



Dr Judith Johnston Scholarship in Geography

Established in 2024 by the University of Otago and generously funded by Dr Judith Johnston BA(Hons) Otago, MA Toronto, PhD Auckland, this scholarship aims to support and encourage female enrolment in 200- and 300-level papers in Geography at the University of Otago. The scholarship will be awarded annually to one female undergraduate Geography student who, without the benefit of an entrance scholarship, would find it too difficult to afford to (return to) study.

Eligibility

Applicants must be:

- a New Zealand citizen or New Zealand Residence Class Visa Holder;
- enrolled as female at the University of Otago;
- enrolled (or planning to enrol) in a major or minor in Geography in any undergraduate programme in the intended year of tenure;
- enrolled (or planning to enrol) in two or more 200- or 300-level papers in Geography in the intended year of tenure; and
- disadvantaged in the pursuit of their studies by their financial or personal circumstances, and, in the year of proposed tenure, not be in receipt of an entrance scholarship.

Application Process

Every application for the Scholarship must be submitted to Student Administration (Scholarships) at the University of Otago by the specified closing date.

Every applicant must submit:

- a completed application form, including a personal statement demonstrating financial or other need;
- an academic reference letter; and
- a copy of their academic transcript if not an Otago student or graduate.

Selection Process

The selection panel will consist of the Head of the School of Geography, the Director of Development and Alumni Relations, and the Manager, Postgraduate Scholarships, Prizes and Awards (or their nominees).

The selection panel may consider the following in awarding the scholarship:

- the degree of financial disadvantage or need evidenced by the applicant;
- previous academic achievement and potential for academic success;
- the extent of financial support the applicant will (likely) receive from other scholarships or awards;
- preference will be given to applicants returning to study after a break of at least one year prior to the first year of their current programme of study.

The Donor will be given the opportunity to review shortlisted applications and provide feedback to the selection panel for consideration.

The panel may require an interview with short-listed applicants for the scholarship.

Financial

- The scholarship will have a total value of \$5,000.
- There will normally be one scholarship offered each year.
- The number and value of scholarships available each year will be determined by the selection panel.

Tenure

- The scholarship may be held with full-time or part-time tenure.
- The scholarship must be taken up within one year of being awarded.
- The scholarship may be held concurrently with any other University of Otago (or external) award where its regulations also allow co-tenure.

Other Requirements

- Award of the scholarship is dependent on the recipient being admitted to the University of Otago.
- The University of Otago reserves the right to use the names, photographs, and details of successful applicants for advertising and publicity. Successful applicants must agree to be reasonably available to participate in interviews, promotional and stewardship activities if requested by the University.
- Upon receipt of the scholarship, the successful applicant shall provide the Stewardship Officer, Development and Alumni Relations, with a thank you letter addressed to the Donor.
- The successful applicant shall also provide an end-of-year report to the Stewardship Officer, Development and Alumni Relations, no later than 1 December in the year of tenure.