

1. Purpose

To support excellence in postgraduate research, up to 75 University of Waikato Doctoral Scholarships will be awarded each year to high-achieving candidates applying for admission to an approved doctoral qualification at the University of Waikato.

2. Eligibility Criteria

- 2.1. The Scholarship is open to New Zealand citizens, permanent residents, and international students.
- 2.2. The Scholarship is for candidates enrolling in a doctoral qualification, i.e. 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), at the University of Waikato.
- 2.3. Candidates will normally be seeking to obtain their first doctoral qualification.
- 2.4. Candidates should normally be intending to study **full-time** at the University of Waikato.
 - 2.4.1. 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.
 - 2.4.2. During any period of part-time enrolment, the value and duration of a recipient's Scholarship will be adjusted on a pro rata basis.
 - 2.4.3. Candidates will not be granted permission to hold a University of Waikato Doctoral Scholarship on a part-time basis if they wish to undertake full-time paid employment or substantial part-time employment (see Clause 9).
 - 2.4.4. Recipients are required to transfer to full-time enrolment if a change in their circumstances means they no longer qualify to hold the Scholarship in accordance with Clause 2.4.1.
- 2.5. Candidates employed by the University of Waikato will not be eligible for the Scholarship, except when permission is granted in accordance with Clause 2.5.1.
 - 2.5.1. Employment as a sessional assistant, or similar, may be permitted, provided the hours worked do not contravene Clause 9.

3. Application

- 3.1. Applications will be considered in three rounds a year. Candidates who wish to be considered for a Scholarship must submit a complete [Application to Enrol](#) by **31 January, 31 May, or 30 September** in order to be considered.
- 3.2. As part of their [Application to Enrol](#) in a doctoral degree at the University of Waikato, candidates will have the opportunity to request that they be considered for a University of Waikato Doctoral Scholarship.
 - 3.2.1. The Scholarship may only be applied for as part of the Application to Enrol; an application for this Scholarship will not be considered outside of the rounds listed in Clause 3.1.

- 3.3. Current doctoral candidates who have not gained a University of Waikato Doctoral Scholarship may, in exceptional circumstances, be nominated by their Faculty/School for consideration for a reduced-tenure Scholarship.
 - 3.3.1. Nominated candidates will have reached [Confirmed Enrolment](#), and have already proven themselves to be outstanding doctoral scholars, e.g. they will have achieved a significant accomplishment such as a publication. Note: Preference will be given to candidates who are in their first year of full-time doctoral studies.
 - 3.3.2. The Chief Supervisor may nominate an eligible doctoral candidate through the online nomination form provided by the School of Graduate Research. Self-nomination by doctoral candidates is **not** permitted.
 - 3.3.3. Candidates may only be nominated once for consideration for a reduced-tenure Scholarship during their enrolment in the doctoral degree.

4. Selection Process

- 4.1. Academic merit will be a primary criterion of selection, with a minimum grade average of A- (over the previous two years of full-time study) expected for eligibility.
- 4.2. Other factors taken into consideration include: experience of applicant (e.g., references, prior research and work experience, publications); knowledge of Mātauranga Māori and Pacific Knowledges; alignment with research priorities of the University/Divisions/Faculties/Schools and/or Research Institutes.
- 4.3. Applications are ranked by a Committee of the Faculty or Division, which considers applications for an Offer of Place in the doctoral programme.
 - 4.3.1. The University of Waikato [Scholarships Executive](#) considers the Faculty/Division rankings, and makes decisions on the number of Scholarship offers to be made in each round based on total available funding, ranking by the Faculty or Division, number of applications, and University strategic priorities.
 - 4.3.2. Ranking by a Faculty or Division will not necessarily result in a Scholarship offer, and in any one round a Faculty or Division may not have a Scholarship recipient.
- 4.4. The Scholarships Executive's decision is final; no further correspondence will be entered into following the selection meeting.

