The University of Waikato Partnership Doctoral Scholarship was established in 2021 to support and enhance research of relevance to our communities, stakeholders and partners and build collaborative relationships. These scholarships transpire through partnerships developed by academics of the University of Waikato with external organisations; no set number are available each year as numbers are dependent on the pool of partnership funding available.

Application is not made through the University Scholarships Team. Instead, the application is made to a predetermined committee and/or academic supervisor who is responsible for the relationship with the external organisation. The committee and/or academic supervisor will forward the nomination to the Scholarships Team who will coordinate consideration and possible approval via the Scholarships Committee.

1. **Purpose**
   1.1. To support excellence in postgraduate research and develop and solidify collaborative relationships between University of Waikato and external partners.

2. **Eligibility, Selection Criteria, and Nomination Process**
   2.1. **To be eligible**, candidates must:
      2.1.1. Be enrolled in a doctoral degree or have received an offer of place in a doctoral degree at the University of Waikato. Doctoral qualifications include a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD), Doctor of Health Science (DHSc), Doctor of Musical Arts (DMA), Doctor of Education (EdD), or Doctor of Juridical Science (SJD).
      2.1.2. be seeking to obtain their first doctoral qualification.
      2.1.3. normally be intending to study **full-time** at the University of Waikato (but see clause 5.2 below).
      2.1.4. Not be employed by the University of Waikato. However, employment as a sessional assistant, or similar, may be permitted, provided the hours worked do not contravene Clause 5.
   2.2. **Selection is based on:**
      2.2.1. Academic merit and a minimum grade point average (GPA) of A- (calculated over the previous two years of full-time study) is expected.
      2.2.2. Other factors taken into consideration, especially for applicants with a GPA lower than A-, include: experience of applicant (e.g., prior research and work experience of relevance to the research topic, references, publications).
   2.3. **The nomination process** is as follows:
      2.3.1. Candidates will be ranked and nominated on the nomination form by the nominator(s).
      2.3.2. Nominations will be forwarded to scholarships@waikato.ac.nz. The process of offering and awarding the Scholarship to a recipient will start once a Scholarships Advisor has received the nomination; the scholarship offer is not confirmed nor official till the official offer has been made by Scholarships.
2.3.3. Prior to any offer to the top-ranked candidate, the scholarships advisor will confirm that any agreement is in place and any funding has been received and that the nominated recipient meets the eligibility criteria below. They will then seek confirmation of the nomination(s) from the Chair of the Scholarships Committee.

2.3.4. The decision of the Chair of the Scholarships Committee is final; no further correspondence will be entered into following the selection meeting.

3. Awarding and on-going eligibility

3.1. Successful recipients:

3.1.1. Must be enrolled or have received an offer of place in a doctoral degree at the University of Waikato.

3.1.2. Will normally have been advised of the unofficial outcome by their appointed Academic Supervisor before receiving an official offer.

3.1.3. Must accept the offer of a Scholarship by the date indicated within the offer or the offer will lapse.

3.2. In accepting the Scholarship, the recipient will be deemed to have read, understood, and accepted these regulations, as well as the associated terms and conditions of the Scholarship, and the Scholarships Policy.

3.3. The accepted Scholarship will remain valid as long as the associated Offer of Place or enrolment in the doctoral qualification is also valid.

3.4. By accepting the Scholarship offer, the recipient agrees to participate in any publicity concerning the Scholarship arranged by the University of Waikato or partner organisation.

3.5. If a recipient’s circumstances change in a manner which may affect their continued eligibility for this Scholarship, they must inform their Supervisor and the Scholarships Committee immediately (via scholarships@waikato.ac.nz). Any change of circumstances will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

4. Value and Tenure

4.1. The value of the Scholarship will be set in agreement with the external party and this will be outlined clearly in the offer in the MyWaikato Portal. The Scholarship may include some or all of the following:

4.1.1. An annual living allowance payable in monthly instalments over every 12 month period for up to the total tenure of the scholarship. The living allowance is paid on a pro-rata basis for approved part-time students (see clause 5.2.2.), and/or

4.1.2. The domestic tuition fees (or part-there-of) for enrolment in the doctoral qualification during the tenure of the Scholarship; and/or

4.1.3. The Student Services Levy.

4.1.4. It is unlikely that the Scholarship will provide additional costs such as medical insurance, moving costs, and research expenses and, unless stated in the offer, these must be met by the student.
4.2. Normally the Scholarship tenure will not exceed 36 months (three years) of full-time doctoral enrolment (or equivalent for part-time study). If the scholarship tenure is to vary from 36 months this will be clearly outlined in the scholarship offer.

