

KEIR TRUST STUDY AWARD

Closing date: 30 September

Purpose and background of award

University education can be financially demanding - but its benefits are considerable; not only for the students themselves but also for their families, communities and the wider society and economy. This is one reason this award is available.

The purpose of The Keir Trust Study Awards is to encourage students from both the Auckland area and beyond who are facing financial barriers to undertake tertiary studies at AUT by offering financial assistance and ongoing non-financial support. In doing this we actively encourage recipients to act as role models for other people in their school/communities.

Entry criteria

The awards are open to students who have no realistic opportunity to study at AUT without the award.

Award applicants must:

- Be NZ citizens or permanent residents.
- Be able to demonstrate through their application that they have the desire, determination and ability to succeed in their chosen area of study.
- Meet the desired AUT Programme entry requirements.
- Act as a mentor to first year Keir Trust Award students during their second year of study.
- Should they be successful not be in receipt of any other study grant or scholarship contemporaneously with The Keir Trust AUT award, unless it is with the express approval of The Keir Trust.
- Award applicants will be expected to attain a student allowance either before or during the year of study (subject to age limitation) or subject to being eligible for an alternative welfare allowance.

Closing dates for applications

Applications close 30 September

Values

Up to \$13,000 over three years for students from within Auckland and up to \$18,000 for students from outside the Auckland area.

Number of awards offered

The number of new awards will be determined annually.

Tenure of award

The value is spread over a maximum of three years. The awards will be paid on a semester basis subject to satisfactory performance in the prior semester and continued eligibility for a student allowance or other welfare benefit.

Application process

The Keir Trust Application Form – Applicants must apply through the on-line AUT Scholarship application portal.

Applicants will be required to:

- Upload information from the applicant regarding financial hardship
- Request through the online system a recommendation from a school principal and/or an independent referee.

Recommendations should:

- Confirm that the applicant would have no realistic opportunity of university study without this study award because of financial barriers.
- Show how the applicant's personal attributes match those listed in the Study Award criteria.
Comment on the applicant's role model potential.
- 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.

One referee must also include full and detailed written evidence of the financial barriers you face, including information relating to your family circumstances.

Selection process

- Applications will be considered by a selection panel from The Keir Trust.
- Applicants will be shortlisted by the Trust and those shortlisted will be required to attend an interview.
- The decision of The Keir Trust Selection Committee will be final.
- Names of recipients may be forwarded, for information purposes, to the principal of the recipient's school where appropriate.
- Presentation of the award may be made to recipients at an appropriate occasion.

What conditions are attached to acceptance of this award?

- Recipients must be accepted into the programme of study selected and later satisfactorily complete all enrolment requirements.
- Recipients must be prepared to report back to school/community/Keir Trustees, where applicable, on a regular basis (at least annually during course duration).
- Recipients must be prepared to have AUT Scholar Support act as their mentor.
- Recipients must remain eligible for the Student Allowance throughout the tenure of this award.
- Regional Study Award recipients are required to reside in a hall of residence designated by AUT during their first year of study unless alternative accommodation is approved by the Trustees. In the first year the award will be paid towards Halls of residence fees.
- This award may not be held concurrently with any other bursary or scholarship, without the express approval of the Trustees.
- Study Awards will be paid on a Semester basis.

Additional information

The values of the Awards are as follows:

The Keir Trust AUT Auckland Study Award (open to students in the Auckland area) will be for an amount of up to \$13,000 over three years, made up of \$5,000 in each of Years 1 and 2, and \$3,000 in Year 3 (subject to adjustment if eligible for Government Free Fees).

The Keir Trust AUT Regional Study Award (open to students outside the Auckland area) will be for an amount of up to \$18,000 over three years, made up of \$7,000 in each of Years 1 and 2, and \$4,000 in Year 3 (subject to adjustment if eligible for Government Free Fees).

Students who apply for a programme of less than three years will be funded on a pro rata basis.