

AUT Fulbright Scholarships



Closing date: 1 November

These scholarships are provided by Auckland University of Technology to encourage and facilitate study in approved postgraduate degrees at AUT by candidates already selected to hold Fulbright Awards. As a Fulbright Award fully supports a candidate for the first year, these scholarships are intended to enable Fulbright Award winners to complete their degree at AUT.

Value and Type of award

One scholarship is available annually, either:

1. AUT Fulbright Doctoral Scholarship

- Full fees (domestic equivalent rate) plus stipend of NZ\$25,000 per annum for the second and third years of enrolment in a Doctoral programme at AUT.

2. AUT Fulbright Research Masters Scholarship

- Full fees (domestic equivalent rate) for the 90 or 120pt thesis component of the degree; plus
- A stipend of NZ\$15,000 (120pt thesis) or NZ\$11,250 (90pt thesis) per annum paid during the research component only.
- The stipend will be paid on approval of the PGR1 and enrolment into the thesis paper.

Tenure

- Doctoral scholarships are tenable until submission of the thesis or for two years (whichever is the lesser) and tenure will commence from the first anniversary of date of enrolment in the PhD programme at AUT. Commencement of tenure and annual renewal is dependent on satisfactory progress as demonstrated by meeting the milestones outlined in the *AUT Postgraduate Handbook*.
- Master's scholarships are tenable for the period from first enrolment in the thesis paper until completion of the requirements for the degree or twelve months (whichever is the lesser).

Eligibility criteria

- Applicants must be Citizens of the United States of America who are intending to take up a Fulbright Award and enrol full-time at AUT and have paid the fees, or have arranged to pay the fees, for an approved Research Master's or Doctoral degree at the time of application.
- Applicants must meet the normal admission criteria for the approved Master's or Doctoral programme and have received an Offer of Place (OOP) for study at AUT commencing within six months of date of application for the scholarship. <https://www.aut.ac.nz/study/applying/entry-requirements/international-student-entry-requirements>
- Recipients of this scholarship will have an excellent academic record, strong academic references and have demonstrated the potential for high quality research.
- Scholarships are awarded on academic merit and recipients of this scholarship will normally have achieved a minimum GPA of 8.0 (A) across 120 points in the final year of their qualifying degree for the Master's scholarship or across 240 points in their most recent qualifying programme for

the Doctoral scholarship. Grades for the qualifying degree must be available at the time of application.

- Applicants previous study (for the Doctoral scholarship) should include research methodology paper(s) and an independent research project, including the writing of a report on that research.
- The applicant's proposed field of study must be one where the University can offer supervision. Applicants should contact potential supervisors prior to application to confirm the availability of supervision for their proposed research.

Application requirements

Applicants must complete the *AUT Fulbright Scholarships Application* online available through the *AUT Scholarships Database* www.aut.ac.nz/scholarships by the closing date. Applications will open in September each year.

In order for the application to be submitted applicants must complete all sections, upload all supporting documents and request the required support statements. Incomplete applications will not be forwarded to the selection panel. The following will need to be uploaded and submitted with the on-line Application Form:

- Academic transcript(s) for any previous tertiary study that was completed at a university other than AUT
- A brief C.V. (maximum three pages)
- A maximum one-page (Masters) or two-page (Doctoral) proposal outlining the intended research using the template provided with the online application form. The applicant will be asked to provide the following details:
 - Proposed Topic/Title
 - Rationale and significance of the study
 - Key Question/hypothesis/problem/issue to be Investigated:
 - Design of the study; the methodology and research technique(s) to be employed in the study
 - Research benefits
 - References

Note: for the Master's application the proposal must be a **one-page** outline (500 words) of the proposed research *or* a copy of the completed PGR1; for the Doctoral application the proposal must be maximum **two pages only** (1,000 words) plus a maximum of one page for any references *or* the completed PGR2. If a longer document is provided you will be asked to revise the document to meet the requirements.

Faculty support:

All Doctoral applicants must contact their faculty in advance of application and seek support for their doctoral research. The Head of School (HoS) for the proposed research will be requested, within the application portal, to provide a statement of support indicating that the School is able to provide the appropriate resources for the proposed research necessary to the successful completion of the research. The Head of School will also provide the names of the proposed supervisory team.

Reference statements:

Two academic reference statements are required. Applicants must not submit referee's reports directly; nominated referees will be sent a request directly from the on-line application system. Please advise your referees that they will be receiving an email requesting a reference statement. Applicants can submit the

application without referees' statements. However, the application will be considered ineligible and will not be released to the selection panel without the required reference statements.

Selection

- Selection will be made by the University Scholarship Committee panel.
- Selection will be based on demonstrated excellence in the following:
 - the applicant's academic record (including prizes, awards and any publications)
 - the applicant's research proposal
 - the applicant's research and/or professional background and any publication record
 - the referees' statements
 - the availability of supervision within the applicant's area of research
- Preference is given to applicants who align with the University's strategic plan.

