Sir Murray F Brennan Scholarship in Rowing

Established in 2018 by the University Council to encourage excellence in rowing, this scholarship is generously supported by the Alumni of the University of Otago in America and honours one of the University of Otago's most distinguished alumni, Sir Murray F. Brennan. The scholarship reflects AUOA's mission which is to provide young New Zealanders with an opportunity to gain an amazing education at the University of Otago while also becoming great young adult leaders of the future.

Eligibility

Applicants must:

- be enrolled, or intend to be enrolled at the University of Otago
- be a member of, or an intended member of, the Otago University Rowing Club
- be at a New Zealand university in the first year of an undergraduate programme at the time of application or have recently completed the first year of an undergraduate programme at a New Zealand university.

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 and curriculum vitae.
- A letter of support from a former coach or rowing mentor.
- A copy of their academic transcript if they are not a University of Otago student.

Selection Process

The selection panel will comprise the Chief Executive Officer of the Otago University Rowing Club, the Director of the Development and Alumni Relations Office and the Manager responsible for Undergraduate Scholarships (or their nominees). The Stewardship Officer, Development and Alumni Relations Office will be in attendance as an advocate for the donor.

The selection panel will consider the following factors in selecting the scholarship recipient:

- Demonstrated excellence in rowing or the potential to demonstrate excellence in rowing.
- An ability to maintain academic performance at a B grade average standard (GPA 5) or equivalent.
- In keeping with the donor's wishes, preference will be given to Health Sciences students who are intending to study Medicine.

Funds permitting, normally one scholarship will be allocated each academic year. If funds are unavailable in any academic year, the selection panel reserves the right not to award the scholarship.

Financial

- The scholarship has a total value (per recipient) of $20,000. This will be divided into two years, i.e. $10,000 each year for two years, in line with the full period of tenure of the award.
- The scholarship will be applied first towards 50% of the recipient's tuition fees each year, up to a maximum value of $10,000. Any amount not paid towards the recipient's tuition fees may be paid to their accommodation provider (if staying in a hall of residence) to help cover the accommodation charges, or paid directly to the recipient in equal monthly instalments (if living at home, lodging or flatting) to help meet their accommodation expenses.
- The scholarship is intended to support students through their second and third years of undergraduate study at the University of Otago. Payment in each year is dependent on the recipient being enrolled in the relevant year of their undergraduate programme.

Tenure

- The total tenure of this scholarship is two years.
- The scholarship must be held with full-time tenure.
- The scholarship will normally be taken up in the year immediately following application unless otherwise agreed by the selection panel.
- Tenure in the second year of the scholarship is dependent on the recipient achieving a GPA of 5 or better (B) for the previous academic year or obtaining all pass grades within the MB ChB programme.
- Tenure will cease if the recipient is no longer an active member of the Otago University Rowing Club. Active membership is deemed to involve regular training at the Club and availability for selection by the Club for competitions. The Club will be responsible for advising the Scholarships Office about changes in membership status.
- The Scholarship may be held concurrently with any other University of Otago Scholarship where their regulations so permit.

Other Requirements

- 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.