4.2.1. For candidates enrolling in an DHSc, EdD or SJD programme, the tenure of the Doctoral Scholarship will begin on the date that they commence their Part 1 enrolment.

4.2.2. Should a recipient submit their thesis for examination during the Scholarship tenure (and provided the candidate remains enrolled), the Scholarship will end after its full term or upon the recipient’s completion of the doctoral qualification, whichever is the earlier date. Completion occurs when the Postgraduate Research Committee recommends awarding of the degree.

4.2.3. If, for any reason ¹, a recipient’s doctoral enrolment ends during the Scholarship term, the Scholarship will end from the same date.

5. Part-time Study, Employment, Suspension, and Holidays

5.1. The University of Waikato is committed to ensuring the wellbeing of its students. Thus, full-time scholarship recipients:

5.1.1. Are expected to undertake their doctoral studies full-time (i.e., 37.5 hours per week) and may take up to four weeks holiday each year (not including University and Public Holidays) without applying for suspension of their scholarship.

5.1.2. Are not permitted to undertake paid employment that exceeds an annual total of 500 hours (i.e., not work more than 6 days per week when combining doctoral studies and paid employment). Permission to exceed an annual total of 500 hours paid employment must be sought from the Scholarships Executive (via scholarships@waikato.ac.nz) and will only be approved in exceptional circumstances (e.g., where the work is part of the data collection).

5.2. Part-time scholarship recipients:

5.2.1. Candidates who have socially compelling reasons for enrolling in part-time study (e.g. illness, disability, parent or carer responsibilities) may apply to the Scholarships Executive for permission to be awarded the Scholarship. The candidate should email scholarships@waikato.ac.nz, outlining the reasons for the request and providing appropriate evidence of the need to study part-time. These requests will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

5.2.2. During any period of part-time enrolment, the value, tenure, employment allowances and duration of a recipient’s Scholarship will be adjusted on a pro rata basis.

5.2.3. Candidates will not be granted permission to hold this scholarship on a part-time basis if they wish to undertake full-time paid employment or where combined days worked on doctoral studies and in employment exceed 6 days a week, or where annual holidays are forfeited.

5.2.4. Recipients are required to transfer to full-time enrolment if a change in their circumstances means they no longer qualify to hold the Scholarship part-time.

¹ For example, completion, withdrawal, or termination.
5.3. **Suspension of studies**

5.3.1. Scholarships may only be paid to enrolled students. This means that doctoral recipients on suspension are not eligible to receive any Scholarship funds for any reason. This includes suspension related to parental, medical or compassionate leave. In the cases of overpayment, the School of Graduate Research will work with the recipient to recoup the funds.

6. **Co-tenure**

6.1. The recipient may hold any other awards that provide funds for research and/or conference purposes.

6.2. The recipient must advise the Scholarships Executive (via email to scholarships@waikato.ac.nz), of awards received that include a living stipend and/or fees component, noting:

6.2.1. They may hold lower-value awards provided the combined value of all other awards does not exceed 75% of the living allowance of this Scholarship in any one year.

6.2.2. If offered an award with a higher-value than this Scholarship, which also allows co-tenure, the recipient must apply to the Scholarships Executive for permission to receive the additional funding while retaining up to fifty per cent of the current living allowance of this Scholarship. Applications will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

7. **Other Conditions**

7.1. If a recipient is in receipt of a student allowance, another scholarship, or any type of financial assistance, it is their responsibility to check their entitlement to other income and any tax implications.

7.2. Recipients are not eligible to receive Scholarship funds during periods of suspension of doctoral enrolment for any reason. In the cases of overpayment, the School of Graduate Research will work with the recipient to recoup the funds.

7.3. The Postgraduate Research Committee will provide advice and recommendations to the Scholarships Committee in regards to Progress Reports of Scholarship recipients that identify performance that is below expectations.

7.4. The Scholarships Committee may terminate this Scholarship at any time, and recoup any funds disbursed, if the recipient:

7.4.1. is not meeting expectations in their doctoral progress reports;

7.4.2. is not following the approved programme of study; or,

7.4.3. brings the University into disrepute², or otherwise does not comply with the regulations governing the Scholarship.

7.5. The Scholarship recipient will have the right to appeal against any decision to terminate a Scholarship by writing to scholarships@waikato.ac.nz, who will forward the appeal to the Scholarships Executive.

7.6. The Scholarships Committee may, from time to time, vary these regulations.

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² See the [Student Code of Conduct](#).