Conditions of acceptance

1. The recipients of the AUT Fulbright PhD Scholarship are required to sign an AUT Postgraduate Scholarship Contract (the Contract) within the application portal to formalise the acceptance of the scholarship and agreeing to the conditions below. The Contract must be signed by the recipient, the primary supervisor and Head of School or Programme. The contract is held within the AUT online Scholarship Portal CommunityForce and will form part of the online process of accepting the scholarship.
2. The Scholar must remain enrolled in a full-time approved programme of research (the programme) during the tenure of the Scholarship and shall abide by the rules and regulations of Auckland University of Technology (the University).
3. The stipend will be paid monthly into the recipient's nominated bank account. Scholarship payments will not be made retrospectively.
4. The Scholar must be resident in New Zealand and studying at AUT to receive stipend payments. Stipends will not be paid to students living off-shore. Short periods overseas for data collection and reasonable holiday leave of no more than one month in any one year, excluding data collection and/or attendance at conferences, will be approved.
5. Requests for scholarship deferment must be addressed to the Scholarships Committee and sent to scholars@aut.ac.nz and will be dealt with on a case by case basis.
6. The University and the Scholar agrees that the Scholarship is provided to support the Scholar's Master's or PhD research only.
7. The Scholar must inform the Scholarships Office of any other awards held during the tenure of this scholarship. The co-tenure of awards up to one third of the value of this scholarship is permitted but must be approved by the Scholarships Office. Research grants and funding for travel are not considered under these regulations to constitute an award.
8. A scholar may not hold a scholarship or award supporting research *other* than that for which the scholar is funded under the Contract. If the scholar wishes to undertake a secondary research project the primary scholarship must be suspended.
9. Students receiving an AUT stipend must commit full-time to their programme of research. **Note:** for the purpose of the AUT Postgraduate Contract, full-time is considered to be at least 35 hours per week. If the stipend is less than \$20,000 per annum full-time will be considered to be 30 hours per week.
10. The decision regarding whether permission is granted for the Scholar to undertake paid employment, is at the sole discretion of the University. Scholars must apply to the University Scholarships

Committee through the Head of the Scholarships Office for approval to undertake any paid employment during the tenure of this scholarship.

11. Subject to immigration restrictions, approved employment for the PhD scholarship will be for no more than 600 hours in any one calendar year (normally not more than a maximum of 12 hours per week will be approved) and for the Master's scholarship will be for no more than 15 hours per week. It is preferred any employment is directly related to the Scholar's field of research e.g. as a teaching or research assistant. Scholars employed for more than the recommended hours per week may be advised to suspend their scholarship while undertaking the employment.
12. The Scholar agrees to complete all AUT six-monthly progress reports (PGR8) required during the tenure of the Scholarship within the timeframe outlined in the AUT Postgraduate Handbook.
13. The PhD scholar must move from provisional to full registration (PGR9) within the timeframe outlined in the AUT Postgraduate Handbook. Failure to do so may result in termination of the scholarship.
14. The Scholar must advise the Scholarships Office and the primary supervisor immediately of:
 - a. any leave of absence or withdrawal from full-time study in the programme; and
 - b. submission of the Scholar's thesis.
15. The scholar must obtain approval from *both* the Faculty Associate Dean Postgraduate and the Head of the University Scholarships Office before undertaking any period of leave, other than reasonable holiday leave. This includes any period longer than one month that the Scholar may need to spend overseas to undertake research relating to the programme.
16. If the Scholar takes leave of absence from full-time study, the Scholar may, at the discretion of the Scholarships Committee, be required to reimburse the University all stipend payments to the Scholar subsequent to the date of the leave of absence from full-time study. Should the Scholar receive a retrospective leave of absence the stipend will be stopped for an equivalent period.
17. If the Scholar, for any reason, withdraws from full-time study in the programme, the Scholar shall reimburse the University all stipend payments to the Scholar subsequent to the date of the withdrawal from full-time study. Further, at the discretion of the University Scholarships Committee, the Scholar may be required to repay the University part, or all, of the scholarship stipend paid to the Scholar during the tenure of the Scholarship.
18. The recipient must advise the Scholarships Office of the intention to submit the thesis for examination. The scholarship tenure will cease within one month of the Scholar submitting their thesis for examination. Where the Scholar submits their thesis prior to end of the period of tenure of the scholarship they may apply for a publishing stipend.
19. The University Scholarships Committee may at any time suspend or terminate the Scholarship if it determines the Scholar is not diligently pursuing the programme or making satisfactory progress, or has failed to comply with any of the terms and conditions on which the Scholarship was awarded.