

Milford Foundation Scholarship Regulations

1. Purpose:

The Milford Foundation scholarship was established in 2022 and aims to reduce inequality in access to tertiary education, by providing financial support to school leavers for whom cost is a barrier. Scholarship recipients also benefit from the Milford Foundation network to support them in their higher education journey and career path. The Milford Foundation has been born out of a desire to make a significant positive impact for our communities, and to help build a stronger New Zealand. Supporting youth and education are key areas of focus for the Milford Foundation. (<https://milfordfoundation.co.nz/scholarships/>)

2. Eligibility Criteria:

Applicants must be:

- A New Zealand Citizen, Permanent Resident, or holder of a valid refugee visa, and
- Either currently enrolled in year 13 in an eligible school (list of eligible schools provided in Appendix One), OR has left an eligible school within the last year, but not studied at tertiary level, and
- Studying towards an entrance qualification appropriate for their chosen course of study, and
- Intending to study at a New Zealand University

The Milford Foundation endeavours to ensure scholarships are awarded across National regions, however, reserves the right to alter the number of candidates selected from each area, or in total, based on the applications received.

3. Selection Criteria:

The selection committee will consider each candidate's:

- Financial barriers to entering tertiary education
- Academic merit
- Participation in leadership, school/community service and/or engagement
- Demonstration of good character

Note: Preference may be given to candidates wanting to study in an industry or discipline that benefits New Zealand.

The Milford Foundation reserves the right to make any determinations on eligibility or decide not to award one or more of the scholarships in any year. The Milford Foundation may also, at its discretion, withdraw the scholarship from a scholar should they cease to meet the conditions and criteria of the award.

4. Selection Committee:

The scholarship is awarded by a Selection Committee normally consisting of:

- Members of the Milford Foundation Executive, and
- Other Milford Foundation representatives as required.

The Selection Committee will invite shortlisted applicants to attend an interview at their high school.

5. Application Process

Applications must be made using the Universities NZ online scholarship application system:

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

The online application will request, and applicants must provide:

- Proof of NZ citizenship, permanent residency, or refugee visa
- Their NZQA Record of Achievement to date (from the NZQA website) and, if applicable, certified copies of alternative examinations such as Cambridge or IB
- Evidence of other awards and achievements relevant to the Scholarship
- Two references: one of these must be from a senior teacher, careers advisor or principal of the applicant's school; the second reference must be from someone who can comment on the character of the applicant.
- Various statements commenting on choice of academic programme of study; academic and other achievements; career goals; their need for the scholarship; reasons for applying; community involvement; financial situation and their future plans.
- Attestation to the financial hardship experienced that necessitates this scholarship in order to attend university.

6. Tenure

The tenure of a scholarship will be determined by the Selection Committee, tenure will normally be for the minimum time to complete the nominated degree based on full-time study up to a maximum tenure of four years (any alteration to the tenure requires approval from the Chair of the Selection Committee).

Tenure will commence in the year immediately following the year of application.

Co-tenure

- The scholarship may be held in conjunction with other scholarships, bursaries, or awards (up to a combined value of \$15,000 per year, excluding the Milford Foundation Scholarship), with approval from the Chair of the Selection Committee.

Deferral or suspension of studies

- Under exceptional circumstances the scholarship may be deferred or suspended with prior approval from the Chair of the Selection Committee. All requests for deferral or suspension must be submitted in writing to the Chair of the Selection Committee.

Delayed payment of scholarship

- Should you receive other scholarships throughout the tenure of your scholarship, with a combined value above \$15,000 per year, the Chair of the Selection Committee may

instruct that some, or all, of your first year Milford Foundation Scholarship payments be deferred to future years, or withdrawn completely.

Administration and Payment

- The scholarships will be administered by Universities New Zealand which will publicise the availability of the scholarships on the Universities New Zealand website, receive applications, assist the Selection Committee in the selection process, advise candidates of the results, and arrange payments.
- Payments are made in two instalments each year. The first instalment will be made upon Universities NZ receiving confirmation of enrolment in the agreed programme. To receive the second instalment Universities NZ must receive a scholar report, evidence of satisfactory academic progress in semester one and proof of continued enrolment in semester two. These conditions apply throughout the entirety of the scholarship tenure.

7. Publicity

Scholars will agree to have their name, image and bio published on the Foundation's website, printed and online magazine and in social posts. If agreeable, some scholars will be asked to undertake media interviews.

Note: Milford Foundation will provide support for any candidate engaging with media interviews.

8. Power to Vary

The Milford Foundation Selection Committee may from time to time vary these regulations provided that such changes are consistent with the general purposes of the Scholarship.

9. Number and Value:

Up to 15 scholarships are offered annually. The scholarship is valued at up to \$10,000 per annum (paid in two payments annually, one in each semester) for the minimum time to complete the approved undergraduate qualification as specified in the scholarship offer letter. It is expected scholars will study on a full-time basis. In exceptional situations scholars may undertake a part time course of study with approval from the Chair of the Scholarship Selection Committee and the Milford Foundation. In this situation, funds will be allocated on a pro-rata basis, and the value will be determined by the Milford Foundation.

The scholarship may be used for costs such as fees, accommodation, laptop, course supplies, transport to university, and other study related costs. The Milford Foundation retains the right to allocate scholarship funds at its sole discretion.

A contact person from the Milford Foundation's network will be assigned to the successful applicant for the term of the scholarship. They will provide support, potentially including guidance, encouragement, and knowledge to help candidates succeed at their tertiary institute and gain experience within different career paths.

10. Conditions of the Scholarship:

Recipients of the scholarship are expected to adhere to the following conditions:

- Gain entrance into their chosen academic course of study.
- Enrol in and study on a full-time basis for the agreed course at the nominated university in New Zealand in the year for which the scholarship is awarded.
- Provide proof of enrolment at the start of each academic year.
- Use the scholarship in a way which helps them to meet the purposes of the award.
- Supply a short report on their academic progress at the end of each semester throughout the tenure of the scholarship, including an academic transcript.
- Make positive and satisfactory progress at the institution at which they are studying; unsatisfactory progress may lead to termination of the scholarship and to a request from the Selection Committee for return of the scholarship funding.
- Undertake to return any scholarship money paid in the event that the chosen course of study is not immediately undertaken once the scholarship is awarded, or other conditions of tenure are not met.
- Consent to their information being shared on Milford Foundation communication platforms for the purpose of promoting the scholarship programme and sharing their stories.
- Maintain a high standard of conduct and must not have any convictions prior to, or during the tenure of the scholarship.
- Abide by all relevant Codes of Conduct of the relevant tertiary education provider.
- Be available for up to 10 hours per year to meet with Foundation Scholarship peers, Foundation Executive and Milford employees.
- at the conclusion of the first year of study, attend a 2-day Milford Foundation scholarship event in Auckland (flights and accommodation at the Foundation's expense).

If you have any questions that are not answered in this document, please contact scholarships@universitiesnz.ac.nz



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APPENDIX ONE – Eligible Schools

Bishop Viard College

Cambridge High School

Cromwell College

Dunstan High School

Fairfield College

Haeata Community Campus

Hornby High School

Kelston Boys' High School

Kelston Girls' College

Mount Maunganui College

Mt Aspiring College

Otahuhu College

Papanui High School

Porirua College

Rotorua Lakes High School

Southern Cross Campus

Tamaki College

Taupo-nui-a-Tia College

Te Aratai College

Te Puke High School

Thames High School

Wainuiomata High School