

# NZSL SCHOLARSHIP [NZ SIGN LANGUAGE]

**CLOSING DATE: 19 MARCH 2012**

The Ministry of Economic Development have funded scholarships to support students who want to become qualified NZSL interpreters, and to contribute to building a qualified national NZSL interpreter workforce to staff a potential future Video Relay Service.

## AMOUNT AND TYPE OF AWARD

The scholarship will contribute to tuition fees for the second and third years of the degree: BA major in NZSL – English Interpreting. \$5,625 (including GST) of which \$3,750 will be paid on award and the remaining \$1,875 on successful completion of the degree. The scholarship can only be awarded to an individual once.

## TENURE

- The tenure of the scholarship is for one year to two years, depending on year of the degree in which the applicant is enrolled. Applicants must successfully complete their first year of study to be eligible to apply.

## APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- AUT Scholarship Form.
- Academic Transcript.
- Written character references from TWO of the following as appropriate:
  - > A member of the Deaf community.
  - > A Sign Language tutor.
  - > Employer.
  - > High School Teacher.
  - > Accepted on the BA Major in English NZSL Interpreting programme.

## CRITERIA

- Applicants can be NZ citizens or permanent residents.
- The scholarship is open to persons who intend to complete the BA Major in English - NZSL Interpreting. Students who have successfully completed the Certificate in NZSL and Deaf Studies who meet the criteria to enrol into the NZSL – English Interpreting major, are also eligible to apply.
- Applicants must:
  - > Demonstrate an appropriate level of NZSL competency.
  - > Exhibit academic competency.
  - > Be of good moral character and repute.
  - > Indicate their intention to complete the Diploma or BA major programme.
  - > Become a sign language interpreter in New Zealand.

## SELECTION

- Applicants will be considered by a panel comprising the Programme Coordinator for the Visual Languages Section at AUT and/or a lecturer from this section and a representative from the Deaf Community.
- Staff from the Visual Languages Section will assess the NZSL ability of applicants.
- No scholarship will be awarded upon any occasion if the panel is of the opinion that there is no applicant of sufficient merit applying for the award.

### CONDITIONS OF ACCEPTANCE

- This scholarship may not be held in conjunction with any other fees scholarship.
- Recipients may hold additional non-tuition fee based scholarships with the approval of the Head of School and the Scholarships Office.
- Recipients of the scholarship must have been accepted onto the BA Major in English - NZSL Interpreting programme to be eligible to receive this award.
- Final payment of the scholarship is subject to successful completion of the BA Major in English - NZSL Interpreting programme.
- Recipients are expected to avail themselves of any additional academic support recommended by the Programme Coordinator.
- Recipients must indicate willingness to make reasonable efforts to be employed at the Video Relay Service Centre for a reasonable period of time following graduation from the Dip SLI programme.

### MONITORING AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

- Recipients will agree to allow AUT to deliver progress reports to the Ministry of Economic Development.
- Recipients will agree to be interviewed and to allow their name, photograph and details of their study and work to be used for advertising and publicity purposes.