

Master of Design Diversity Award

Code:	1166
Faculty:	Engineering and Design
Applicable study:	Master of Design
Closing date:	11 March 2026
Tenure:	One year
For:	Assistance with study
Number on offer:	Two
Offer rate:	Annually
Value:	\$5,000 each

Description

The Award was established in 2022 and is funded by the Faculty of Engineering and Design.

The main purpose of the Award is to encourage Waipapa Taumata Rau, University of Auckland Master of Design students from diverse backgrounds to take their passion for design to make changes for the benefit of society.

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 Award will be known as the Master of Design Diversity Award.
2. Two Awards will be made annually for a period of up to one year and will be of the value of up to \$5,000 each.
3. To be eligible for Award consideration, an applicant must be i) from a diverse background (see Notes II to VII), and ii) enrolled, or enrolling, full-time in the first semester of a Master of Design in the Faculty of Engineering and Design at Waipapa Taumata Rau, University of Auckland.
4. The Award is tenable by New Zealand Citizens, New Zealand Permanent Residents (see Note VIII) and international students.
5. The basis of selection will be academic achievement as assessed by the GPA/GPE calculated over the most recent qualifying programme (see Note IX), and how the applicant's background, expertise and passion for design will help to diversify the field of design as assessed by a personal statement.
6. The Award will be made by the University of Auckland Council on the recommendation of a Selection Committee comprising Dean of the Faculty of Engineering and Design (or nominee), the Director of Design (or nominee) and a member of academic staff from the Faculty of Engineering and Design nominated by the Dean.
7. The Award 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 Award, an awardee must be enrolled full-time in the first semester of a Master of Design in the Faculty of Engineering and Design.
9. The Award may be held 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 Award.
10. 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.
11. Payments under the terms of this Award remain tax-free as long as they are used directly 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 Award.
12. The University of Auckland Council, in consultation with the Faculty of Engineering and Design, can amend or vary these regulations provided that there is no departure from the main purpose of the Award.
13. Applications close with the Scholarships Office on 11 March in the year of the award.
14. Notes [I]-[X] below are deemed to be Regulations.

Notes

- I. *The tax-free status of this Award is under current legislation. The University of Auckland cannot guarantee this tax-free outcome.*
- II. *For the purposes of this Award, diverse backgrounds include: Māori students; Pacific students, students with disabilities; Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex, Queer Takatāpui + (LGBTIQ Takatāpui) students; students from refugee backgrounds; students from low socio-economic backgrounds; men, women and gender diverse people where there are barriers to access and success; and students who are first in their family to attend university (see Notes III to VII).*
- III. *For the purposes of this Award, Pacific students refers to students 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, Federate States of Micronesia, Wallis and Futuna, Hawaii, French Polynesia, Rapanui (Easter Island), Pitcairn Islands, Nauru, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands.*
- IV. *Waipapa Taumata Rau defines disability as any physical, psychological, cognitive or sensory impairment which, in interaction with social and systemic barriers, restricts a person's full and effective participation in university life on an equal basis with others.*
- V. *For the purposes of this Award, refugee background refers to students who have themselves or whose parents/primary guardian(s) have been granted refuge in New Zealand.*
- VI. *For the purposes of this Award, 'first in family' means that no member of the applicant's immediate family, including parents and siblings, has completed a university qualification prior to the applicant's first year of undergraduate university study. Adoptive and step parents and siblings are considered part of the family where they have lived with the applicant for the five years or more immediately prior to the applicant's first year of undergraduate study.*
- VII. *International students are students who are neither citizens, permanent resident nor visa holders of New Zealand or Australia.*
- VIII. *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>.*
- IX. *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.

- X. *Awardees will be required to comply with the regulations for the Award 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 Award and require repayment of the funds received.*