

Royal Commonwealth Society, Canterbury Scholarship

Regulations

This scholarship supports students from countries of the Commonwealth¹ who are undertaking postgraduate study at the University of Canterbury, thereby promoting international understanding through education.

1. The value of the scholarship will be to an amount specified in Note 2.
2. Normally, one scholarship will be available annually to students who are enrolled, or will be enrolled, in a full-time or part-time programme for a Master's degree by thesis or a PhD degree at the University of Canterbury.³ It will be tenable for the time it takes the recipient to complete 1.00 EFTS.⁴
3. Applicants, by 15 May in the year of application, must have met the academic requirements for enrolment at the University of Canterbury in a programme for a Master's degree by thesis or a PhD degree.⁵
4. Applicants must be citizens or permanent residents⁶ of a country of the Commonwealth.
5. The scholarship will be awarded by the University of Canterbury Council on the recommendation of a Selection Committee that comprises:
 - a. the University of Canterbury Dean of Postgraduate Research (or nominee);
 - b. a member of the University Scholarships Advisory Committee (or nominee); and
 - c. a representative of the University of Canterbury Foundation.
6. In making its recommendation the Selection Committee will consider the general suitability of the candidate and proposed thesis topic, including:
 - a. the candidate's academic achievement;
 - b. the candidate's ability to pursue research; and
 - c. the proposed thesis topic's potential benefit to humanity.
7. Applications for the scholarship must be made to the University of Canterbury Scholarships Office, on the approved form available from the Scholarships website,⁷ no later than 5.00pm on 15 May, or, if this is not a business day, no later than 5.00pm on the next business day.

¹ See <http://thecommonwealth.org/member-countries>

² The current value of the scholarship is \$2,500.

³ If, in any year, funds permit, more than one scholarship may be available.

⁴ EFTS means "Equivalent Full Time Student" and 1.00 EFTS is equal to one year of full-time study. For students enrolled on a part-time basis, actual entitlement will vary and will be calculated on an individual basis.

⁵ By 15 May in the year of application

- applicants must have received final confirmed grades for the qualifying degree; and
- applicants requiring admission ad eundem statum must have had this admission confirmed; and
- applicants enrolled for a Master's degree at the University and wishing to transfer to PhD degree programme must have completed the transfer.

In addition, for applicants who have completed the academic requirements but not the practical work requirements for the BE(Hons) degree, an offer of an award would be conditional on their subsequently having those requirements completed and credited by 1 August in the year following application. Students may not take up the scholarship until such practical work requirements have been completed and credited.

⁶ In the case of residents of New Zealand, "permanent resident" here means those who hold either a New Zealand Permanent Resident visa or a New Zealand Resident visa.

⁷ <http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/scholarships/>

8. If in any year there is no candidate of sufficient merit, no award will be made. If no scholarship is awarded, an additional scholarship may be made available in the following year.
9. Unless otherwise specified in the offer letter, an offer of a scholarship will lapse if it is not accepted, in writing, within one calendar month of the date of the offer.
10. The scholarship will be co-tenable with any other award, unless the conditions of the other award preclude this.
11. The value of the scholarship will be paid directly to the scholarship recipient's New Zealand bank account as soon as practicable after a scholarship offer has been accepted and confirmation of enrolment in a programme for a Master's degree by thesis or a PhD degree by thesis.
12. Every scholarship recipient not already enrolled in a programme for a Master's or PhD degree by thesis should normally be enrolled in such a programme by 31 December in the year of application. A recipient who is unable to enrol by this deadline must seek the permission of the Dean of Postgraduate Research (in the case of prospective PhD students) or the relevant other Dean (in the case of prospective Master's students) to take up the scholarship at a later date. Without such permission the award will be terminated.
13. If it is necessary for their research, recipients, with the permission of the Dean of Postgraduate Research (in the case of PhD students) or the relevant other Dean (in the case of Master's students), may retain the scholarship while carrying out research for limited periods outside the University of Canterbury.
14. A condition of acceptance is that recipients will permit publication and announcement of their acceptance of the award, and will be willing to attend a function of the Royal Commonwealth Society, Canterbury Branch, and to address the Society on the topic of their research.
15. In the event of a recipient's withdrawal from a programme for a Master's degree by thesis or a PhD degree, the scholarship will be withdrawn, and any paid funds may be recovered.
16. Continuation of the scholarship is conditional on continued satisfactory academic progress and adherence to the University's statutes and regulations.

History of the Scholarship The scholarship was established in 2013 by the Royal Commonwealth Society (NZ) Inc., Canterbury Branch, which is affiliated to the Royal Commonwealth Society (RCS) in London. The RCS in Canterbury has been in existence for almost 100 years and is part of a world-wide network of more than 10,000 members, with branches and representatives in 46 countries.

The RCS promotes the work and values of the Commonwealth. It makes grants and donations to Commonwealth-related communities, organisations and individuals (particularly students) that fit the Society's goal of fostering well-being within the Commonwealth. Emphasis is also placed on assisting the health, living standards, culture and education of island communities of the Pacific region.

Ref: RCS_Canty
March 2014; April 2014; August 2017