

Skills for Life Scholarship

PURPOSE OF SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship is intended to support AUT students who are experiencing mental health challenges alongside financial hardship, enabling them to continue and succeed in their studies. The scholarship is funded through The Lifeline Project, a fund established through the generous efforts of Annie Evans, Miss World New Zealand 2017 and representatives of the 2017 Beauty with a Purpose programme.

VALUE AND TENURE OF SCHOLARSHIP

- The scholarship is to support one year of domestic full-time study (120 points per year) in a bachelor's degree programme at AUT
- One (1) scholarship of NZD \$3,000 per annum towards tuition fees or stipend depending on the needs of the applicant.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- Applicants must be domestic students (NZ Citizen, NZ Permanent Resident).
- Applicants must be enrolled full-time in bachelor's degree programme at AUT.
- Applicants must be experiencing financial hardship and be managing mental health challenges for which they have sought appropriate support.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must apply through the online AUT scholarship application portal and will be required to upload the following:

- A personal statement (up to 500 words) is required and may be submitted in any format, including (but not limited to) a written essay, letter, or video, sharing your personal journey and experiences relating to mental health.

REFERENCE

Applicants must provide the name of one character referee to support their application. The nominated referee will receive an email from the application portal with instructions for submitting their reference.

CONDITIONS OF SELECTION

- Once applicant eligibility has been confirmed, the scholarships office will provide the list of eligible candidates to the selection panel for final consideration and recipient selection.
- Shortlisting and selection will be undertaken by representatives from AUT Student Support Services.

- Applicants will be formally notified of the outcome of their application by the scholarships office.
- If the panel is of the opinion that there is no applicant of sufficient merit, the scholarship will not be awarded.

CONDITIONS OF ACCEPTANCE

- Recipients are normally expected to enrol in at least 120 points per year during the tenure of the scholarship. Where a reduced study load is required due to personal or wellbeing circumstances, this may be considered on a case-by-case basis. In such instances, the value of the scholarship may be adjusted on a pro-rata basis.
- The scholarship will be paid as either a contribution towards tuition fees or as a stipend, depending on the individual needs of the recipient.
- Where there are compelling medical or significant personal circumstances, recipients may request to defer the uptake of the scholarship.
- Recipients are expected to remain enrolled in their programme of study. Requests for suspension or Leave of Absence may be considered where circumstances beyond the student's control impact their ability to continue study.
- All deferral or suspension requests must be submitted in writing to the Scholarships Office for consideration.
- Students who experience difficulties meeting these requirements may submit an appeal where there are compelling reasons. Appeals must be supported by the student's Student Advisor and Faculty and may be considered once during the tenure of the scholarship. Where an appeal is approved following a failed paper, the scholarship will not cover the cost of resits.
- The recipient can hold other scholarships with the approval from AUT Foundation.