



The University of Otago Richard and Diana Somerville Commerce Entrance Scholarship

Established in 2022 from a generous gifting of funds from Richard and Diana Somerville, this Scholarship supports students who face significant financial and life challenges in attending university to pursue a degree in commerce at the University of Otago.

Application Process

Every applicant must submit an Entrance Scholarship application through the University's student management system (eVision) by 15 August in the year prior to enrolment. If no suitable applicant is found the due date of submission of applications may be extended.

Applications will be open to students who are normally eligible for the University of Otago 150th Entrance Scholarships. To be considered for this scholarship, applicants are advised to complete the Financial and/or Family Circumstances sections in the Entrance Scholarship application.

Selection Process

The Selection Panel, consisting of the Head of Schools' Liaison, the Manager, Undergraduate Entrance Scholarships, and the Director of Development and Alumni Relations, or their nominees, shall consider the following factors in awarding the scholarship:

- ♦ Academic ability (a minimum of NCEA Level 2 awarded with merit, or equivalent, is normally required for consideration).
- ♦ Having attended a secondary school with a low decile rating or a high need equity index rating
- ♦ Financial need.
- ♦ Life circumstances which present significant barriers to studying at university.
- ♦ Potential and motivation to succeed at university.
- ♦ Intended programme of study

Financial arrangements

- ♦ The value of the scholarship is \$10,000 with a one-year tenure.
- ♦ For those accepting a place in a Residential College, or University Flat, the scholarship will be paid as a contribution to accommodation fees. Recipients who are not resident in University of Otago owned or affiliated Residential Colleges or University Flats but are eligible for Fees Free may have payment terms specified in their letter of offer or in further correspondence with the University of Otago.

Scholarship terms and conditions

In addition to the standard Undergraduate Entrance Scholarship terms and conditions the following provisions apply:

- ♦ Recipients must be intending to enrol in their first year of a programme of study for one of the following degrees at the University of Otago: Bachelor of Commerce, Bachelor of Arts and Commerce, Bachelor of Commerce and Science, Bachelor of Entrepreneurship.
- ♦ Recipients are required to write or record a message of thanks to the donors. Payment of the scholarship may be withheld until the message is received by the Development and Alumni Relations Office to pass on to the donors.
- ♦ This scholarship may be held concurrently with any other University of Otago Undergraduate Entrance Scholarship at the discretion of the selection panel.