



## The Bishara Scholarship in Neurology

*Established in 2022 by the University of Otago through a generous donation from David and Phyllis Lacey, made in memory of David's mother, the late Mrs Monica Lacey, and the late Mr. Sam Bishara, a well-known and respected Neurosurgeon appointed to the Dunedin Hospital's neurosurgery unit in 1966. Mr. Bishara and his team successfully treated David and Phyllis' son Jonathan in the 1980s. Mr Bishara retired from the Otago Medical School in 1995 but continued in private practice at Mercy Hospital. He died in June 2016.*

*The purpose of the Scholarship is to assist students to undertake the one-year research degree Bachelor of Medical Sciences with Honours (BMedSc(Hons)). Its objective is to promote further research into the field of neurology with an emphasis on epilepsy. The student may be located within a Department of Otago Medical School at any of its three campuses.*

### **Eligibility**

Candidates must:

- be a New Zealand citizen or New Zealand Residence Class Visa Holder, and
- be enrolled for the degree of Bachelor of Medical Science with Honours studying in a neurological discipline with an emphasis on epilepsy within a department of the Otago Medical School at any of its three main campuses (Christchurch, Dunedin, Wellington).

### **Application and Selection Process**

Candidates will be invited to apply after approval for admission to the Honours degree. Every candidate must submit an application with a covering letter explaining career aspirations, and a curriculum vitae, to Student Administration (Scholarships) by 1 October in the year prior to commencement of their Honours study.

The Selection Panel will convene to determine the award of the Scholarship in mid-October each year.

The Selection Panel will comprise the:

- Dean of the Otago Medical School or their nominee;
- Head of the Department of Neurosurgery at the Dunedin School of Medicine or their nominee;
- Associated clinical, research or academic staff as required, on the nomination of the Dean of the Otago Medical School; and the
- Director of Development and Alumni Relations, or their nominee.

The Panel shall consider the following factors in awarding the Scholarship:

- the candidate's previous academic results, and
- the candidate's potential to succeed in their proposed career path.

### **Value**

The Scholarship comprises a \$5,000 stipend which will be paid at \$500 per month for 10 months. The final stipend payment will be paid after the thesis is submitted. One or two Scholarships may be awarded annually, as funds allow.

***Tenure***

- The Scholarship will be held for one year while the candidate is enrolled in the Honours degree.
- The Scholarship must be taken up in the year for which it is awarded.
- The Scholarship may be held concurrently with other awards, where their regulations so permit.

***Publicity***

The University of Otago reserves the right to use the names, photographs and details of successful applicants for the purposes of advertising and publicity. The Scholarship holder must agree to be reasonably available to participate in interviews and promotional activities if requested by the University.