

Rainbow Auckland / AUT Tertiary Scholarship

Closing date: 30 September

BACKGROUND

Rainbow Auckland (formerly GABA) is New Zealand's largest LGBTI (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex) membership organisation and professional social network. Rainbow Auckland has a long history of giving back to the LGBTQIA+ Community. The Rainbow New Zealand Charitable Trust was established to manage this in a clear and transparent manner and to separate Rainbow Auckland's charitable work from its regular activities as a community organisation.

The principal objective of the Trust is to *"maintain a fund available to individuals and institutions for the explicit purpose of health, welfare, and support services for the benefit of the gay community of New Zealand"*.

PURPOSE

The Rainbow New Zealand Charitable Trust and Auckland University of Technology (AUT) offer scholarships for the first year of tertiary studies at AUT to students who identify as LGBTQIA+, who are seen as good role models by peers and teachers and who have excelled in effort and achievement in their secondary education.

VALUE

- Two scholarships are available annually
- The scholarship is valued at a total of \$3,000 paid in two equal instalments, \$1,500 once the student is enrolled in Semester 1 and the second instalment in Semester 2.

TENURE

- The scholarship is for one year only. Recipients of this scholarship are not eligible to apply for the scholarship again.

ELIGIBILITY

- The scholarship is open to any rainbow student intending to enrol for the first time in a full time degree course of at least three years duration at AUT in Semester 1 of the year following application.
- Applicants will be expected to achieve University entrance either in the year prior to commencing study or the year prior to application if a gap year has been taken.
- Applicants must be a New Zealand citizen or permanent resident and have lived in New Zealand for at least the previous two years.
- The applicant's personal history, financial needs, academic achievement and career plans will be taken into account by the selection panel. Involvement in extra-curricular/co-curricular activities will be of interest to the panel

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- Application for this scholarship is on-line through the on-line AUT scholarships portal.
- Applicants must be enrolling for the first time, in a full-time degree programme at AUT and will be asked to provide their AUT Student ID in the box provided on the application form. This can be obtained by enrolling at AUT online www.aut.ac.nz/study-at-aut/apply-to-aut

Applicants will be asked to upload:

- A transcript of their NCEA (or equivalent) results to date and other evidence supporting their academic progress if appropriate.
- A brief personal statement (max 500 words) explaining why they believe they should receive this scholarship. Applicants must confirm in this statement that they identify as either lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or intersex. Applicants should describe any involvement to date in the rainbow community, any future academic or career goals and an outline of how they plan to finance their study.
- A short CV (max. two pages) that includes educational, employment, sporting and culture involvement.

Applicants must request two referees to provide letters of support through the on-line scholarships application portal.

- One referee must be a teacher or school nominee.
- The second referee may be either a mentor or person of standing in the community or another teacher.
- Applicants are requested to ensure that their referees are aware of the scholarship deadline.

SELECTION PROCESS

- Applications will be considered by a selection panel including representation from both The Rainbow New Zealand Charitable Trust and AUT.
- Applicants will be short-listed and may be interviewed by the selection panel.
- The decision of the selection panel is final.
- 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 applying for the scholarship, then no award will be made and applications may be reopened.

CONDITIONS OF AWARD

- The award of this scholarship is conditional on the student gaining entry to an AUT undergraduate degree programme.
- Recipients must identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or intersex and agree to allow Rainbow Auckland and The Rainbow New Zealand Charitable Trust to use their name and photograph for the purpose of publicising the scholarship.
- Recipients must support the LGBTQIA+ community and the Mission of Rainbow New Zealand Charitable Trust: **In Community There Is Strength.**
- The Scholarships Office on behalf of the University Scholarships Committee has the power to terminate or suspend a scholarship if it receives an unsatisfactory report on the academic progress of a recipient or if the recipient has failed to comply with any of conditions on which the Scholarship was awarded.