

University of Auckland Commonwealth Scholarship

Code:	266
Faculty:	All
Applicable study:	PhD - tenable by citizens of Canada and the UK
Closing date:	Not currently available
Tenure:	Up to 36 months (see Reg. 6)
For:	Assistance wth study
Number on offer:	One
Offer rate:	Annually
Value:	Up to \$33,000 in 2023 plus health insurance, compulsory fees at the domestic rate, return flights for the scholar and \$1,000 baggage allowance

Description

Following the withdrawal of funding by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade for Commonwealth Scholars from developed countries, in 1998 the University of Auckland agreed to provide funding for one new Scholarship per year for candidates from Canada and the United Kingdom. It is expected that this arrangement will be reciprocal.

Selection process

- Application is made through the appropriate organisation in the recipient's home country
- a Selection Committee assesses the applications
- the Scholarships are awarded by the University of Auckland Council on the recommendation of the Scholarships Committee

Regulations

1. The Scholarship will be known as the University of Auckland Commonwealth Scholarship.
2. The University of Auckland Commonwealth Scholarship provides a tax-free stipend of up to \$33,000 per annum in 2023, with an annual CPI adjustment to the stipend value, for up to 36 months. In addition, compulsory tuition fees will be covered for international students who are eligible to study under the domestic fees policy (see Note II). Students will also receive compulsory student health cover, return flights for the scholar and a baggage allowance of up to \$1,000.00.
3. To be eligible for Scholarship consideration, an applicant must be i) a Canadian or British citizen, ii) eligible to pay domestic fees (see Note II), and iii) enrolled, or enrolling, full-time at Waipapa Taumata Rau, University of Auckland for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD).
4. Selection will be based on academic merit, the proposed area of research, and the ability of the University to provide adequate supervision and access to resources. Matters that may be considered in addition to academic merit include, but are not limited to, academic record, standing of awarding institute, academic references, CV, research and publication record (see Note III).
5. The Scholarship will be awarded by the University of Auckland Council on the recommendation of Scholarships

Committee.

6. A Scholarship will be tenable for a maximum of thirty-six months. The exact tenure will be stipulated by the Scholarships Committee on a case-by-case basis as awards are made. A further six months of scholarship funding, subject to Scholarships Committee approval may be available. Scholarship payments will commence from the date of arrival in New Zealand which is expected to be no longer than two weeks prior to the first enrolment.
7. Awardees may apply to suspend their Scholarship for up to 12 months in total during the tenure of their award (see Notes IV and V).
8. To comply with full-time study requirement in Regulation 3, the amount of additional and paid work a Scholar may undertake either inside or outside the University may not exceed a total of 750 hours per 12-month period of scholarship tenure.
9. A University of Auckland Commonwealth Scholarship may not be held concurrently with any Postgraduate Scholarship awarded by Universities New Zealand unless the University of Auckland Council so approves, or with any other scholarship funded by Waipapa Taumata Rau, University of Auckland. 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 (see Notes VII and VIII).
10. Payment 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. Failure to comply with this regulation will result in the termination of the Scholarship.
11. A Scholarship may be terminated by the University of Auckland Council should the Scholarships Committee receive a report from a Scholar's Academic Head indicating that progress is unsatisfactory.
12. 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.
13. The University of Auckland Council can amend or vary these regulations provided that there is no departure from the main purpose of the Scholarship.
14. Notes [I]-[X] below are deemed to be regulations.

Notes

- I. *Applications for these Scholarships must be made through the appropriate organisation in the Scholar's home country on the Commonwealth Scholarship application form. Closing dates vary and these should be sought from the appropriate organisation in the Scholar's home country.*
- II. *To be eligible to pay domestic PhD fees, recipients who are international students may only be resident outside of New Zealand for a total of twelve months over the period of their enrolment in their doctoral degree and only for the purpose of conducting research.*
- III. *To be deemed a qualifying programme for the purposes of scholarship consideration, an individual programme must satisfy Regulation 13a and b of the PhD Statute. Where the qualifying programme is an undergraduate honours degree (or equivalent undergraduate degree or integrated undergraduate and postgraduate degree), the grade point average or equivalent will be calculated over the final two years of full-time graded study (or equivalent) in the programme. In all other cases, the grade point average or equivalent will be calculated over the entirety of the programme. Where a programme is entirely pass/fail, the University may generate a GPA only where the programme consists entirely of a thesis.*
- IV. *An additional 12-month parental-leave suspension may be considered where the awardee becomes a parent during their tenure of the Scholarship.*
- V. *In exceptional circumstances Scholarships Committee may approve a suspension of this Scholarship beyond the suspension periods stated in Regulation 7 and Note IV. Applications must be made in writing to the Scholarships Office.*
- VI. *The tax-free status of this Scholarship is under current legislation. Waipapa Taumata Rau, University of Auckland*

cannot guarantee this tax-free outcome.

- VII. Where Scholarships Committee approves co-tenure, the combined stipend may not exceed 150% of the University of Auckland Commonwealth Scholarship stipend. For the avoidance of doubt, support that is not for the purposes of living costs is excluded from this calculation. For example, a grant to cover research costs or professional development would not have any impact on the University of Auckland Commonwealth Scholarship stipend.*
- 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 from the date of the breach.*
- IX. If an awardee is overpaid an amount in excess of a full fortnightly disbursement, the University may recover the overpayment by withholding future award payments at the same rate that the award was overpaid or, if the awardee is no longer enrolled, the University may recover the overpayment in line with standard debt collection practices.*
- X. If an awardee is overpaid an amount in excess of a full fortnightly disbursement after they are no longer eligible for the Scholarship, the University may recover the overpayment in line with standard debt collection practices.*