

NEW ZEALAND LAW FOUNDATION DOCTORAL SCHOLARSHIP (IN LAW)



Terms of Reference

1. Purpose

The purpose of the New Zealand Law Foundation Doctoral Scholarship is to encourage postgraduate study and research in law in New Zealand. The scholarship will be awarded to a doctoral candidate who will carry out research in a defined area of the law which is for the benefit of New Zealand and its legal system, and which encompasses the wider objectives of the New Zealand Law Foundation.

Every scholarship shall be tenable at a law school in a New Zealand university and will be provided as a top up to the award of a New Zealand University PhD scholarship.

2. Eligibility

A scholarship may be awarded to any person who is the holder of a masters or honours degree of a university in New Zealand or elsewhere, or any equivalent qualification, and who has had confirmation of the award of a New Zealand University PhD scholarship.

Candidates may apply for this scholarship if they are about to commence doctoral study or if they have recently commenced doctoral study. If a candidate has already commenced then they must be within 18 months of starting their doctoral studies.

Applications will only be accepted if they are supported by a nomination for this award from the Dean of a New Zealand Law Faculty.

3. Tenure

The scholarship shall be tenable for a period of three years unless the New Zealand Law Foundation's Scholarship Selection Panel, having regard to the programme of research or advanced study approved for any scholar, determines in respect of that scholar that the scholarship shall be tenable for such shorter period as it may specify.

Except with the express approval of the New Zealand Law Foundation, the total period of tenure of the New Zealand Law Foundation Doctoral Scholarship shall not extend beyond three years.

If the New Zealand Law Foundation is satisfied that a scholar is unable to complete the programme of research or advanced study by the expiration of the period of tenure of the scholarship, then the New Zealand Law Foundation may, at its absolute discretion, grant an extension of that period by such further period as it determines but normally no extension shall increase the total period of tenure beyond three years.

4. Commencement Date

The tenure of every scholarship shall commence on a date to be determined in each case by the New Zealand Law Foundation.

5. Co-Tenure

A New Zealand Law Foundation Doctoral Scholarship may be held with any other scholarship, bursary or award unless the conditions of the other award(s) preclude it and provided that the grantors of the other scholarship(s) or award(s) recognise the right and ability of the New Zealand Law Foundation to publicise the successful scholar as a New Zealand Law Foundation Doctoral Scholarship winner. In the event of co-tenure, the New Zealand Law Foundation's Scholarship Selection Panel may impose such conditions as it thinks fit, whether as to reduction in the emolument of the New Zealand Law Foundation Doctoral Scholarship or otherwise.

6. Value

The value of the New Zealand Law Foundation Doctoral Scholarship will be a \$10,000 per annum top up to a New Zealand university PhD scholarship. The top up will apply for up to three years. [Refer to the section on Tenure] The scholar must inform the New Zealand Law Foundation of all other awards received. If a scholar holds another award or is granted another award during the term of the Scholarship, then the emolument of the New Zealand Law Foundation Doctoral Scholarship may be reduced at the New Zealand Law Foundation's discretion.

7. Applications

The scholarship is administered by the New Zealand Law Foundation. Applications are accepted twice a year. Applications close at 5pm on 28 February and 31 August in each year. Applications are made online at the Foundation's website www.lawfoundation.org.nz and application guidelines are available via the website at page http://www.lawfoundation.org.nz/?page_id=57.

Applications must include the following:

- (a) a letter of nomination from the Dean of a New Zealand Law School which also includes confirmation of the award of a New Zealand University PHD scholarship;
- (b) a Curriculum Vitae;
- (c) a certified copy of the candidate's academic record;
- (d) a statement of the candidate's proposed programme of research or advanced study and an outline of the methods of investigation it is proposed to adopt;
- (e) an example of legal writing not exceeding 10,000 words (e.g. essays, opinions, legal articles);
- (f) the names of at least two appropriately qualified persons who will forward directly to the New Zealand Law Foundation prior to the relevant application close off date a written assessment of the candidate including achievements, potential, suitability for the award, and commenting on the relevance and importance of the proposed research, and the ability of the applicant to undertake it;

- (g) a budget outlining how the candidate is funding the PhD, including full particulars of any other bursaries, scholarships, prizes, fellowships or awards which the candidate has applied for or has been awarded;
- (h) a statement outlining how the candidate intends to disseminate the final research product;
- (i) details of intended commencement and completion dates; and
- (j) a good quality photograph – head and shoulders view – to be used for publicity purposes should the application be successful.

Note: Any grant of this scholarship will be conditional upon the successful applicant providing confirmation of enrolment for the approved course of study at the university specified in the application, and confirmation of the award of a NZ university PHD scholarship.

8. Selection

Applications will be considered by a selection panel appointed by the New Zealand Law Foundation. The panel will report to the New Zealand Law Foundation, which has the final responsibility for making or declining an award.

The New Zealand Law Foundation may invite shortlisted candidates to a personal interview.

In selecting the successful candidate(s) the New Zealand Law Foundation's Selection Panel will have regard to (among other things) scholastic ability, the nature of the intended research, and its compatibility with the New Zealand Law Foundation's wider objectives.

No scholarship shall be awarded if the New Zealand Law Foundation's Selection Panel shall be of the opinion that there is no candidate of sufficient merit.

9. Constitution of Scholarship Selection Panel

The award of every New Zealand Law Foundation Doctoral Scholarship shall be made by a Scholarship Selection Panel constituted as follows:

- (a) Two Trustees of the New Zealand Law Foundation, or nominees
- (b) Two persons of academic distinction appointed by the New Zealand Law Foundation.

10. Payments

The scholarship is administered by the New Zealand Law Foundation. Payments shall be made in such a manner and on such conditions as shall be determined by the New Zealand Law Foundation.

11. Positions of Emolument

Every scholar shall be required to devote their whole time during the tenure of the scholarship to a programme of research or advanced study approved for the purpose by the Scholarship Selection Panel and may not hold a position of emolument except on such terms and conditions as the New Zealand Law Foundation may determine.

12. Reports

The New Zealand Law Foundation may at any time during the course of study request a progress report. The holder of a New Zealand Law Foundation Doctoral Scholarship will provide a personal report on the research whenever requested. In addition, whenever requested, the scholar shall arrange for progress reports to be provided to the New Zealand Law Foundation by the scholar's Head of Department, professor or other responsible officer of the university or institution at which the research is being pursued. The report will cover academic progress and will report generally as to conduct and ability and such other information as the New Zealand Law Foundation may require.

13. Suspension or Termination

The New Zealand Law Foundation may at any time suspend or terminate any scholarship, or require the forfeiture of such proportion of the scholarship emolument as it may determine, if it is satisfied that the scholar has failed to comply with any of the terms and conditions on which the scholarship was awarded, or for any other reason in the New Zealand Law Foundation's absolute discretion; and a scholarship shall be terminated and no further payments shall be made if a scholar ceases to pursue the aforesaid programme.

14. Power to Vary

The New Zealand Law Foundation may, if it thinks fit, relax or modify the application of any of these regulations in any special circumstances or in order to avoid hardship to any scholar or candidate for a scholarship.