



THE HICKS SCHOLARSHIPS 2012

BACKGROUND

The Hicks Scholarships were established in 2011, as part of the Hicks Trust's wider objectives of promoting all forms of farming in New Zealand. The Trust wishes to foster better understanding of the methods involved in the further development and improvement of agriculture, horticulture, arboriculture, viticulture, animal husbandry, and other systems of farming.

REGULATIONS

1. The awards shall be known as the Hicks Scholarships.
2. The purpose of these awards is to promote all forms of farming in New Zealand, by assisting students to undertake relevant research.
3. Areas of relevant research are agriculture, horticulture, arboriculture, viticulture, and animal husbandry. The Selection Panel's particular areas of interest include, but are not limited to, the following: methods of propagation, breeding, and development of flora and fauna; eradication of noxious plants and animals in New Zealand.
4. Candidates will, in the year of application, be enrolling or enrolled at any New Zealand University to undertake the research portion of their Master's degree. It is expected that the bulk of that research will take place in the year following application.
5. While international students are welcome to apply, the Selection Panel will expect all candidates to be able to demonstrate a personal interest in, and the relevance of their research to, farming in New Zealand.
6. The Selection Panel will pay particular attention to the following:
 - a. The relevance and potential benefits of the research for the farming sector
 - b. Academic merit
 - c. Plans to disseminate research results, e.g. conference attendance, publication of papers and/or journal articles
 - d. Future study and employment plans.
7. Short-listed candidates **may** be required to attend an interview before the Selection Panel.

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8. The selection process will have two stages. The initial Selection Panel will comprise at least two members of the University of Waikato's academic staff with expertise in farming-related research, and the Chair of the Scholarships Committee, or nominee. The recommendations of the initial Selection Panel will be presented to the Trustee for final approval.
9. The Scholarships shall be formally awarded by the Trustee.
10. The Hicks Trust will offer two Scholarships in the year of application. The value of each one-year Scholarship will be **up to** \$15,000. If more than two candidates of particular merit present, the Panel may choose to divide the Scholarships.
11. It is expected that the Scholarships will be used to defray course-related expenses.
12. The Scholarships will normally be paid in instalments, as arranged through the Scholarships Office.
13. The Scholarships may be held together with any other award, unless the conditions of the other preclude this.
14. It is expected that the Scholarships Office at each recipient's university will monitor his/her progress, and facilitate reporting to the Trust.
15. By accepting a Scholarship, the recipient agrees to participate in any publicity concerning the Scholarship arranged by the Trust and/or the recipient's university. For example, a recipient may be required to attend a presentation ceremony.
16. The offer of a Scholarship must be accepted by the date indicated in the letter of offer. If a candidate declines a Scholarship, or does not take it up, the Selection Panel may offer the Scholarship to another person.
17. The Trustee may terminate a Scholarship at any time and recoup any funds disbursed if not satisfied that the holder is following the required programme in an appropriate manner or otherwise complying with the conditions governing the Scholarship. The holder of a Scholarship shall have the right to appeal to the Trustee against any decision to terminate an award.
18. The due date for applications is **30 November 2011**.

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APPLICATION DETAILS

PREVIOUS STUDY

Please give details of the institution(s) and study undertaken.

You must attach verified copies of your academic transcripts. Please also attach grade scales where available.

STUDY INTENTIONS

Please indicate the qualification in which you are/will be enrolled as a full-time student for 2012.

Programme/Subject:

Qualification:

Department:

Faculty/School:

University:

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Please list all scholarships/prizes won in the last two years (attach a separate page if necessary).

Please list all other scholarship applications in process (attach a separate page if necessary).

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REFEREES

Please provide the names and addresses of two persons you have **already** asked to forward confidential references to the University of Waikato Scholarships Office.

One referee should be your Supervisor. The other referee will also be able to comment on your (research) interest in farming.

Those references (ideally on letterhead paper) may be sent by post or attached to an e-mail.

Title and Name of Referee: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

Title and Name of Referee: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

PERSONAL STATEMENT

Please attach a (maximum two-page) personal statement (incorporating subheadings) that briefly presents the following:

- The relevance and potential benefits of your research for the farming sector
- Your plans to disseminate your research results, e.g. conference attendance, publication of papers and/or journal articles
- Your future study and employment plans
- Any other information you consider relevant.

CHECK LIST

All applicants please check that you have done the following:

- Completed all relevant sections of the application form
- Asked two referees to send confidential references directly to the University of Waikato Scholarships Office
- Attached a two-page personal statement to the application.
- Attached verified copies of academic transcripts from any tertiary institution(s) you have attended (and a grade scale if possible)

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▼ PRIVACY DECLARATION

The information provided in this application will be used solely for the purposes of assessing your eligibility and suitability for this Scholarship. Personal information contained in this application will be made available to members of the Selection Panel, the Trustee, members of the University of Waikato Scholarships Committee, and staff of the University of Waikato Scholarships Office. Personal information will also be made available to the equivalent bodies and offices at the applicant's own university.

The University of Waikato undertakes to store your application in a secure place in the event that you are successful in gaining an award or are selected as a reserve candidate for an award. In the event that you are unsuccessful in gaining an award, the University of Waikato undertakes to destroy your application to preserve its confidentiality. Should you have reason to believe that information held about you in either your application or your academic record is incorrect, you have the right of access to, and correction of, that information.

The Selection Panel, Trustee, or University of Waikato may contact for further information any persons or community groups you have named in support of your application. Any such direct contact with these persons or groups will be made on a strictly confidential basis. The University of Waikato may not divulge details to you about the content of such confidential communication without the written authorisation of the persons or groups concerned.

CONDITIONS

I understand that:

1. If I am offered, and accept, a Hicks Scholarship, I will only be eligible to be formally awarded the Scholarship if I enrol full-time at a New Zealand university in the year for which the offer is made, and comply with any other specific requirements of the Scholarship
2. By accepting a Scholarship, I agree to participate in any publicity concerning the Scholarship arranged by the Trustee and/or my university
3. The Trustee may terminate my Scholarship at any time, and recoup any funds awarded, if it is not satisfied that I am following the required programme or that I am otherwise complying with the conditions governing the Scholarship
4. I shall have the right to appeal to the Trustee against any decision to terminate the award.

▼ SIGN HERE

Signature: _____ Date: _____

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REFERENCE

Applicant's Name: _____

Student ID: _____ (if known)

Please provide a reference (on or attached to this form) for the above-named applicant for a Hicks Scholarship.

It would be helpful if your reference could include comments on any/all of the following: the relevance of the research project and the likely long-term contribution of the research and/or candidate to the farming sector, the planned dissemination of the research, and the candidate's academic merit.

This reference will be used by the Selection Panel for this Scholarship.

While you are welcome to give your reference to the applicant, it would be appreciated if you could send it directly to the following address (or e-mail it as an attachment to scholarships@waikato.ac.nz) by **30 November**:

The Scholarships Office
The University of Waikato
Private Bag 3105
HAMILTON 3240

Referee's Name: _____

Address: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

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