



University of Auckland Nature Positive Doctoral Scholarship

Faculty/LSRI:	Business and Economics
Applicable Programme:	PhD
Application process:	Application is made to Juncture: Dialogues on Inclusive Capitalism
Term:	Up to 42 months FTE
Purpose:	Assistance with study costs
Number on offer:	10
Value:	Varies
Code:	1238

Specific Terms of the Scholarship

1. Scholarship description

- (1) The objective of the scholarship is to encourage and support excellent domestic and international doctoral candidates who wish to conduct research which aligns with the Nature Positive goals and the broader strategic objectives of Waipapa Taumata Rau, University of Auckland (**University**).
Note: Nature Positive goals can be found at [ADDENDUM: Goals for the Nature Positive PhD Cohort](#).
- (2) A **recipient** must use the **scholarship funds** for costs directly related to their study at the University.
Note: To avoid doubt, costs directly related to study include living expenses to enable study.
- (3) The terms of the scholarship comprise sections 5 to 23 of the Scholarships and Prizes Statute 2025 ([Statute](#)), these Specific Terms, and any requirements stipulated in writing by the **Director**.

2. Commencement and term

- (1) The scholarship will commence on the date of the recipient's first enrolment in the doctoral programme which is the subject of their doctoral application (**commencement date**) subject to clause 2(3). The **Director** may approve a request by a recipient to defer the commencement date of the scholarship for a period agreed to by the Director if they consider that there are compelling circumstances requiring a deferral.
- (2) The scholarship is for a **term** of 42 months of FTE doctoral enrolment from the commencement date (subject to clause 2(3)-(4)) unless one or more of the following events occurs earlier in which case the scholarship will end on the date of the earliest event:
 - (a) the recipient submits their thesis for examination for the first time;
 - (b) the recipient withdraws from a doctoral programme (other than to transfer their enrolment to another doctoral programme at the University); or
 - (c) the recipient's doctoral candidature is terminated (including to transfer to the MPhil or another degree).

To avoid doubt, where a recipient changes supervisors, topic, or academic unit within the Faculty of Business and Economics at the University during the term, and where the Selection Committee finds the focus of the PhD remains within the Nature Positive goals, the scholarship continues and the term of the scholarship is unchanged.

Note: Nature Positive goals can be found at [ADDENDUM: Goals for the Nature Positive PhD Cohort](#).

(3) For **masters transfer recipients**:

- (a) The start date for the doctoral programme enrolment will be backdated to the start date of the masters thesis enrolment. The commencement date of the scholarship will be either the first of the month immediately after the date that the scholarship is granted by the Vice-Chancellor under Clause 5(1) or the first of the month immediately after the masters thesis enrolment is transferred to a doctoral programme enrolment, whichever is the later. The scholarship will not be backdated.
 - (b) The term of the scholarship will end after 42 months of FTE study from the start date of the research component of the masters degree unless one or more of the events listed in clause 2(2)(a)-(c) occurs earlier in which case the scholarship will end on the date of the earliest event.
- (4) The scholarship will be suspended during any period or periods in which the recipient's enrolment in the doctoral programme is suspended, provided that the total length of enrolment suspension is 12 months or less. Subject to Clause 2(6), if the total length of enrolment suspension exceeds 12 months, then the scholarship will terminate with immediate effect and section 17(3) of the Statute will apply.
- (5) The **Director** may approve a request by a recipient to suspend the scholarship for a further period of up to 12 months during the term of scholarship where:
- (a) the recipient becomes a parent during the term and the recipient's enrolment is suspended for that reason for the same further period; or
 - (b) the Director is satisfied that there are compelling reasons to approve a further period of suspension.

Note: See section 11 (Deferral and suspension) of the [Statute](#).

3. Scholarship value

- (1) Subject to clauses 3(2) - 3(4), the scholarship **value** comprises the components set out below for the applicable type of enrolment and doctoral programme:
 - (a) a **stipend** of \$35,468 per annum in 2026 (pro-rated in the first year of the term depending on the start date) for up to 42 months of FTE enrolment with an annual CPI adjustment to the stipend value as determined by the Director;
 - (b) the Student Services Fee and compulsory tuition fees for prescribed study in the doctoral programme; and
 - (c) for **international students** only, the single student Health Insurance compulsory charge (as detailed on the recipient's tuition fees invoice).
- (2) To avoid doubt a masters transfer recipient is not entitled to any component of the scholarship value in clause 3(1) for the period of their masters enrolment that is transferred to doctoral programme enrolment.
- (3) If at any time the University is required by law to deduct or withhold tax from the scholarship value in clause 3(1) (or any component(s) thereof) then the amount to be paid or credited to the recipient



shall be the scholarship value (or the value of the relevant component(s)) less the tax to be deducted or withheld.

