



**Antarctica
New Zealand**



Antarctica New Zealand Postgraduate Research Scholarship Programme 2023

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 Ella Yelich-O'Connor and New Zealand Post.

Applications are now open for the following 2023 scholarships:

Ella Yelich-O'Connor Antarctic Doctoral Scholarship

Ella Yelich-O'Connor (Lorde) spent just over a week at Scott Base in 2019; visiting scientists in the field, learning more about Antarctica's role in the global earth system and the impact climate change is having on the frozen continent. Following her trip, she has created a memoir and photo-book filled with photos and essays called 'Going South'. Proceeds from the sale of the book fund the Ella Yelich-O'Connor Antarctic Doctoral Scholarship. The scholarship supports research that advances understanding, and promotes protection of Antarctica and the Southern Ocean. In her own words, 'this harsh environment feels eternal, but is dangerously vulnerable'.

- For doctoral research
- Stipend of \$20,000 per annum over two years (total of \$40,000); and
- Logistics support for one season of fieldwork in Antarctica (subject to programme availability, fieldwork must be aligned with an existing Antarctic field event)

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 (subject to programme availability, fieldwork must be aligned with an existing Antarctic field event)

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 fieldwork 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 research costs, travel, fees and living expenses incurred during the scholarship period.

If Antarctic fieldwork is required for your 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 develop and pursue opportunities for public engagement about the fieldwork and research topic
- acknowledge Antarctica New Zealand and the sponsor of the scholarship appropriately
- 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 (Senior Science Programme Advisor), on (03) 358 1283 or e.robinson@antarcticanz.govt.nz by 24 March 2023 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 season¹; details of this discussion will not be used to assess the official scholarship application. **Please note that any fieldwork must be aligned with an existing field event.**

¹ The inherent challenges of Antarctic operations necessitate robust and early planning. Antarctica New Zealand requires detailed information around proposed activities in order to inform helicopter contracts, field food provisioning and various other operational considerations.

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: <http://www.antarcticanz.govt.nz/scott-base/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 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 (Senior Science Programme Advisor), on (03) 358 1283 or e.robinson@antarcticanz.govt.nz by **24 March 2023**. Failure to do so may render the application ineligible.

Applications need to include:

1. A completed application form (download from <http://www.antarcticanz.govt.nz/science/scholarships/>)
2. A research proposal (three pages maximum, including figures, but excluding references) 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: Aotearoa New Zealand Antarctic and Southern Ocean Research Directions and Priorities 2021-2030. A copy of this document can be downloaded [here](#)
3. If undertaking fieldwork, a letter of "agreement-in-principle" from the Event Manager of the field programme that the candidate intends to join (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 Annie Robertson, Science Communications Advisor (a.robertson@antarcticanz.govt.nz) The application deadline is **Monday 10 April 2023 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 Annie Robertson, by **Monday 10 April 2023 at 5pm**.

Applications will be assessed by a panel of reviewers, including experts external to Antarctica New Zealand, who will consider scientific merit, relevance to the science strategy, the academic standing of the candidate, and potential to achieve outcomes. A final decision will be made in June and all applicants will be notified shortly afterwards.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact Annie Robertson, on (03) 358 5845 or a.robertson@antarcticanz.govt.nz.

