



The Robinson Dorsey Postgraduate Scholarship

Established in 2017 by the University of Otago in collaboration with the Trustees of the Bridget, James and Marion Robinson Charitable Trust, this award recognises the contributions of James Robinson and Marion Robinson to the University of Otago and wider community, in Physiology and Human Nutrition, and in particular, their concern that every student reaches their potential. It also remembers Rhoda Dorsey, President of Goucher College in Maryland USA, historian and avid supporter of education and personal development.

The Robinson Dorsey Postgraduate Scholarship was created to support postgraduate students who are returning to university study after a break, and/or who through their personal circumstances, are not eligible for usual scholarships. Originally available to students undertaking postgraduate study in Physiology or Human Nutrition, the award was amended in 2023 to extend eligibility to postgraduate students involved in cancer research, and to acknowledge the contribution of Bridget Robinson to patient-focused cancer research at the University of Otago.

Eligibility

Applicants must be:

- a New Zealand citizen or New Zealand Residence Class Visa Holder;
- enrolled in (or intending to enrol in) a postgraduate diploma, honours degree, Master of Science or PhD degree in Physiology or Human Nutrition, or engaged in (or intending to undertake) cancer-related research as part of any postgraduate programme at the University of Otago;
- returning to university study after a break, and/or through their personal circumstances ineligible for usual scholarships.

Application Process

Every application for the scholarship must be submitted to Student Administration (Scholarships) by the specified closing date.

Every applicant must submit:

- an application form, including a personal statement about any financial or social hardship;
- an up-to-date curriculum vitae;
- a reference from a referee, sent to Student Administration (Scholarships) confidentially;
- a copy of their academic transcript if not an Otago graduate.

Selection Process

The Selection Committee shall consist of the following (or their nominees): the Pro-Vice-Chancellor Health Sciences, the Pro-Vice-Chancellor Sciences, the Manager, Postgraduate Scholarships, Prizes and Awards, the Stewardship Officer, Development and Alumni Relations, and a representative of the Donor.

The following factors shall be considered in awarding the scholarship:

- Personal hardship (financial or social), based on a personal statement in the application form and external references;

- Any other scholarships or prizes the applicant may have been awarded, or be eligible for;
- Potential to succeed in postgraduate study;
- Academic merit relative to other applicants may also be taken into consideration. However, to be eligible for this scholarship, students are not required to achieve any particular grade over and above the admission criteria for their programme.

Financial

- The scholarship is valued at up to \$32,544 per year for full-time PhD study, or \$18,204 per year for full-time Master's, Postgraduate Diploma or Honours study.
- The scholarship will be paid as a monthly stipend.
- The value of the scholarship may be reviewed from time to time. The award is subject to annual funding by the Donor. Pending available funds, one scholarship shall be awarded per annum.

Tenure

- The scholarship will have a tenure of 3 years full-time for PhD study or 1 year full-time for other Postgraduate study.
- The scholarship may be held with part-time tenure, and the annual value and tenure will be pro-rated.
- The scholarship must be taken up within one year of being awarded unless otherwise agreed by the Selection Committee.
- The scholarship may be held concurrently with any other University of Otago scholarship awarded for tuition fees only or for research or travel costs not associated with a living allowance.

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.