Market Economics Geography Masters Research Scholarship

Description
The Scholarship was first established in 2011 and is funded by Market Economics Ltd, an independent New Zealand-based consultancy that specialises in market and economic analysis and environmental and ecological research.

The main purpose of the Scholarship is to encourage postgraduate research into the field of human/economic geography, including GIS, by rewarding demonstrated ability and lowering financial barriers.

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 Market Economics Geography Masters Research Scholarship.
2. One Scholarship will be awarded annually, for a period of one year, and will be of the value of up to $5,000.
3. To be eligible for Scholarship consideration, an applicant must be enrolled, or enrolling, full-time in the thesis year of either a Master of Arts or Masters of Science majoring/specialising in Geography, or a Master of Public Health or a Master of Health Sciences, and ii) undertaking research relevant to the core interests of Market Economics, including, but not limited to, research focussed on rigorous and applied quantitative analysis in human or economic geography or GIS, or quantitative and/or spatial Health Geography and Deprivation, or Sustainability and Planetary Health (see Notes III and VII). A grade point average (GPA) or grade point equivalent (GPE) of 6.00 (5.50 for Māori candidates and Pacific candidates) in the most recent qualifying programme is required for Scholarship consideration.
4. The Scholarship is tenable by domestic or international students.
5. The basis of selection will be academic merit as assessed by the GPA/GPE obtained over the most recent qualifying programme (see Note II), the quality of the research proposal, and the appropriateness of the proposed research to the core interests of Market Economics (see Notes III and VII).

6. The Scholarship will be awarded by the University of Auckland Council on the recommendation of a Selection Committee comprising the Head of the School of Environment (or nominee), the Head of the Geography programme (or nominee) and one representative of the Donor (appointed by the sponsor or trustee).

7. The Scholarship will be paid in one instalment in Semester One, 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).

8. To be paid the Scholarship, the awardee must be i) enrolled full-time in the thesis year of a Master of Arts or Master of Science in Geography, or the thesis year of a Master of Public Health or a Master of Health Sciences.

9. The Scholarship 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 or grant funding received and for which the awardee receives payment while also in payment for this Scholarship.

10. The donor may choose to recover some or all of the money if the awardee fails to complete the programme of study (see Note VIII).

11. 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.

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 30 April 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. The most recent qualifying programme is defined as the most recently completed programme of study that qualifies the applicant for entry to the postgraduate programme in which they are applying or currently enrolled. Where the most recently completed 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.

III. Depending on the nature of the proposed research, Market Economics Ltd may choose to make relevant datasets/resources available to the awardee.

IV. The awardee’s name and proposed topic may be included on Market Economics Ltd’s website.

V. Market Economics Ltd may require the awardee to provide an information presentation of their completed research to Market Economics staff. Alternatively, or in addition, Market Economics may seek to attend any in-department research presentations by the awardee, if practicable.

VI. Market Economics Ltd may request a copy of the completed research.

VII. Applicants for the scholarship are encouraged to discuss their proposed research topic with the lecturers and the Geography Programme Advisor. Market Economics Ltd may also make suggestions of relevant topics and areas of research via the Geography Programme Advisor.
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 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.