5. Awarding

- 5.1. Successful candidates will be advised of the Scholarship outcome at, or close to, the time that they are advised of the outcome of their Application to Enrol.
 - 5.1.1. The offer of a University of Waikato Doctoral Scholarship must be accepted within one month of the offer being made. Otherwise, the offer will lapse.
 - 5.1.2. The offer of a University of Waikato Doctoral Scholarship (that has been accepted as per Clause 5.1.1 above) will remain valid as long as the associated Offer of Place in a doctoral qualification is also valid.
 - 5.1.3. Not all candidates given an Offer of Place in a doctoral qualification will be offered a University of Waikato Doctoral Scholarship.
- 5.2. A Scholarship may only be taken up by a candidate who has formally completed the entry qualifications for, and enrolled in, a doctoral qualification.

6. Value

- 6.1. The value of the **standard** Scholarship shall normally be:
 - 6.1.1. A living allowance of **\$25,000** in total every 12 months, payable in monthly instalments for up to 36 months (three years) in total.
 - 6.1.1.1. The living allowance is paid on a pro-rata basis for approved part-time students.
 - 6.1.2. The domestic tuition fees for enrolment in the doctoral qualification during the tenure of the Scholarship; and
 - 6.1.3. The Student Services Levy.
- 6.2. Where an applicant has requested, or the Scholarships Executive has deemed it appropriate, a **fees-only** Scholarship may be offered. The value of a fees-only Scholarship shall normally be:
 - 6.2.1. The domestic tuition fees for enrolment in the doctoral qualification during the tenure of the Scholarship; and
 - 6.2.2. The Student Services Levy.
- 6.3. For both the standard and fees-only Scholarships, any additional costs such as medical insurance, moving costs, and research expenses must be met by the student.

7. Tenure

- 7.1. The total tenure of the Doctoral Scholarship will not exceed 36 months (three years) of full-time doctoral enrolment (or equivalent for part-time study).
 - 7.1.1. For candidates enrolling in an EdD or SJD programme, the tenure of the Doctoral Scholarship will begin on the date that they commence their Part 1 EdD or SJD enrolment.
- 7.2. Should a recipient submit their thesis for examination during the Scholarship period (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.
- 7.3. If, for any reason¹, a recipient's [doctoral enrolment](#) ends during the Scholarship term, the Scholarship will end from the same date.

8. Co-tenure

- 8.1. The recipient may hold lower-value awards while holding a University of Waikato Doctoral Scholarship, provided the combined value of all other awards does not exceed fifty per cent of the living allowance of the Doctoral Scholarship in any one year.
- 8.2. If offered an award with a higher-value than a University of Waikato Doctoral Scholarship, which also allows co-tenure, the recipient may 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 the University of Waikato Doctoral Scholarship. Applications will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- 8.3. The recipient must advise the Scholarships Executive (via email to scholarships@waikato.ac.nz), of any other awards they receive during the tenure of a University of Waikato Doctoral Scholarship that include a living stipend and/or fees component.

¹ For example, completion, withdrawal, or termination.

9. Employment

- 9.1. Scholarship recipients will not be permitted to undertake paid employment that exceeds an annual total of 500 hours. This applies to **all** doctoral candidates, whether enrolled full-time or part-time.
 - 9.1.1. 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.

10. Other Conditions

- 10.1. In accepting the Scholarship offer, the recipient will be deemed to have read, understood, and accepted the regulations and terms and conditions of the Scholarship, and the [Scholarships Policy](#).
- 10.2. By accepting the Scholarship offer, the candidate agrees to participate in any publicity concerning the Scholarship arranged by the University of Waikato.
- 10.3. If a recipient's circumstances change in a manner which may affect their continued eligibility for this Scholarship, they must inform the Scholarships Executive immediately (via scholarships@waikato.ac.nz). Any change of circumstances will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.
- 10.4. Recipients are not eligible to receive Scholarship funds during periods of suspension of doctoral enrolment for any reason including 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.
- 10.5. The Postgraduate Research Committee will provide advice and recommendations to the Scholarships Executive in regards to Progress Reports of Scholarship recipients that identify performance that is below expectations.
- 10.6. The Scholarships Executive may terminate this Scholarship at any time, and recoup any funds disbursed, if the recipient:
 - 10.6.1. is not meeting expectations in their doctoral progress reports;
 - 10.6.2. is not following the approved programme of study; or,
 - 10.6.3. brings the University into disrepute², or otherwise does not comply with the regulations governing the Scholarship.
- 10.7. 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 Research Committee.
- 10.8. The University of Waikato may, from time to time, vary these regulations.

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