

## Sir Robert Jones Refugee Women's Graduate Scholarship Regulations

### 1. Purpose

Sir Robert Jones established an undergraduate scholarship in 2015 to redress the balance in equity faced by women who arrive in New Zealand as refugees and who aspire to participate in tertiary level study.

This GRADUATE scholarship fund will assist a small number of the most successful graduates to go on to postgraduate degrees. Applicants will be considered on a case-by-case basis and at the discretion of the selection panel.

The scholarships are awarded annually. Applications are invited from women who have graduated in the last three years and those in their final year of undergraduate study.

### 2. Eligibility Criteria

Applicants must be:

- 2.1 a woman who arrived in New Zealand as a refugee or asylum seeker
- 2.2 aged up to age 30 in the year of application
- 2.3 a New Zealand Citizen or Permanent Resident who is ordinarily resident in New Zealand
- 2.4 a graduate or final year undergraduate from a New Zealand University, Te Pukenga or Wananga.

### 3. Selection Criteria

In making the award the selection committee will consider each candidate's application as it relates to the following criteria:

- 3.1 barriers to completing graduate study including personal and financial hardships
- 3.2 a strong academic record
- 3.3 a clear vision of the academic and career pathway
- 3.4 future focus and resilience
- 3.5 priority will be given to those most in need of support

## 4. Applications

Universities New Zealand (UNZ) facilitates and administers the application process.

Applications are only accepted via the online application form in Community Force.

Applications close at 11:50pm on 30<sup>th</sup> September

4.1 As part of the application candidates will be asked to provide the following:

- 4.1.1 an academic referee – an academic advisor or supervisor at your institution, or from the institution you graduated from, who can provide a statement of support for your application
- 4.1.2 supply proof of permanent residency via refugee background status, most commonly the Immigration New Zealand (INZ) issued Certificate of Identity or INZ letter which confirms date of birth, Refugee status and Permanent Residency
- 4.1.3 provide your academic transcript

4.2 Write or upload several paragraphs about:

- 4.2.1 your family background and resettlement in New Zealand
- 4.2.2 your undergraduate study journey
- 4.2.3 your proposed graduate study course
- 4.2.4 your aspirations for the future
- 4.2.5 your living circumstances and responsibilities
- 4.2.6 the barriers you face to completion of your graduate study

## 5. Selection Committee

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

- 5.1 At least one member of the Robert Jones Holdings (RJH) Executive, who will be the committee Chair, and
- 5.2 Two members nominated by Refugees As Survivors NZ (RASNZ)

The Selection Committee and in some cases a representative of the relevant University may invite shortlisted applicants to attend an interview.

## 6. Tenure

6.1 The tenure of the scholarship will be determined by the selection committee based on the circumstances of each scholar.

- 6.1.1 the scholarship must be taken up in the year for which it was offered and may not be deferred to a later year.
- 6.1.2 renewal of the Scholarship is conditional upon the scholar passing all courses during the tenure of the scholarship.

- 6.1.3 the scholarship is for full-time study such that the recipient may complete their degree in the minimum time stipulated for that degree

## 6.2 Co-tenure

The scholarship may not be held in conjunction with any other fee scholarship. The recipient may hold additional non-tuition fee-based scholarships with the approval of the Chair of the selection committee.

## 6.3 Deferral of Study

The scholarship may not be deferred nor suspended during the tenure, except under special circumstances and with approval from the Chair of the selection committee.

## 6.4 Suspension and Termination.

- 6.4.1 The funder may at any time suspend or terminate the Refugee Women's Graduate Scholarship or require the forfeiture of such proportion of the scholarship as RJH may determine, if it is not satisfied that the recipient is diligently pursuing the approved programme or if the recipient has failed to comply with any of the terms and conditions on which the scholarship was awarded.
- 6.4.2 If the scholar ceases enrolment or takes leave of absence, other than approved annual leave, the scholarship may cease or be suspended as appropriate.

## 6.5 Reports

Scholars must supply a satisfactory report and an academic transcript at the end of each year throughout the tenure of the scholarship, as detailed in the offer letter.

## 7. Value

- 7.1 The number and value of scholarships will be determined annually by the funder.
  - 7.1.1 The scholarship will cover the full cost of tuition fees for full-time study from point of award through to degree completion. 7.1.1 is subject to 7.1.2.
  - 7.1.2 The total value of the scholarship awarded will be full tuition fees (including the Compulsory Student Services Fee) per year until degree completion.
  - 7.1.3 The scholarship will cover university catered hall of residence accommodation for two years if the student is required to attend a tertiary institution outside their usual New Zealand hometown.

## 8. Publicity, media and presentations

Recipients consent to their information being shared on RASNZ communication platforms for the purpose of promoting the scholarship programme and<sup>1</sup> sharing their achievements.