relatives in the applicant's immediate family who live in the same household, including children, siblings, parents or grandparents.

VII. For the purposes of this Scholarship, a rural area is defined as an area outside the local authority boundaries of city councils in Auckland, Hamilton, Tauranga, Wellington, Porirua, Lower Hutt, Upper Hutt, Christchurch, and Dunedin.

VIII. *If an awardee enrols at another tertiary institution in New Zealand or overseas, the Scholarship will lapse.*

IX. *If an awardee changes academic programme following the award of the Scholarship, either before or after the first instalment has been paid, and is no longer enrolled in an undergraduate degree or undergraduate conjoint degree programme based in the Faculty of Education and Social Work, the Scholarship will lapse.*

X. *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/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.*

XI. *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.*