



Walter Scott Postgraduate Scholarship in English

*Established by the University of Otago in 2026, with funding from a memorial trust founded in 1874 dedicated to Sir Walter Scott. Sir Walter Scott was a Scottish novelist, poet and historian, the author of landmark works of English literature such as *Ivanhoe* and *Rob Roy*, and credited as a pioneer of the historical novel genre. The purpose of this award is to encourage and support excellence in the postgraduate study of English literature.*

Eligibility

Applicants must be:

- a New Zealand citizen or New Zealand Residence Class Visa Holder, and
- enrolled (or preparing to enrol) in an Honours degree or Master of Arts (Coursework) degree in English at the University of Otago.

Students who meet these criteria but have not enrolled previously at the University of Otago are also welcome to apply for this 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
- an academic reference letter, and
- an academic transcript for any prior study undertaken at another tertiary institution.

Selection Process

The Selection Panel will consist of the following (or their nominees):

- the Head of Programme for English and Linguistics
- the English Honours/Coursework MA Coordinator
- a senior academic from another School of Arts programme, appointed by the Head of School
- the Director, Development and Alumni Relations, and
- the Manager, Postgraduate Scholarships, Prizes and Awards.

The principal factor(s) for consideration by the Selection Panel will be:

- the demonstrated academic merit or exceptional academic promise of each applicant.

The Selection Panel may require an interview with short-listed applicants.

Financial

- The total value of the scholarship is \$3,000.
- The scholarship will be paid out in two equal instalments, one at the start of each semester in the year of tenure.

- There will normally be only one scholarship awarded each year, but more than one may be awarded from time to time when sufficient funds are available.
- Any variation to the number and value of scholarships available each year will be a matter for determination by the Selection Panel.

Tenure

- The scholarship may be held with full-time or part-time tenure.
- The scholarship will normally be awarded to a student only once, but may be awarded more than once in cases of exceptional need.
- The scholarship must be taken up within one year of being awarded.
- The scholarship may be held concurrently with any other University of Otago scholarship 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. The award holders must agree to be reasonably available to participate in interviews and promotional activities if requested by the University of Otago.