

AUT FOUNDATION**The Jackson Family Foundation Scholarship****CLOSING DATE: 31 January**

PURPOSE

The Scholarship was established in 2013 and is funded by The Jackson Family Foundation, formerly known as the Fair Wind Foundation Trust. The Foundation supports underprivileged and underserved populations with a special focus on women's and children's education.

The main purpose of the Scholarship is to assist women students of Cook Island descent, who are experiencing challenging personal, family, or financial circumstances that may prevent them from undertaking full-time study.

AMOUNT AND TYPE OF AWARD

A stipend of up to \$10,000 NZD per annum paid in monthly instalments.

The final value of the award is subject to current exchange rates at the time of transfer of funds to New Zealand.

TENURE

One year only

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- Be women students of Cook Island descent, who are citizens or permanent residents of New Zealand. Applicants of other Pacific Island descent may be considered at the discretion of the selection panel.
- Be enrolled or intending to enrol in full-time study in any year of an undergraduate or postgraduate degree level programme at AUT.
- Applicants entering or in the first year of study will have as a minimum a NCEA 200 rank score based on results at Level Two or higher in the National Certificate of Educational Achievement (NCEA).
- Applicants in the second or subsequent year of study at AUT will have a minimum GPA of 3.5 (C+) across the most recently completed 120 points of study (two semesters).
- Able to demonstrate challenging personal, family, or financial circumstances that may prevent them from undertaking full-time study.
- Previous recipients may reapply in subsequent years and may hold the scholarship for not more than three years.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Applications are via the AUT online scholarship application portal. Applicants will be asked to:

- Upload a one-page personal statement outlining the applicant's personal connection to the Cook Islands, motivation to succeed at university and demonstrated financial hardship.
- Upload a current copy of the applicant's NCEA record of achievement or academic transcripts for any tertiary study not completed at AUT.
- Request through the online system a recommendation from an independent referee (e.g., school principal, community group leader). The recommendation should:
 - Confirm that the applicant would have no realistic opportunity of university study without this study award because of personal/family or financial barriers.
 - Indicate whether the referee thinks that the applicant has the determination and ability to succeed in their chosen area of study.
 - Provide any other relevant information.

SELECTION PROCESS

Selection will be upon the recommendation of a panel comprising the Assistant Vice-Chancellor Pacific Advancement, Chair of the Scholarships Committee (or nominee) and an executive member of AUT Foundation. No award will be made if in any year there is no candidate of sufficient merit.

The panel will consider the candidates:

- academic achievement.
- personal connection to the Cook Islands.
- motivation to succeed at university.
- demonstrated financial hardship.

CONDITIONS OF ACCEPTANCE AND APPOINTMENT

- The award of this scholarship is conditional on the recipient being enrolled and fees paid, or arranged to pay the fees, for full-time study in any year of an undergraduate or postgraduate degree programme.
- Scholars will enrol in no less than 120pts each year during the tenure of the scholarship.
- The award will be paid as a monthly stipend.
- The scholar may hold other scholarships with the approval of the University Scholarships Office. It is the responsibility of the recipient to declare all other scholarships or awards payable during the tenure of this scholarship.
- Except in cases where there are compelling medical reasons or adverse personal circumstances beyond a student's control, the uptake of scholarships cannot be deferred.
- Scholars must be enrolled continuously in their programme of study during the year of award. Suspension requests must be made in writing to the University Scholarships Office and will be approved only for compelling medical or personal circumstances.
- Scholars who pass all papers and meet the eligibility requirements will be able to re-apply for the scholarship to support further years of study up to a maximum of three years.
- AUT Foundation in consultation with the Donor has the power to suspend or terminate the scholarship if it receives a report of unsatisfactory progress of a scholar from the University Scholarships Office.
- A scholar who does not complete at least two semesters of study at AUT may be required to pay back the full value of the scholarship received.

- AUT Foundation has the power to amend or vary these Regulations, in consultation with the Donor, provided there is no departure from the main purpose of the scholarship.
- The recipient will at the end of their year of tenure write a letter outlining the difference the scholarship has made to their ability to study and provide a copy of their academic results to the Trustees.