

University of Auckland Doctoral Bridging Programme Scholarship

Code:	43
Faculty:	All
Applicable study:	Board of Graduate Studies approved 60 point Bridging Programme to a PhD
Closing date:	NA
Tenure:	60 points of full-time equivalent enrolment
For:	Assistance with study
Number on offer:	Varies
Offer rate:	Varies
Value:	Up to \$11,523 in 2025 plus compulsory fees

Description

The University of Auckland Doctoral Bridging Programme Scholarship was established in 2022 to provide scholarship funding to students undertaking a Board of Graduate Studies approved 60 point Bridging Programme to PhD study. Awardees who satisfy the requirements of these regulations will then be offered an eligible doctoral scholarship.

Selection process

- No application process
- Faculties and LSRI make nominations to the central Selection Committee
- The Scholarship is awarded by the University of Auckland Council on the recommendation of the central Selection Committee

Regulations

1. The Scholarship will be known as the University of Auckland Doctoral Bridging Programme Scholarship.
2. The University of Auckland Doctoral Bridging Programme Scholarship provides a tax-free stipend of up to \$11,523 in 2025 for a Board of Graduate Studies approved 60 point Bridging Programme for PhD study (see Note I). In addition, compulsory domestic tuition fees, and the Student Services Fee, are covered for the 60 point bridging programme. Payment and tenure will be pro-rated for part-time study (see Note II).
3. The Scholarship will normally be awarded for full-time enrolment in the Board of Graduate Studies approved 60 point Bridging Programme for PhD study. The Scholarship may also be awarded to candidates for whom compelling and compassionate reasons make part-time enrolment preferable (see Note II).
4. To be eligible for Scholarship consideration by the central Selection Committee, a candidate must i) have had a 60 point Bridging Programme to PhD study approved by the Board of Graduate Studies (or delegate) and ii) be a New Zealand Citizen or Permanent Resident (see Note III) and iii) have been nominated, in accordance with Regulations 5 and 6, by the relevant URC or by the relevant faculty/LSRI Selection Committee, comprised of the Associate Dean/Director (Postgraduate Research) or nominee, Associate Dean (Research) or nominee, and Deputy

Dean/Director (or nominee) (see Note IV).

5. The faculty/LSRI Selection Committee will consider for nomination only those candidates recommended for consideration by the relevant Associate Dean/Director (Postgraduate Research).
6. The basis for recommendation under Regulation 5, and for nomination by the relevant URC or by the relevant faculty/LSRI Selection Committee under this Regulation 6, must be the availability of an eligible doctoral scholarship for the prospective period of PhD study (see Note XIV), and the candidate's alignment with URC/faculty/LSRI and/or University strategic objectives, which may include but are not limited to, those outlined on the relevant faculty/LSRI/URC webpage regarding the University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship (see Notes IV-V). Nominations must be accompanied by a written statement by the relevant URC Director (or nominee) or by the relevant Associate Dean/Director (Postgraduate Research) (or nominee) on behalf of the faculty/LSRI Selection Committee i) detailing the alignment with strategic objectives, ii) undertaking to comply with Notes XI-XII of these Regulations, and iii) specifying the eligible doctoral scholarship proposed for award in the event that the nominee were a) to be awarded the University of Auckland Doctoral Bridging Programme Scholarship and b) satisfy the requirements at Regulation 16. Associate Deans/Directors (Postgraduate Research) (or nominees), Directors of URCs (or their nominees) and faculty/LSRI Selection Committees have discretion in their assessment of the merits of Bridging Programme applicants in relation to strategic objectives.
7. Candidates who satisfy the eligibility requirements at Regulation 4 will be considered by a central Selection Committee comprised of the Pro Vice-Chancellor Global and Graduate Research (or nominee), Director of Graduate Studies (or nominee) and Director of ORSI (or nominee).
8. The Scholarship will be awarded by the University of Auckland Council on the recommendation of the central Selection Committee.
9. The central Selection Committee's considerations will include, but are not limited to, the availability of resources and the candidate's alignment with faculty/LSRI/URC and University strategic objectives (see Note V).
10. The central Selection Committee may decide to recommend the award of a scholarship or decide not to recommend the award of a scholarship. The Committee's decision is final and discretionary after taking into account all factors (including factors external to the particular candidate concerned). The University reserves the right not to award this Scholarship at any time.
11. The Scholarship will provide support for the period(s) of full-time equivalent enrolment in a Board of Graduate Studies approved 60 point Bridging Programme for PhD study (see Note II). Payments will be made as a fortnightly stipend and as a compulsory fees credit (see Note VII). Fortnightly payments will commence in the first semester of enrolment, 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).
12. Awardees must a) at the time of acceptance of the University of Auckland Doctoral Bridging Programme Scholarship, provide a written declaration acknowledging the value, terms and conditions of the doctoral scholarship they are to be offered in the event that they satisfy the requirements at Regulation 16 and b) commence enrolment in the 60 point Bridging Programme in the semester/quarter immediately following the Scholarship offer, otherwise the scholarship will be forfeited (see Note VII).
13. Part-time tenure of the Scholarship must be completed across enrolment in consecutive semesters/quarters (excluding Summer School). In exceptional circumstances beyond a candidate's control, Scholarships Committee may, at their discretion and subject to the availability of resources, approve a suspension of the scholarship for a maximum of one semester (or quarter equivalent) (see Notes VIII-X).
14. The amount of additional and paid work a Scholar may undertake either inside or outside the University shall not exceed a total of 250 hours during the scholarship tenure (see Note II).
15. The University of Auckland Bridging Programme Scholarship may not be co-tenured with any other scholarship, grant or award (see Note IX).
16. An offer of an eligible doctoral scholarship will be made to the awardee (of this Doctoral Bridging Programme Scholarship) in the University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship round immediately following the awardee's completion of the 60 point Bridging Programme, subject to the awardee satisfying the following requirements: i) The awardee must not have commenced enrolment in the Doctoral Bridging Programme and forfeited the University of

