

Mercer Memorial Scholarship

Regulations

This scholarship supports postgraduate students undertaking research on a topic related to aviation at the University of Canterbury.

1. The scholarship provides financial assistance up to a value of \$6,000 per annum.¹
2. One scholarship is available annually.
3. The scholarship is tenable by a student who has qualified for an undergraduate degree.
4. The scholarship is tenable for up to 120 points of enrolment, by part-time and full-time students enrolled at the University in a programme of study that involves research on a topic related to aviation that has been approved by the Head (or nominee) of the department in which the research would be based. Suitable topics for the research include, but are not limited to:
 - a. computational or experimental fluid mechanics;
 - b. high performance materials or structures;
 - c. aircraft economics, operation, control, or communication systems.
5. The scholarship is awarded by the Council of the University, on the recommendation of a selection committee comprising:
 - a. the Dean of Engineering and Forestry (or nominee);
 - b. the Dean of Science (or nominee); and
 - c. a representative of the New Zealand Division of the Royal Aeronautical Society, Canterbury Branch (for New Zealand Aeronautical Trusts Ltd).
6. In making the recommendation, the committee will consider:
 - a. academic achievement; and
 - b. the quality and nature of the proposed research.
7. Applications must be made online at the Scholarships website² by 1 November.
8. The scholarship must be taken up in the year following the year of application.
9. Unless otherwise specified in the offer letter, an offer of a scholarship will lapse if it is not formally accepted within one calendar month of the date of the offer.
10. The scholarship is co-tenable with any other award unless the conditions of the other award preclude this.¹
11. If, in any year, there is no candidate of sufficient merit, no award will be made.
12. The value of the scholarship will be paid in two equal instalments, by direct credit to the recipient's nominated New Zealand bank account as soon as practicable after acceptance of an offer of the scholarship and confirmation of enrolment in a relevant programme.

¹ In setting the value for the successful applicant, the nature and value of any other awards held by the applicant may be taken into account.

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

13. A condition of acceptance is that recipients permit publication and announcement of their acceptance of the award.
14. In the event of a recipient's withdrawal, during the term of the scholarship, from the programme for which the scholarship was awarded, the scholarship will be withdrawn, and any paid funds may be recovered.
15. Continuation of the scholarship is conditional on satisfactory academic progress and adherence to the University's statutes and regulations.

History of the award: The scholarship was established in 1946 by the Air Pilots' Guild, in memory of James Cuthbert Mercer. Captain Mercer had been a pioneer of air transport in New Zealand, and was killed in 1944 while a passenger on a commercial flight. The fund for the scholarship was provided by the Guild and by friends and admirers of Captain Mercer. Until 1965 the scholarship was administered by the University of New Zealand and then the University Grants Committee. The scholarship funds were then divided equally between the University of Auckland and the University of Canterbury and separate scholarships were established at the two universities.

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