

Elaine P Snowden Scholarship in Astronomy

Regulations

Key Information

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| Closing date | 15 August |
| Value | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assistance with tuition fees to a value of \$4,000• A grant of up to \$1,000 for expenses associated with involvement with New Zealand-based Astronomy activities during the year of tenure, including visits to the University of Canterbury Mount John Observatory and attendance at conferences• With the assistance of the School of Physical and Chemical Sciences, one-to-one mentorship by an active research scientist or postgraduate student at the University's Christchurch campus or at the University of Canterbury Mount John Observatory. The mentor will engage the recipient in research-related activities and will advise the recipient on how best to use the portion of the scholarship that assists with involvement with New Zealand-based Astronomy activities. |
| Tenure | One year |
| Number available annually | One |
| Applicable enrolment during tenure | Full-time enrolment, in a first year of a programme for an undergraduate degree that includes at least one Astronomy course |
| Citizenship/residency requirements | Applicants must be New Zealand citizens or holders of New Zealand residence class visas. |
| Co-tenability restrictions | None |

1. Purpose

This scholarship is to inspire and assist young people of exceptional talent in New Zealand to begin a career in Astronomy at the University of Canterbury.

2. Eligibility criteria

- 2.1 Applicants must be New Zealand citizens or holders of New Zealand residence class visas.
- 2.2 Applicants must be studying at secondary level in the year of application (or, in the case of a gap year,¹ in the year immediately prior to the year of application).
- 2.3 Applicants must be under 19 years of age on 1 January of the year of tenure.
- 2.4 The scholarship is tenable during a recipient's full-time enrolment at the University in his or her first year of a programme for an undergraduate degree that includes at least one Astronomy course.

2.5 Recipients must qualify for admission to the University, through achievement of University Entrance or an equivalent qualification, by at least one week before the first day of Semester 1 of the year of tenure.

3. Selection process

The scholarship is awarded by the Council of the University on the recommendation of a selection committee comprising:

- a. the Vice-Chancellor (or nominee); and
- b. the Head of the School of Physical and Chemical Sciences (or nominee).

4. Selection criteria

4.1 In making its recommendation, the selection committee will consider:

- a. quality of achievement at NCEA Level 2 or in equivalent university entrance qualifications, especially in the physical sciences; and
- b. interest in the pursuit of a career in Astronomy.

4.2 If, in any year, there is no candidate of sufficient merit, no scholarship will be awarded.

5. Application process

Applications must be made online at the [Scholarships website](#)² by 15 August.

6. Co-tenability restrictions

The scholarship is co-tenable with any award unless the conditions of the other award preclude this.

7. Payment schedule

7.1 The fees component of the scholarship is paid after the year of tenure. It is credited directly to the recipient's University fees account at the time of enrolment in the first year in which fees are payable by the student.

7.2 The grant component is paid, on application by the recipient, by direct credit to a recipient's nominated New Zealand bank account as soon as practicable after presentation of suitable evidence of relevant expenditure.

8. Conditions of acceptance

8.1 The scholarship must be taken up in semester 1 of the year following the year of application.

8.2 Unless otherwise specified in the offer letter, an offer of a scholarship lapses if it is not formally accepted within one calendar month of the date of the offer.

8.3 In the event where a recipient's enrolment in the year of tenure no longer meets the conditions specified in clause 2.4, the scholarship will be withdrawn and any paid funds may be recovered.

8.4 By accepting the award, recipients permit publication and announcement of their acceptance, and indicate that they are willing to engage in University community activities, such as student mentoring, acting as University ambassadors, and being involved with University publicity as appropriate.

8.5 Continuation of a scholarship is conditional on satisfactory academic progress and adherence to the University's statutes and regulations.

9. Background information

Michael Snowden established the scholarship in 2017 in memory of his mother, Elaine P. Snowden, from Memphis, Tennessee, USA. It replaces the Aurora Scholarship in Astronomy, which had been established in 2002 by the same donor.

Approval date: June 2018

Previous version: February 2017

¹ For the University's definition of *gap year*, see <http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/get-started/scholarships/glossary-of-terms/>.

² <http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/scholarships/>