Auckland Doctoral Bridging Programme Scholarship (see Note XIII); ii) The awardee must not have had the University of Auckland Doctoral Bridging Programme Scholarship terminated (see Note XIII); iii) The awardee must have completed the Bridging Programme with an average result of B+ or higher and obtained at least a B+ result in the research component of the Bridging Programme; iv) The awardee must be approved by the Board of Graduate Studies (or delegate) for admission to the PhD in the subject area and topic as advertised to the URC/faculty/LSRI at the time of nomination for the Bridging Programme Scholarship; v) The awardee must satisfy the requirements of the relevant doctoral scholarship regulations.

17. Appeals are not permitted against any nomination (or absence of nomination), recommendation or decision issued by the University of Auckland Council or by a duly constituted Selection Committee or URC or by an Associate Dean/Director (Postgraduate Research) (or nominee) or URC Director (or nominee) regarding the award of a University of Auckland Doctoral Bridging Programme Scholarship.
18. Payments under the terms of this Scholarship remain tax-free under existing legislation 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.
19. The University of Auckland Council can amend or vary these Regulations provided that there is no departure from the main purpose of the Scholarship.
20. 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. *Candidates for whom compassionate and compelling circumstances make part-time enrolment preferable may apply to the Scholarships Office to hold a scholarship on a part-time basis, pro-rated. Compassionate and compelling circumstances mean circumstances that are generally beyond the candidate's control and have an impact on their ability to study full-time. For example: serious illness or injury, pregnancy or childbirth, care responsibilities for whānau, and traumatic experiences. Candidates will not be granted permission to hold a University of Auckland Doctoral Bridging Programme Scholarship on a part-time basis if they are undertaking full-time paid employment or substantial part-time employment. Candidates who hold a scholarship on a part-time basis are subject to the same employment restrictions as full-time scholarship holders (i.e. 250 hours per Scholarship tenure) and are required to change to full-time enrolment if their circumstances mean they no longer qualify to hold the scholarship on a part-time basis.*
- 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 relevant URC Director is the Director of the URC in which a candidate wishes to undertake PhD study. The relevant faculty/LSRI is the faculty/LSRI in which the applicant wishes to undertake PhD study.*
- V. *Candidate alignment with strategic objectives may include the alignment between the intended PhD project and strategic objectives.*
- VI. *Compulsory fees are limited to prescribed tuition fees for the 60 point Bridging Programme and the Student Services Fee.*
- VII. *A candidate who declines the offer of a University of Auckland Doctoral Bridging Programme Scholarship or who forfeits the Scholarship pursuant to Regulation 12 may be considered de novo in relation to these regulations at a later date.*
- VIII. *Where a suspension is declined under Regulation 12 and the candidate does not continue with consecutive enrolment in the 60 point Bridging Programme, the Scholarship will be forfeited and the candidate will be ineligible for future consideration for the University of Auckland Doctoral Bridging Programme Scholarship.*
- IX. *Awardees will be required to comply with the regulations for the Scholarship and will 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.

- X. Candidates who have held or forfeited or had a University of Auckland Doctoral Bridging Programme Scholarship terminated are not eligible to hold a University of Auckland Doctoral Bridging Programme Scholarship in the future except as expressly permitted under these Regulations.
- XI. The relevant URC Director or the relevant Associate Dean/Director (Postgraduate Research) must undertake that if the candidate is awarded a University of Auckland Doctoral Bridging Programme Scholarship and proceeds to satisfy the requirements of Regulation 16 of these regulations, the relevant URC or the relevant faculty/LSRI Selection Committee will, in the University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship round prescribed under Regulation 16 of these regulations, either i) advise the Pro Vice-Chancellor Global and Graduate Research (or nominee), in accordance with the University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship Regulations, that the candidate should be awarded a University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship from the URC/faculty/LSRI doctoral scholarship allocation for the relevant period on account of the candidate's alignment with the faculty/LSRI/URC and University strategic objectives; or ii) advise the Pro Vice-Chancellor Global and Graduate Research (or nominee) that the relevant Selection Committee is recommending to Council that the candidate be awarded the eligible doctoral scholarship identified under Regulation 6.
- XII. Unless the Central Selection Committee advises, at the time of award of the Doctoral Bridging Programme Scholarship, that a University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship will be awarded from centrally-allocated resources, the relevant URC/faculty/LSRI is obliged either i) make one of their allocated University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarships available to a University of Auckland Doctoral Bridging Scholarship recipient who satisfies the requirements of Regulation 16 of these regulations or ii) to ensure that the eligible doctoral scholarship specified under Regulation 6 is made available to a University of Auckland Doctoral Bridging Scholarship recipient who satisfies the requirements of Regulation 16 of these regulations (see Note XIV).
- XIII. For the avoidance of doubt, an awardee who enrolls in the Bridging Programme and forfeits the University of Auckland Doctoral Bridging Programme Scholarship, or has the Scholarship terminated, and who proceeds to complete the Bridging Programme and establish eligibility for University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship consideration under the University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship regulations may still be considered for a University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship on the same terms as any other applicant in the given University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship round.
- XIV. An eligible doctoral scholarship is either the University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship or a confirmed doctoral scholarship administered by the University Scholarships Office that has a current annual value of at least 75% of the current annual value of the University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship (stipend, tuition and other fees, and international health insurance, if required).