

PMA Knowledge Hub Masters Scholarship

Code:	1156
Faculty:	All
Applicable study:	120 point masters thesis
Closing date:	5 February 2025
Tenure:	Up to one year
For:	Assistance with study
Number on offer:	Varies
Offer rate:	Annually
Value:	Up to 26,000 pa plus compulsory tuition fees

Description

The Scholarship was established in 2022 and is funded by (PMA) Pasifika Medical Association and supported by Office of the Associate Dean – Pacific, the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences, to support Pacific students and research that seeks to improve Pacific peoples' health and social wellbeing outcomes.

The intention of the Scholarship is to encourage and support Pacific students to undertake a 120 point masters thesis 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 PMA Knowledge Hub Masters Scholarship.
2. Scholarships will be awarded annually for up to one year full-time equivalent and will be of the value of up to \$26,000 paid as a fortnightly stipend, plus compulsory fees for the masters thesis component, excluding any period of extension (See Notes I to II). Payments and tenure will be pro-rated for part-time students (see Note III).
3. To be eligible for Scholarship consideration, an applicant must be i) a Pacific student (see Note IV), ii) a New Zealand Citizen or Permanent Resident (see Note V), and iii) enrolled, or enrolling, full-time or part-time (see Note III) in, but not yet commenced, the 120 point thesis component of a research masters degree at Waipapa Taumata Rau, University of Auckland. A grade point average (GPA) or grade point equivalent (GPE) of at least 6.50 in their most recent qualifying programme for study is required for Scholarship consideration (see Note VI).
4. The basis of selection will be academic merit as assessed by the GPA/GPE calculated over the most recent qualifying programme (see Note VI), the relevance of the proposed research to the key objectives of the Knowledge Hub, demonstrated leadership and service, in particular to Pacific communities, as assessed by a personal statement.

5. The Scholarship will be awarded by the University of Auckland Council on the recommendation of a Selection Committee comprising the Associate Dean (Pacific) of the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences (or nominee), one member of Academic Staff from the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences, nominated by the Associate Dean (Pacific) and one representative of the PMA.
6. To be paid the Scholarship, awardees must be enrolled in the 120 point thesis component of a research masters degree at Waipapa Taumata Rau, University of Auckland.
7. Payment will be made as a fortnightly stipend and a compulsory fees credit. Payments will commence 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. Awardees who commence their thesis component in December will receive their stipend payments from the third week of December.
8. The Scholarship may not be held with a University of Auckland Research Masters Scholarship, a University of Auckland Pacific Postgraduate Scholarship or a University of Auckland Māori Postgraduate Scholarship. However, it may be held with any other scholarship, award or grant where 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 amount of additional and paid work a Scholar may undertake either inside or outside the University shall not exceed a total of 500 hours per year during the tenure of this Scholarship.
11. 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 Research) of the relevant faculty or Large Scale Research Institute.
12. 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.
13. 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.
14. Applications close with the Scholarships Office on 5 February in the year of the award.
15. Notes [I] – [VIII] 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 the compulsory tuition fees for the relevant programme of study, plus Student Services Fee.*
- III. *Awardees are normally required to be enrolled on a full-time basis. However, 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 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 9 and Note IV) 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.*
- IV. *Pacific applicants are defined as citizens or permanent residents of New Zealand who are of indigenous Pacific descent from any of the following islands: Samoa, American Samoa, Tonga, Cook Islands, Niue, Tokelau, Fiji (iTaukei), Rotuma, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, New Caledonia, Papua New Guinea, Kiribati, Tuvalu, Palau, Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Wallis and Futuna, Hawaii, French Polynesia, Rapanui (Easter Island),*

Pitcairn Islands, Nauru, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands.

- V. 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>.*
- VI. The most recent qualifying programme is defined as the most recently completed programme of study that qualifies the applicant for entry to the research masters programme for which they are applying. Where the qualifying programme is a conjoint programme the GPA/GPE will be calculated over the relevant component of the conjoint programme. The maximum approved exchange or transfer credit that can be excluded from the GPA/GPE calculation for the qualifying programme is 60 points. Where a bridging programme, including a Transitional Certificate, Graduate Diploma or Certificate of Proficiency, is required to qualify the applicant for entry to the postgraduate programme for which they are applying or are currently enrolled, the qualifying programme is the bridging programme and the most recently completed prior programme.*
- VII. Awardees are required to submit progress reports to PMA, via the Scholarships Office, every six months.*
- VIII. 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 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.*