

Carnegie Corporation Award

Established in 2025 by the University of Otago, this award is intended to provide a tuition subsidy of up to \$3,000 for distance learning students undertaking the first year of a postgraduate programme in disciplines formerly part of Home Science and Consumer and Applied Sciences.

The origins of this award date back to the 1930s, when the Carnegie Corporation, through Sir James Allen, donated funds to establish the Home Economics Extension Endowment, for the continuation of Home Science extension work at the University of Otago. After 1964 there was a long period of inactivity in relation to the Carnegie endowment, as it was believed its original purpose had been met. Eventually, in 1997-98, the residual funds were repurposed as the Carnegie Corporation Award for Adult Education. This was a departmental (unofficial) award, in the form of a travel grant, to enable postgraduate students specialising in either Clothing and Textile Sciences or Community and Family Studies to travel to Dunedin. Applicants had to be enrolled in the thesis or dissertation year of a degree or diploma taught through the distance teaching programme, or not be normally based on the Dunedin campus.

The decision to make this an official University award, and to broaden its scope, is the result of a wider review of scholarships and prizes affected by the dissolution of the School of Home Science and Consumer and Applied Sciences. There is also a desire to ensure the award will, in future, be granted regularly, and to multiple students when funds allow, by widening the qualifying criteria and by changing its purpose from being a grant for travel to a general subsidy for tuition fees.

Eligibility

Applicants for this award must be:

- a New Zealand citizen or New Zealand Residence Class Visa Holder
- enrolled (or planning to enrol) in the first year of a postgraduate [distance learning programme](#) (degree or diploma) in any of the following disciplines:
 - Food Science
 - Human Nutrition
 - Sport and Exercise Nutrition
 - Nutrition and Metabolism in Human Health
 - Social and Community Work.

A student whose postgraduate programme features topics or themes relating to any disestablished discipline formerly part of Home Science or Consumer and Applied Sciences, such as Clothing and Textile Sciences or Design for Technology, may also be eligible for this award.

A student enrolled in the first year of a postgraduate distance programme in Bioengineering may also qualify for this award if there is deemed to be sufficient crossover with any of the disciplines listed above.

Application Process

Every application for the award 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
- a copy of their academic transcript if previous study was undertaken at another tertiary institution.

Selection Process

The selection panel will consist of the following members (or their nominees): the Associate Dean (Academic) for Sciences; the Head of the School of Social Sciences; the Director, Distance Learning; and the Director, Development and Alumni Relations. The Dean of the School of Biomedical Sciences (or nominee) shall also sit on the selection panel if applications are received from students enrolled in distance learning programmes in Nutrition and Metabolism in Human Health.

The selection panel shall consider the following factors when assessing applications:

- academic performance (in the applicant's qualifying degree)
- the advice or recommendations of the applicant's academic referee.

The selection panel may require an (online) interview with short-listed applicants for this award.

Financial

- The maximum value of the award (per recipient) is \$3,000.
- The funds shall be paid to the recipient in the form of a subsidy for tuition fees.
- More than one award may be granted each year, funds depending.
- The number and value of awards granted each year will be determined by the selection panel.

Tenure

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

Other Requirements

- The granting of this award 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.