

William Georgetti Scholarship regulations

These regulations take effect from 1 June 2022 and replace any previous version of the William Georgetti Scholarship regulations.

Purpose

The purpose of the William Georgetti Scholarship is to encourage postgraduate study and research, normally in Aotearoa New Zealand but possibly overseas, in a field that in the opinion of the scholarship board is important to the social, cultural or economic development of New Zealand.

A scholarship may be held at a university or other institution approved for the purpose by the scholarship board.

Eligibility

To be eligible to apply for a William Georgetti Scholarship, an applicant must:

- (a) be in New Zealand for a period of at least five years immediately preceding the year of selection¹
- (b) be of good moral character and repute
- (c) be of good health²
- (d) hold a degree conferred by a university in New Zealand or elsewhere, or any other academic qualification conferred by a university or other institution of learning in New Zealand or elsewhere reasonably equivalent to a degree from a New Zealand university in the opinion of the scholarship board
- (e) be intending to enrol in or have already commenced full time study in a postgraduate qualification equivalent to a master's or doctorate at a university or other institution approved by the scholarship board.

Applications are welcome from eligible people of any age, but the scholarship board shall generally give preference to candidates who are not over the age of 26 at the closing date for applications.

The bequest makes it clear that “No discrimination will be made in respect of race, creed or sex”.

Applications will not be accepted from people if, at the closing date for applications:

¹ See Appendix A for the manner in which presence in New Zealand will be calculated.

² Candidates must certify on application there are no health reasons that would prevent them from completing the proposed course of study.

- there is less than nine months remaining in the programme of study or research for which they wish to be supported
- they have already been enrolled for more than nine months in their proposed programme of study or research for which they wish to be supported.

Term

The term of each William Georgetti Scholarship is up to three years.

The scholarship board has discretion to vary the term of a scholarship.

In exercising its discretion, the board will be informed by the information relating to the candidate's programme of study contained in their application.

Commencing date

Scholars are expected to commence their postgraduate programme by 1 November in the year the scholarship is awarded.

A later start may be requested from Universities New Zealand – Te Pōkai Tara and must be approved by the scholarship board.

Value

For scholars studying in New Zealand, the usual value of a William Georgetti Scholarship award is:

- up to \$20,000 a year for master's study
- up to \$30,000 a year for doctoral study.

For scholars studying overseas, the usual value of a William Georgetti Scholarship award is:

- up to \$45,000 a year for master's or doctoral study.

The scholarship board will decide the value of each award, which may differ from the usual values above.

In making its decision, the board will be informed by the information contained in the application relating to the candidate's anticipated costs and budget.

A William Georgetti Scholarship may not be held at the same time as another scholarship, bursary or award without the permission of the scholarship board.

When circumstances of other awards are known, the scholarship board will consider them at the time an award is made. If an additional award is made later, permission is to be sought from Universities New Zealand and must be approved by the scholarship board.

In granting permission, the Scholarship Board will consider any additional funding that the scholar will obtain and reserves the option of reducing the value of the William Georgetti award.

Payments

The schedule for payment of the scholarship award will be determined by Universities New Zealand.

Positions of emolument

William Georgetti scholars are expected to devote their whole time during the tenure of the scholarship to the postgraduate study for which the award was made.

Scholars may not undertake paid employment without the permission of the scholarship board. Permission is to be sought from Universities New Zealand.

The scholarship board may set limits as to the amount or kind of paid employment that may be undertaken.

Reports

During and at the end of their tenure, William Georgetti scholars are required to submit reports on their progress and achievements. Excerpts of these reports may be used by Universities New Zealand to promote the scholarship (excluding any parts of a scholar's report marked "confidential to the scholarship board").

A scholar's report must be accompanied by a transcript of marks achieved in course work to date, and/or a report from the student's main research supervisor, as applicable.

The schedule for these reports will be determined by Universities New Zealand.

Suspension or termination

The scholarship board may at any time suspend or terminate any scholarship and in doing so may demand the reimbursement to Universities New Zealand by the scholar of a part or all of any award funds already paid.

