

The Tauranga Campus Research Masters Scholarship was set-up in 2018 to support students undertaking a master's thesis at the University of Waikato in Tauranga. These scholarships were made available through the generosity of Tauranga Energy Consumer Trust, Tauranga City Council and Bay of Plenty Regional Council. The funds are held in trust in the Foundation and at most three scholarships are on offer. The University of Waikato is committed to supporting graduate research, and the motto ko te tangata is a core value that underpins this commitment.

Of particular importance is the potential of the research to contribute to the growth of industry and the economy in the communities of the Bay of Plenty and Tauranga.

1. Eligibility

- 1.1. Applicants must have applied to enrol, or be planning to enrol, full-time¹ in a thesis of 90-points or more as part of their first master's degree at the University of Waikato and based in Tauranga.
 - 1.1.1. Applicants must commence their thesis enrolment within six months of the closing date of the round in which they apply.
- 1.2. The Scholarship is open to New Zealand citizens, permanent residents, and international students.
 - 1.2.1. International students must have completed at least 120-points of study at a New Zealand university in order to be eligible for this Scholarship.

2. Value

- 2.1. The Scholarships will have a value of up to \$23,000 to be received as follows:
 - 2.1.1. The recipients tuition fees will first be paid, with the remainder of the Scholarship paid into the recipient's bank account in three equal instalments:
 - 2.1.1.1. The first instalment will be paid two weeks after enrolment in the thesis OR as soon as arrangements can be made after the awarding of the Scholarship should the recipient have already completed more than two weeks of study.
 - 2.1.1.2. The second instalment will be paid after four months of study.

¹ The thesis should usually be completed within a 12-month period, although dispensation will be made in cases where the applicant is concurrently enrolled in a number of additional papers or two programmes of study.

- 2.1.1.3. The final instalment will be paid on submission of the thesis for marking.

3. Application

- 3.1. The closing date for applications is **31 October** annually. A second round will be held in the same year if a Scholarship is not awarded.
- 3.2. Applicants must include with their application:
 - 3.2.1. a Personal Statement (using the template provided on the online Scholarship application form); and
 - 3.2.2. an academic reference from either your (proposed) master's thesis supervisor or a member of the academic staff at the institution at which you obtained the qualification that defines your eligibility to enter the master's programme.

4. Selection Criteria

- 4.1. Scholarships are awarded on the basis of academic merit, with a minimum grade average of A- expected for eligibility. Grade-average calculations will be based on the equivalent of the applicant's last two years of full-time study (240-points). Where applicable, particular attention will be given to results from the applicant's 400-level and/or 500-level papers.
- 4.2. Of particular importance is the potential of the research to contribute to the growth of industry and the economy in the communities of the Bay of Plenty and Tauranga.
- 4.3. Other factors that may also be taken into consideration are financial hardship and the strategic objectives of the University.
- 4.4. The Scholarships Committee may give preference to applicants who have not yet commenced their master's thesis enrolment.
- 4.5. The Scholarships Committee will submit its recommendations for the Scholarships to the Scholarships Executive for final approval.
- 4.6. The Scholarships Executive's decisions are final and no correspondence will be entered into following the selection meeting.

5. Selection Panel

- 5.1. The Scholarship Selection Panel will comprise of the Chair of the Scholarships Committee (as chairperson), a representative of the Tauranga Tertiary Campus Charitable Trust (or its successor), the Acting Campus Director (or nominees) and a Faculty representative, as appointed by the Chair of the Scholarships Committee.

- 5.2. The Selection Panel's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into following the selection meeting.

6. Awarding

- 6.1. All applicants will be advised by email of the outcome of their application.
- 6.2. The Scholarship offer must be accepted by the due date or the offer will lapse.
- 6.3. Recipients of this award must commence their enrolment in a thesis of 120-points within four months of accepting the Scholarship.
- 6.4. The thesis should be completed within a 12-month period.
- 6.5. Recipients must enrol in the thesis paper listed on their Scholarship application.
 - 6.5.1. Recipients wishing to change their enrolment must seek approval from the Scholarships Committee (via the School of Graduate Research). Changes may affect Scholarship eligibility which could necessitate the University to recoup awarded funds.

7. Tenure

- 7.1. The tenure of the Scholarship is one year. However, when all or part of a recipient's research does not take place within a 12-month period, some or all of their payments may be delayed to better align them with the period(s) of research.

8. Other Conditions

- 8.1. The Scholarship may not be held with any other fees or stipend scholarship or award unless agreement is gained from the Selection Panel (via the School of Graduate Research).
- 8.2. If, during the tenure of the Scholarship, a recipient's circumstances change in such a manner that their continued eligibility for the Scholarship may be affected, they must inform the Scholarships Committee (via the School of Graduate Research) immediately.
- 8.3. The Scholarships Executive may terminate a Scholarship at any time, and recoup any funds disbursed if the holder withdraws from the University during the tenure of the Scholarship, brings the University into disrepute², or is otherwise not complying with the regulations governing the Scholarship. The recipient of a Scholarship shall have the right to appeal against any decision to terminate the award via the Research Committee.

² See [Student Code of Conduct](#)"

- 8.4. The Scholarship may be recognised at a function organised to promote Scholarships more widely throughout the University. By accepting a Scholarship, the recipient agrees to participate in any reasonable publicity concerning the Scholarship arranged by the University of Waikato.