



**Antarctica  
New Zealand**

**New Zealand Post**



## Antarctica New Zealand Postgraduate Research Scholarship Programme

2021

### **Antarctica and the Southern Ocean - valued, protected, understood**

Antarctica New Zealand recognises the value of Antarctica and the Southern Ocean as a unique environment for scientific research. We are committed to supporting the next generation of Antarctic scientists to make valuable contributions to the international knowledge base and understanding of Antarctic and global ecosystems and processes.

The Postgraduate Research Scholarship Programme is designed to support talented researchers to get off to the best possible start in their research careers, focussing on Antarctic and Southern Ocean systems. Antarctica New Zealand is generously supported in this scholarship programme by New Zealand Post.

### ***Applications are now open for the following 2021 scholarships:***

#### **Antarctica New Zealand Sir Robin Irvine Doctoral Scholarship**

The Sir Robin Irvine Doctoral Scholarship recognises the importance of a talented, vibrant, and sustainable research community within New Zealand that is focused on the big questions facing Antarctica and the Southern Ocean, and the relevance of this region for the rest of the planet.

- For doctoral research
- Stipend of \$20,000 per annum over two years (total of \$40,000); and
- Logistics support for one season in Antarctica. Scholarship recipients are required to be aligned with a host event that will be travelling to the location of the field work proposed in the application. This can be discussed with Dr Esme Robinson (Science Programme Advisor), on 03 358 1283 or [e.robinson@antarcticanz.govt.nz](mailto:e.robinson@antarcticanz.govt.nz).

#### **New Zealand Post Antarctic Scholarship**

New Zealand's presence in Antarctica is important to our nation, and New Zealand Post has a long association with the continent – ever since Sir Edmund Hillary was postmaster at Scott Base in 1957. Supporting up-and-coming New Zealand scientists through this scholarship is a key way that New Zealand Post continues its close association with the white continent.

- For master's or doctoral research
- Stipend of \$10,000 over one year; and

- Logistics support for one season in Antarctica. Scholarship recipients are required to be aligned with a host event that will be travelling to the location of the field work proposed in the application. This can be discussed with Dr Esme Robinson (Science Programme Advisor), on 03 358 1283 or [e.robinson@antarcticanz.govt.nz](mailto:e.robinson@antarcticanz.govt.nz).

### Scope

Applications are requested from master's and doctoral scholars whose research is focused on Antarctica and/or the Southern Ocean (south of 60 degrees). The research may include questions to be addressed through field work in Antarctica (via Scott Base); however, proposals for Antarctic research based on existing data sets or non-field research activities are also welcomed.

### The offer

The stipend is expected to contribute towards travel, fees and living expenses incurred during the scholarship period.

If Antarctic field work is required for the research and logistics support is approved, Antarctica New Zealand will cover the costs for return transport between Antarctica and Christchurch, living costs at Scott Base or in the field, reasonable transport needs in Antarctica, field equipment supplied at Scott Base, clothing, travel and accommodation out of Christchurch on the return leg, and any reasonable medical expenses incurred whilst conducting the Antarctic medical process. Accepted proposals may require alterations to logistics requests in order to be supported.

In return, scholars will be required to:

- submit regular progress updates to Antarctica New Zealand and the scholarship sponsor
- work with Antarctica New Zealand to participate in public engagement opportunities about the field work and research topic
- acknowledge Antarctica New Zealand and the sponsor of the scholarship appropriately in oral presentations, the final thesis and publications
- provide a copy of the final thesis and any publications to Antarctica New Zealand

### Eligibility Requirements

Applicants must be accepted into a master's or doctoral degree programme at a New Zealand institution at the time of application. Applications are welcomed from New Zealand and international students; however, preference will be given to applicants who are citizens or permanent residents of New Zealand in the event that two applications are ranked equally by peer review.

**Please discuss this application, including any field requirements with your supervisor, and contact Dr Esme Robinson (Science Programme Advisor), on 03 358 1283 or [e.robinson@antarcticanz.govt.nz](mailto:e.robinson@antarcticanz.govt.nz) by 5 March 2021 to register your intention to apply and to discuss your logistics requirements.** NB: this preliminary discussion is necessary to inform Antarctica New Zealand of possible logistics requirements for the upcoming season; details of this discussion will not be used to assess the official scholarship application.

Prior to travelling to Antarctica, successful candidates must be certified as 'medically fit' by Antarctica New Zealand's Medical Assessor. Detail about the medical examination requirements (noting that some conditions may be disqualifying) can be found here: <https://www.antarcticanz.govt.nz/education/travelling-to-antarctica>. Candidates who are not deemed medically fit to travel are still eligible for the stipend.

Successful applicants who hold or receive a full scholarship (fees + stipend) from their institution, or another funding body, during the tenure of a scholarship from the Antarctica New Zealand Postgraduate Scholarship Programme will be offered the stipend at half the advertised value.

### Application Procedure

All candidates intending to apply must register their intention to do so by contacting Dr Esme Robinson (Science Programme Advisor), on 03 358 1283 or [e.robinson@antarcticanz.govt.nz](mailto:e.robinson@antarcticanz.govt.nz) by **5 March 2021**. Failure to do so may render the application ineligible.

Applications need to include:

1. A completed application form (download from <https://www.antarcticanz.govt.nz/science/scholarships>)
2. A research proposal (maximum of three pages excluding reference list) which should include:
  - a. An abstract of the proposed research
  - b. A description of the research goals
  - c. An outline of the methodology
  - d. An explanation of how the proposed research relates to the Science Strategy: New Zealand Antarctic and Southern Ocean Science Directions and Priorities 2010 – 2020. A copy of this document can be downloaded here: <https://www.antarcticanz.govt.nz/science>.
3. A letter of 'agreement-in-principle' from the proposed host event that the candidate intends to embed within (discuss this requirement with Esme Robinson).
4. A 2-page CV.
5. Undergraduate transcript and master's transcript (if applicable).
6. Evidence of New Zealand citizenship or permanent residency if applicable (copy of passport or birth certificate)

Please collate the material above as one PDF file and send to Dr Esme Robinson ([e.robinson@antarcticanz.govt.nz](mailto:e.robinson@antarcticanz.govt.nz)). The application deadline is **21 March 2021 at 5 pm**.

Additionally, two confidential letters of reference in support of the application are required. One of the letters needs to be from your supervisor and should confirm the date on which you started in the degree programme (master's or doctoral). Please ask referees to send their letter directly to Esme Robinson by **21 March 2021**.

Applications will be assessed by a panel of experts on scientific merit, relevance to the science strategy, the academic standing of the candidate, and potential to achieve outcomes. Applicants will be notified of the results of the selection process in June 2021.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact Esme Robinson, on 03 358 1283 or [e.robinson@antarcticanz.govt.nz](mailto:e.robinson@antarcticanz.govt.nz).