

AUT Research Masters Scholarships

Closing date: 15 November and 15 June

Auckland University of Technology (AUT) provides research scholarships to encourage postgraduate research and to recognise student academic achievement.

AUT Research Masters Scholarship is available to full-time students undertaking a programme of research at Level 9 on the New Zealand Qualifications Framework (NZQF) with a thesis component of 90pts or 120pt who have demonstrated the potential to achieve highly. The Scholarships are available to AUT students or alumni, and alumni of any other New Zealand tertiary institutions, intending to enrol as a new full-time student in one of the following programmes;

- A Master of Philosophy
- A Master's degree by thesis or the thesis year of a two year Master's programme with a thesis component of 120pts
- An 180pt Master's programme with a 90pt or 120pt thesis

TYPE OF AWARD

The scholarship consists of:

- a) Full fees (domestic equivalent rate) for the 90 or 120pt thesis component of the degree; plus
- b) A stipend of \$10,000 (120pt thesis) or \$5,000 (90pt thesis) paid in three equal instalments during the research component only.
- c) The scholarship will also cover fees for the course work component of the 180pt Master's programme (Level 8 NZQF or above) with a thesis component of 90 or above (all fees paid at domestic equivalent rate). The stipend will be paid on approval of the PGR1 and enrolment into the thesis paper.

TENURE

- The scholarship tenure for the 120pt thesis programme is twelve months of full-time study only; for an 180pt programme the tenure is eighteen months only.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- Applicants must be enrolling for the first time in the eligible programme and intending to study full-time. Applicants must not have commenced the eligible programme at the time of application.
- Applicants must have completed their qualifying programme at AUT, or any other New Zealand tertiary institution, no more than two years prior to the time of application.
- AUT applicants must:
 - Achieve a minimum GPA of 7.5 (A-/A) across a 120pts in the final year of their qualifying programme; or
 - Be recorded as having Māori or Pacific first ethnicity in ARION and achieve a minimum GPA of 7.0 (A-) across 120pts in the final year of their qualifying degree.
 - Applicants from tertiary institutions other than AUT must have a minimum GPA of 8.0 (A) across the equivalent of 120pts in the final year of their qualifying degree.

- Recipients of this scholarship are not eligible to reapply for support for the same programme of study/research in subsequent years.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must complete the *AUT Research Masters Scholarship Application* online available through the *AUT Scholarships Database* www.aut.ac.nz/scholarships. Applications will open in October of the year preceding study for Semester 1 study or May for study in Semester 2. The following documentation must be uploaded to the application portal on or before the closing date.

- A *one-page* outline of the proposed research or copy of the completed PGR1, or a statement outlining the applicant's motivation and interest in Research Masters study.
- A one-page personal statement outlining the applicant's goals and career aspirations stating why they believe they merit the scholarship. If the applicant is applying under the category Māori or Pacific they must outline their cultural involvement.
- A copy of the applicant's transcript will be added to the application by the Scholarships Office once grades have been finalised.
- Applicants from tertiary institutions other than AUT must provide an academic reference.

SELECTION PROCESS

- Eligible applications will be shortlisted by Faculties.
- A subcommittee of the AUT Scholarships Committee will make the final selection of recipients of centrally funded scholarships.
- Recipients of School or Faculty funded scholarships will be selected by the funding unit.

CONDITIONS OF ACCEPTANCE

- The award of this scholarship is conditional on the student enrolling full-time in an approved programme within a twelve month period. Approved study may be in Semester 1, Semester 2 and the Summer Semester (if available).
- The recipient may hold other scholarships with the approval of the Scholarships Office.
- Recipients of the \$10,000 stipend will not normally be approved to hold employment for more than 15 hours per week during Semesters 1 and 2 and will be expected to declare their employment.
- The scholarship cannot be deferred.
- Recipients must be enrolled continuously in their programme of study. Suspensions or Leave of Absence for students who have already commenced their programme will not normally be approved unless there are compelling medical or personal circumstances beyond the student's control.
- Deferral and suspension requests must be made in writing to the Scholarships Office.
- Recipients who take up this Scholarship but do not complete at least two semesters of study at AUT may be required to pay back the full value of the scholarship received.