- (4) A recipient must immediately notify the Scholarships Office where they are required to undertake an internship or placement as part of the doctoral programme or choose to participate in an approved University internship or placement while remaining enrolled in the doctoral programme (all referred to in this clause as an **internship**). In these circumstances the following will apply:
- (a) Where the internship is a paid position and the recipient's gross internship income is equal to or exceeds the stipend for the period of the internship, the stipend will not be paid for the internship period.
 - (b) Where the internship is a paid position and the recipient's gross internship income is less than the stipend for the period of the internship, the stipend will not be paid for the internship period unless the Director approves the payment of a partial stipend to increase the recipient's total gross income to an amount equal to the stipend for the internship period.
 - (c) Where the internship is an unpaid position, the stipend will continue to be paid for the period of the internship.

Note: To avoid doubt, this clause will apply to recipients enrolled in PSYCH 800 of the DClinPsy and undertaking supervised practicum experience, including placements and an internship, where such placements or internships are paid positions.

4. Eligibility criteria

- (1) The **eligibility criteria** for the scholarship are:
- (a) An **applicant** must be either:
 - (i) a **domestic student**; or
 - (ii) an **international student** who is eligible to pay domestic fees for enrolment in the doctoral programme.

Note: The [PhD Domestic Tuition Fees Policy](#) (as amended or replaced from time to time) describes the international students who are eligible to pay domestic fees for enrolment in a doctoral programme. International students are not eligible to pay domestic fees for the DMedSc, DClinPsy, DocFA, EdD or DHSc and accordingly are not eligible to hold this scholarship for those doctoral programmes.

- (b) An applicant must not:
 - (i) already hold a doctorate degree; or
 - (ii) have previously received payment for a University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship; or
 - (iii) be enrolled in a doctoral programme, except for those applicants who have:
 - a. been approved to transfer from a masters programme;
 - b. received an offer of admission to a doctoral programme that is conditional upon the completion of a doctoral bridging programme under the [Doctoral Exceptional Circumstance Entry Policy and Procedures](#) and has met that condition and enrolled in the doctoral programme.

Note: See section 6 (Eligibility criteria) of the [Statute](#).

5. Selection process and criteria

- (1) The scholarship is granted by the **Vice-Chancellor** after receiving a recommendation from Selection Committee.



- (2) The Selection Committee comprises the Dean of the Faculty of the Business and Economics, the Director of Juncture: Dialogues on Inclusive Capitalism, the Executive Director of Nature Positive, the Associate Dean Postgraduate Research of the Faculty of Business and Economics, and the Donor (or their nominees).
- (3) An applicant may only be granted a scholarship if the applicant is eligible (or conditionally eligible) for admission to the doctoral programme which is the subject of their application. This requirement is paramount and overrides any other provision of this clause 5.
- (4) The **selection criteria** for the grant of the scholarship are:
 - (a) alignment of the application with the strategic objectives of the University;
 - (b) alignment of the application with the strategic objectives of the Faculty of Business and Economics; and
 - (c) alignment of the application with the Nature Positive goals.

Note1: The Waipapa Taumata Rau, University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship strategy and faculty/LSRI/URC strategies and opportunities can be found at [University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarships](#).

Note 2: Nature Positive goals can be found at [ADDENDUM: Goals for the Nature Positive PhD Cohort](#).

Note3: See section 8 (Selection) of the [Statute](#).

6. Admission and enrolment

- (1) Subject to clause 6(2), a recipient must receive confirmation of unconditional enrolment in full-time study in the doctoral programme:
 - (a) for a recipient with a **domestic qualifying programme**, within four calendar months after either the grant of the scholarship or the date on which the recipient becomes eligible for admission to the doctoral programme, whichever is the later; and
 - (b) for a recipient with an **international qualifying programme**, within seven months after either the grant of the scholarship or the date on which the recipient becomes eligible for admission to the doctoral programme, whichever is the later.

