

KEIR TRUST STUDY AWARD

Closing date: 11 October

Purpose and background of award

University education can be financially demanding - but its benefits are considerable, not only for students themselves but also for their families, communities and the wider society and economy.

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

Eligibility criteria

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

Award applicants must:

- Be domestic students (NZ Citizen, NZ Permanent Resident or Resident Visa).
- Have an offer of place for full-time enrolment (120 points) in a Bachelor's degree in the year following application.
- Be able to demonstrate through their application that they have the desire, determination and ability to succeed in their chosen area of study.
- Be able to demonstrate financial barriers to undertaking tertiary study.
- Should they be successful, not be in receipt of any other study grant or scholarship contemporaneously with The Keir Trust Study Award, unless it is with the express approval of The Keir Trust and the Scholarships Office.

Closing dates for applications

Applications close 11 October.

Values

The scholarship is to support full-time study (120 points per year) in a bachelor's degree programme at AUT as follows:

Keir Trust Auckland Scholarship entitlements:

- First Year – A contribution towards fees of \$8,000
- Second Year - A contribution towards fees of \$4,000
- Third Year – A contribution towards fees of \$2,000

Keir Trust Regional Scholarship entitlements:

- First Year – full rent covered at Te Āhuru Mayoral Drive Student Accommodation or Akoranga Student Village accommodation for the academic year. The scholarship does not contribute to accommodation application fee, student residential life fees or other costs related to living in student accommodation
- Second Year - A contribution towards fees of \$4,000
- Third Year - A contribution towards fees of \$2,000

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, conditional upon the passing of all papers each year. Academic progress will be monitored each semester.

Application process

Applicants must apply through the online AUT Scholarship application portal.

Applicants will be required to:

- Upload a personal statement regarding their desire, determination and ability to succeed in their chosen area of study and to demonstrate financial hardship.
- Request through the online system a recommendation from a school principal 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, including information relating to the applicant's family circumstances.
- Comment on the applicant's role model potential.
- Indicate whether the applicant has the determination and ability to succeed in their chosen area of study.
- Provide any other relevant information.

Selection process

- Applications will be shortlisted and considered by a selection panel with representation from relevant AUT offices.
- The decision of the 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.

Conditions of acceptance

- The scholarship may not be held concurrently with any other bursary or scholarship without the express approval of the Trustees and the Scholarships Office. Students receiving more than one scholarship must contact the Scholarships Office to seek approval for co-tenure.
- The award is conditional on the student gaining entry to an AUT bachelor's degree programme commencing in Semester One of the year following application.
- Students must enrol in no fewer than 120 points each year during the tenure of the scholarship. Approval to study fewer than 120 points will only be granted in exceptional circumstances. Where approved, the value of the scholarship will be reduced on a pro-rata basis.
- Except in cases of compelling medical reasons or serious personal circumstances beyond the student's control, the uptake of the scholarship cannot be deferred. Other circumstances that may be considered include Volunteer Service Abroad, representative-level sport, cultural or community activities, or significant family circumstances.

- Suspensions of scholarship will not normally be approved once study has commenced, except for compelling medical or personal reasons beyond the student's control. All deferral and suspension requests must be made in writing to the Scholarships Office.
- Annual renewal of the scholarship is conditional upon the student passing all papers in each year of study. Academic progress will be monitored each semester.
- Students may appeal once only during the scholarship tenure if there are compelling reasons for not meeting these requirements. Appeals must be supported by the student's advisor and Faculty. Where a failed paper forms part of a successful appeal, the scholarship will not cover the cost of resitting failed paper(s).
- Regional Study recipients must reside in AUT-designated student accommodation during their first year of study. For this scholarship, first-year accommodation must be at Te Āhuru Mayoral Drive Student Accommodation or Akoranga Student Village for the 40-week accommodation block. Failure to reside there may result in discontinuation of the scholarship and possible repayment of funds.
- Recipients who do not complete at least two-thirds of their degree at AUT may be required to repay the full value of the scholarship.