



NZIER Women in Economics Scholarship

Established in 2026 by the University of Otago, with generous support from the New Zealand Institute of Economic Research (NZIER). NZIER is an independent, not-for-profit economic consultancy founded in 1958. Through its Public Good programme, NZIER promotes informed public debate on economic issues and supports initiatives that strengthen the economics profession, including encouraging greater diversity and participation. This scholarship is intended to encourage and support women studying economics at undergraduate level, and strengthen pathways into economics-related careers. It provides two years of financial assistance for full-time study (or part-time equivalent).

Eligibility

Applicants must (be):

- a New Zealand citizen or New Zealand residence class visa holder
- female, or gender diverse identifying as female, and
- enrolled (or planning to enrol) in 200-level study towards an undergraduate degree with a major in Economics.

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 up-to-date curriculum vitae
- a short statement outlining in brief:
 - the applicant's career intentions and aspirations
 - participation in community, volunteer, cultural, sporting, or other extracurricular activities
 - (if relevant) any financial or other personal hardship presenting a barrier to success, and how the scholarship could make a positive difference to their circumstances
- an academic reference letter, and
- an academic transcript for any tertiary study undertaken at another institution.

Selection Process

The Selection Panel for this award will be comprised of the following members (or their appointees):

- Head of the Department of Economics
- Associate Dean Academic, Division of Commerce
- Director of Undergraduate Studies, Department of Economics
- Director, Development and Alumni Relations, and
- Manager, Postgraduate Scholarships, Prizes and Awards.

The following factors shall be considered in selecting the successful candidate:

- Academic merit or promise.
- Commitment to, or interest in, a career in economics.
- Community, volunteer, cultural, sporting, or other extracurricular involvement.
- Financial or other personal hardship presenting a barrier to study.

The Selection Panel will give the Donor the opportunity to provide feedback on the Panel's preferred candidate(s), and will advise the Donor of their final decision.

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

Financial

- The total value of the scholarship (per recipient) is \$5,000.
- There will normally be only one scholarship awarded each year.
- The scholarship shall be disbursed in four equal instalments of \$1,250, paid after the deadline for withdrawal in the first and second semester of each year of tenure (or part-time equivalent).
- Any variation in the number or value of scholarships available each year will be at the discretion of the Selection Panel.

Tenure

- The scholarship may be held with full-time or part-time tenure.
- Standard tenure will be two years of full-time study (or part-time equivalent).
- 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.
- Award holders must prepare and submit a brief progress report at the end of each year of tenure, to be forwarded to the Donor via the Stewardship Officer, DARO.
- The University of Otago and the Donor reserve 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 either the University of Otago or the Donor.