The University of Waikato / Chiefs Recovery Doctoral Scholarship was established in 2018 through the partnership between Chiefs Super Rugby and the University of Waikato. The Chiefs Super Rugby team is looking for a suitably qualified candidate to undertake a PhD in Recovery in Rugby. The University of Waikato is committed to strengthening partnerships with other organisations through research and study opportunities.

The Scholarship will support one Doctoral Candidate while they undertake Doctoral Research within the Faculty of Health, Sport and Human Performance (FHSHP) working with athletes and coaches from the Chiefs Super Rugby team alongside experienced academics at the University of Waikato to research different aspects leading to performance enhancement in top Rugby Union athletes. One Scholarship is on offer in 2018 and is funded by Chiefs Super Rugby and the Faculty of Health, Sport and Human Performance.

1. Eligibility

1.1. The Scholarship is open to New Zealand citizens, permanent residents, and international students.

1.2. The Scholarship will be awarded on academic merit. For admission to the doctoral programme at the University of Waikato, a minimum grade average of A- for the previous two years of full-time study (or equivalent, if part-time) is expected for eligibility. Other factors that will be taken into consideration include: references, prior research, work experience, and publications.

1.3. In particular, candidates must possess a relevant first class Honours or Masters qualification (or equivalent) in a field related to the project.

1.4. Candidates must demonstrate how their intended research will support Chiefs Super Rugby to understand different aspects leading to performance enhancement in rugby athletes.

1.5. Preference will be given to candidates who have already completed the entry qualifications for doctoral study. Candidates already enrolled in a doctoral degree at the University of Waikato may apply. However, the Selection Panel will favour applications from new doctoral students.

1.6. The offer of this Scholarship may only be taken up by a candidate who has formally completed the entry qualifications for, and enrolled full-time in, doctoral study at the University of Waikato.

2. Application

2.1. The closing date for applications is 22 October 2018.

2.2. Applications must be submitted on the prescribed online form and must include:

2.2.1. A two-page personal statement that briefly presents:

- An outline of prior research qualifications, experience and publications;
• How the proposed research will align with supporting Chiefs Super Rugby to understand different aspects leading to performance enhancement in rugby athletes; and
• Previous experience working with high performance athletes and coaches.

2.2.2. Two academic references, one of which must be from either the proposed Chief Supervisor or a member of the academic staff at the institution at which you obtained the qualification that defines your eligibility to enter the doctoral programme.

2.2.3. If applicable, verified copies of academic transcripts from any tertiary institutions (other than the University of Waikato) you have attended.

3. Value

3.1. The Scholarship offers:

3.1.1. An annual stipend of up to $22,000, payable in monthly instalments.

3.1.2. The domestic tuition fees for doctoral study, including the student services levy (but not including medical insurance or any other costs).

4. Selection Panel

4.1. The Selection Panel will comprise the Chair of the University’s Scholarships Committee (or nominee) in the Chair, two academic staff members appointed by the Dean of the Faculty of Health, Sport and Human Performance (and on the doctoral supervisory panel), and one nominee from the Chiefs (on the doctoral supervisory panel).

4.2. The Selection Panel’s decisions are final and no correspondence will be entered into following the selection meeting.

5. Awarding

5.1. The Scholarship offer must be accepted within two weeks of the formal offer of the Scholarship being made. If the candidate fails to accept the award within this timeframe, the offer will lapse.

5.2. A Scholarship may only be taken up by a candidate who has formally completed the entry qualifications for, and enrolled full-time in, doctoral study at the University of Waikato.

5.3. The recipient must commence doctoral study within two months of accepting the Scholarship. If the recipient does not start within this timeframe, the Scholarship offer will be withdrawn.

6. Tenure

6.1. The full tenure of the Doctoral Scholarship will not exceed three years of full-time doctoral enrolment.

6.1.1. Termination of, or withdrawal from, the full-time programme of doctoral study for which the Scholarship has been awarded shall constitute termination of the Scholarship.
6.1.2. Failure to attain the level of ‘meets expectations’ or above, on any progress report, without a justifiable reason, shall jeopardise the continuation of the Scholarship payments, until this level is met.

6.1.3. 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 School of Graduate Research immediately.

6.1.4. The Scholarships Executive may terminate this Scholarship at any time, and recoup any funds disbursed, if the holder withdraws from the University of Waikato during the tenure of the Scholarship, brings the University or Chiefs Super Rugby into disrepute\(^1\), or is otherwise not complying with the regulations governing the Scholarship. The holder will have the right to appeal to the Research Committee against any decision to terminate the award.

7. Other Conditions

7.1. The Scholarship may not be held in conjunction with a University of Waikato Doctoral Scholarship. It may be held in conjunction with any other scholarship or award, provided the conditions of the other award do not preclude this.

7.2. The recipient will be primarily supervised by a University of Waikato academic staff member from the Faculty of Health, Sport and Human Performance.

7.3. The recipient will comply with all reasonable requests and instructions of the University of Waikato, including confirmation of enrolment and submission of a final doctoral thesis by the dates set by the Postgraduate Research Committee.

7.4. In addition to doctoral progress reports, the recipient will provide a report on the progress of their research to Chiefs Super Rugby every six months via their supervisor(s).

7.5. By accepting this Scholarship, the recipient agrees to participate in any reasonable publicity concerning the Scholarship arranged by the University of Waikato and/or Chiefs Super Rugby.

\(^1\) See [Code of Student Conduct](#).

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