- (2) A recipient who is to enrol in a DCLinPsy, DHSc or EdD must receive confirmation of unconditional enrolment in full-time study or part-time study in the relevant doctoral programme by the date specified by the Director.

Note 1: If a recipient does not satisfy the requirements in this clause 6 within the period or time stipulated, then the scholarship will lapse and be forfeited in accordance with section 10(2) of the Statute.

Note 2: See section 10 (Admission and enrolment) of the [Statute](#).

7. General requirements

- (1) During the term of the scholarship, a recipient must at all times be eligible to pay domestic fees for enrolment in the doctoral programme.

Note: Recipients who are permanent residents of New Zealand or Australia, or citizens of countries other than New Zealand, may only be resident outside of New Zealand for a maximum total of twelve months over the period of their enrolment in their doctoral programme and only for the purposes of conducting research that cannot be conducted at an equivalent level in New Zealand. For more information see the [PhD Domestic Tuition Fees Policy](#).

- (2) Subject to clause 3(4), during the term of the scholarship a recipient must not undertake more than 750 hours of additional and paid work either inside or outside the University per 12-month period.

Note: See section 12 (General requirements) of the [Statute](#).



8. Concurrent scholarships

- (1) A recipient must not hold the scholarship concurrently with:
 - (a) any other doctoral scholarship funded by the University (including by a faculty, LSRI or URC); or
 - (b) any postgraduate scholarship or grant awarded by the Universities New Zealand Scholarships Committee or by a foreign government or agency.

Note: Recipients must promptly notify the Scholarships Office of any change in their funding status under section 16(4) of the [Statute](#).

- (2) Subject to clause 8(1), a recipient may only hold the scholarship concurrently with another scholarship, award, grant, or bursary granted (or to be granted) to the recipient by the University or another organisation if the requirements of section 14(1) of the Statute are met and with the approval of the Director.

Note: The terms of any other scholarship, award, grant or bursary must be disclosed to the Scholarships Office upon receipt of an offer from the awarding organisation or on the grant of the scholarship, whichever is later.

- (3) Where the Director approves a recipient to hold the scholarship concurrently with another scholarship, award, grant or bursary under clause 8(2):
 - (a) the total amount received by the recipient from the scholarship stipend and any stipend payable under the **concurrent scholarship** must not exceed 150% of the scholarship stipend; and
 - (b) the Director may reduce the amount of the scholarship stipend where necessary to meet this requirement.

To avoid doubt, any funding received by the recipient from the concurrent scholarship that is not for the purposes of living costs is excluded from this calculation.

Note 1: For example, a grant to cover research costs or professional development would not be included within the total amount received by the recipient for the purposes of this calculation and accordingly would not have any impact on the scholarship stipend.

Note 2: See section 14 (Concurrent scholarships) of the [Statute](#).

9. Applications

- (1) Applications will be considered in one of two application rounds in each academic year stipulated on the [Juncture: Dialogues on Inclusive Capitalism](#) website (**application round**).

Note: See section 5 (Applications) of the [Statute](#).

10. Definitions

- (1) A word that is defined in section 23 (Definitions) of the [Statute](#) has the same meaning when used in these Specific Terms.
- (2) In these Specific Terms:
 - (a) **Application round** has the meaning in clause 9(2).
 - (b) **Director** has the meaning in section 23 (Definitions) of the Statute and means the person for the time being holding the position of Director Student and Scholarly Services and their delegates.
 - (c) **Domestic qualifying programme** means a qualifying programme from a New Zealand institution.
 - (d) **Domestic student** has the meaning given to that term in section [10\(1\)](#) of the **Act**.



- (e) **FTE** means full-time equivalent.
- (f) **International student** has the meaning given to that term in section [10\(1\)](#) of the Act.
- (g) **International qualifying programme** means a qualifying programme from an overseas institution.
- (h) **Masters transfer recipient** means a recipient who transfers to the doctoral programme from a research masters degree offered by the University.
- (i) **Qualifying programme** means programme of study completed by the recipient that the University considers satisfies section 13(a) and (b) of the [PhD Statute](#) or the equivalent admission regulations for the relevant named doctorate.

11. Commencement and revocation

These Specific Terms come into force on 1 July 2026.

Document control

Approved by: Pro Vice-Chancellor Global and Graduate Research

Date approved: 1 July 2026

