The Wattbike is the world’s most popular high performance indoor bicycle. It is used in many professional sport environments, as well as being extremely popular for individuals focussed on their health, fitness and wellbeing. Wattbike International would like to understand the most efficient and effective methods to maximise adaptations in health, fitness and performance.

The Wattbike International Doctoral Research Award was established in 2018 through the partnership between Wattbike International and the University of Waikato. 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) at the University of Waikato. One Scholarship is on offer in 2018 and is funded by Wattbike International.

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. 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. Candidates must demonstrate how their intended research will support Wattbike International to understand the most efficient and effective methods to maximise adaptations in health, fitness and performance.

1.4. 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.

1.5. 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 6 July 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
   • A summary of any past or present work/employment of relevance to this Scholarship
   • How the proposed research will align with furthering Wattbike International’s understanding of effective and efficient methods to maximise adaptations to health, fitness and performance.
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. Verified copies of academic transcripts from any tertiary institutions (other than the University of Waikato) you have attended (if applicable).

3. Value

3.1. The Scholarship offers a stipend of **up to $20,000** per annum, payable in monthly instalments.

4. Selection Panel

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

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 a 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 Wattbike International into disrepute, or is otherwise not complying with the regulations governing the Scholarship. The holder will have the right to appeal 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 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 the 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 Wattbike International every six months.

7.5. By accepting the Scholarship, the recipient agrees to participate in any reasonable publicity concerning the Scholarship arranged by the University of Waikato and Wattbike International.