Grounds for suspension or termination include but are not limited to:

- the scholar not diligently pursuing their postgraduate programme

the scholar failing to comply with any of the terms and conditions on which the scholarship was awarded, including the requirement to provide suitable reports

- the scholar withdrawing or being excluded from the postgraduate programme for which the scholarship was awarded.

In exceptional circumstances, on request of a scholar, the scholarship board may consider variation of the scholarship terms, including suspension of the scholarship for a fixed period or allowance for part-time study for a fixed period, and such variations may affect the value or duration of the scholarship.

Power to vary regulations or delegate

The scholarship board may vary these regulations provided such variations are consistent with the general purposes of the scholarship and of the William Georgetti bequest.

The scholarship board may delegate any of its powers to the convenor of the Universities New Zealand Scholarships Committee (or equivalent) for decisions made between annual meetings, provided any decisions made under such a delegation are reported to the scholarship board at the next annual meeting.

Applications

Candidates must apply for the scholarship using the Universities New Zealand online scholarship application website: <https://universitiesnz.communityforce.com>

Applications must be submitted by 1 February in the year of selection.

The online application process will request and candidates must provide:

- a statement of the candidate's proposed programme of research or advanced study and for research programmes an outline of the methods of investigation it is proposed to adopt
- the names of two people from whom character references have been requested:
 - one of these referees should be able to comment on the candidate's academic abilities and their potential to be successful in the planned programme of postgraduate study
- a detailed statement of the candidate's presence in New Zealand or overseas during the previous five years
- Evidence of the candidate's New Zealand citizenship or permanent residence at the time of application
- a curriculum vitae
- information about the expected costs of the candidates intended programme and details of any other scholarships or other funding either awarded or applied for.

Selection

Eligible and complete applications will first be reviewed by the applicant's New Zealand university. If the applicant is not a graduate of a New Zealand university, the application will be reviewed by a member of the Universities New Zealand Scholarships Committee.

From these reviews, a limited number of applications will be submitted to the scholarship board for assessment.

If the New Zealand university or Universities New Zealand Scholarships Committee member is of the opinion there are no candidates of sufficient merit, no applications will be submitted to the scholarship board. The decision of the New Zealand university or Universities New Zealand Scholarships Committee member as to whether to submit an application to the scholarship board is final and no correspondence will be entered into.

The scholarship board will then shortlist a number of candidates who will be invited to a personal interview, normally in-person in Wellington, in May of the year of selection.

The mode, location or timing of the interview may be changed by the scholarship board.

No scholarship will be awarded without an interview.

Awards

The scholarship board will decide how many scholarships may be awarded in any year.

If the scholarship board is of the opinion there are no candidates of sufficient merit, no scholarships will be awarded.

The scholarship board's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into following the selection meeting.

The scholarship board

William Georgetti Scholarships are awarded by the William Georgetti scholarship board.

Members of the board are:

- the Governor-General of New Zealand, or their nominee
- the Prime Minister of New Zealand, or their nominee
- the Chief Justice of New Zealand, or their nominee
- the President of the Federated Farmers of New Zealand Incorporated, or their nominee
- two persons of academic distinction appointed by Universities New Zealand.

Appendix A

Applicants will have been “in New Zealand for a period of at least five years immediately preceding the year of selection”.

The scholarship board defines this eligibility criterion as the applicant having been **present in New Zealand for at least 1,350 days during the previous five years, and for at least 240 days in each of those five years.**

- The previous five years are the five calendar years ending on 31 December of the year immediately preceding the year of selection.

In this definition, the scholarship board has drawn on the New Zealand government’s definition used by the Department of Internal Affairs.

If an applicant would not meet the criterion because they have been overseas undertaking educational activities approved by their New Zealand university or other tertiary provider, or high school as appropriate, they can apply for a waiver.

If exceptional circumstances outside the applicant’s control prevent an applicant from meeting this criterion, they are able to apply for a waiver.

Applications for such a waiver must be submitted to Universities New Zealand (scholarships-cf@universitiesnz.ac.nz) before the closing date for applications. Supporting evidence from the New Zealand university or other tertiary provider, or high school as appropriate, must be included in the application for a waiver. The decision of the Scholarship Board regarding the provision of a waiver is final.