

WOOLF FISHER SCHOLARSHIPS

The Woolf Fisher Scholarships were established in 2003 by the Trustees of the Woolf Fisher Trust to honour Woolf Fisher as co-founder, with Maurice Paykel, of the company Fisher & Paykel Limited (1934) and as foundation chairman of New Zealand Steel Limited (1965).

In 1960 Sir Woolf established the Woolf Fisher Trust for the advancement of scientific and general education. Its prestigious Fellowship programme has provided extensive study travel overseas for over 1000 school principals and teachers.

Woolf Fisher's outstanding contributions to industry and education in New Zealand were recognised with a knighthood in 1964 and will be perpetuated by these Scholarships.

Purpose

The Woolf Fisher Trust offers up to three Scholarships each year tenable at the University of Cambridge for three or four years of postgraduate research and study leading to a doctoral degree or equivalent.

Woolf Fisher Scholars will have shown outstanding academic ability and will possess many of the qualities admired by Woolf Fisher: integrity, leadership, boldness of vision and exceptional zeal, keenness and capacity for work.

The main objective of the Trustees is that Woolf Fisher Scholars will make a significant commitment to New Zealand and become leaders in their fields.

Eligibility

The Scholarships are open to New Zealand citizens who:

- a) are under the age of thirty in the year of application (i.e. will not have reached their thirtieth birthday by 31 December in the year the application is submitted);
- b) attended a secondary school in New Zealand for at least two years, and
- c) have graduated or expect to graduate with a first-class honours degree from a university in New Zealand and to be eligible to study for a doctoral degree at Cambridge.

No application will be considered from a student already living outside of New Zealand and no award will be made for post-doctoral study.

Value and Tenure

A Woolf Fisher Scholar receives a stipend of GBP£18,000 sterling per year for each year of full-time study towards the degree approved at the time of the award.

In addition the Trustees pay directly and on behalf of the Scholar the approved University Composition Fee which includes the College Fee. An economy airfare to and from London is also provided annually for the personal use of the Scholar and is not transferable. It is estimated that each Scholarship will have a value of approximately NZD\$70,000 per year.

The first half-yearly instalment of the Scholarship will be paid mid-September of the year in which study commences and the second mid-March. Further emoluments will be paid on each of the next anniversaries for the agreed tenure of the Scholarship, subject to the Trustees receiving reports from the supervisor and the scholar of satisfactory academic progress in the previous year of study.

The tenure of the Scholarship will normally be for three years of full-time study. For study in a Faculty requiring a four-year doctoral programme, the Scholarship will be extended by one year to a total of four years provided the Scholar maintains suitable progress. The Scholarship will not be extended beyond four years.

Other awards may not be held concurrently with the Scholarship without prior approval of the Secretary of the Woolf Fisher Trust.

Woolf Fisher Scholars may be eligible for a Woolf Fisher Postdoctoral Research Scholarship if they return to New Zealand within seven years of commencing study at Cambridge University. Application must be made to the Secretary of the Trust.

Application Procedure

All candidates must apply using the Universities NZ on-line application web site:

<https://universitiesnz.communityforce.com/>

Applications must be submitted by **1 August** in the year prior to that in which the scholarship will be taken up.

The on-line application process will request applicants provide:

- a) a copy of their birth certificate or other proof of New Zealand citizenship;
- b) A document outlining the following:
 - a. Your proposed postgraduate programme, including your topic or area of study. Include details of any potential supervisors with whom you have been in contact and what your discussions with them have entailed. [Maximum 500 words]
 - b. Describe any previous situations in which you have held leadership roles and the approach you have taken to leadership. How would you see yourself becoming a future leader in your field? [Maximum 500 words]
 - c. Describe activities in which you are currently engaged outside of your academic work. Why are these important to you? [Maximum 500 words]
 - d. Describe how you would see yourself making a significant contribution to New Zealand in the future [Maximum 500 words]
- c) the names and contact details of three confidential referees;
- d) a photograph;
- e) such other information as seems pertinent to the application or which may from time to time be required by the Selection Committee;
- f) a copy of the candidate's academic record provided by their university.

The on-line application form will prompt the candidate to request a copy of their academic transcript from their New Zealand university.

The on-line application form will prompt the candidate to initiate requests to their referees:

- two of the referees will be university academic referees; they should be advised that their references may be used to seek admission to a university Faculty and a College at Cambridge University for the proposed research.
- the third referee should be someone who can write of the candidate's other activities (eg. community work, sports, leadership).

Selection Procedure

Candidates will be short-listed by a sub-committee of the Woolf Fisher Scholarship Selection Committee and invited to Auckland to attend a personal interview by the Selection Committee.

The decisions of the Selection Committee will be final. Successful candidates will be notified at the completion of the interviews.

Successful scholars will have their Scholarships confirmed by the Secretary of the Woolf Fisher Trust following their acceptance for admission by a Faculty and a College at Cambridge University. Guidance on the admission application procedure will be provided by the Secretary of the Trust.

The Scholar will come into residence at Cambridge in October in the year following selection. No deferment of a Scholarship to a later academic year will be permitted.

Power to Vary Rules and Regulations

Universities New Zealand may, on the recommendation of the Woolf Fisher Selection Committee, at any time and from time to time amend, vary or rescind all or any of the regulations relating to this scholarship and the award and tenure thereof specified in the preceding clauses and to add any further or substitute other conditions, provided that no such conditions shall be inconsistent with the general purpose of the scholarship.