

New Zealand National Fieldays Society Agribusiness Scholarship 2019

Regulations

Background

The New Zealand Agricultural Fieldays event is organised annually by the New Zealand National Fieldays Society Inc. This society has established the Fieldays Scholarship to assist two Year 12 and/or Year 13 students to undertake tertiary study at Massey University with a specific focus on the Agribusiness / Agriscience sector.

Massey University is a major sponsor of the New Zealand National Fieldays Society Inc. Massey University is recognised globally as a leading university in agribusiness and other key subjects related to food and agriculture.

1. Purpose

- 1.1. The purpose of the Fieldays Scholarship is to assist students with accommodation and study costs when undertaking an Agribusiness or other agriculture-related degree through Massey University.

2. Eligibility

- 2.1. Candidates for the Scholarship must be citizens or permanent residents of New Zealand.
- 2.2. Candidates must have completed Year 12 and/or Year 13 Agribusiness papers via a New Zealand secondary school.
 - 2.2.1. Candidates must have demonstrated a level of proficiency in their secondary school study.
 - 2.2.2. Applicants must be committed to undertake a minimum of 3 years of study through Massey University.
- 2.3. Past applicants may apply in subsequent years for the scholarship if they were not successful with their first attempt.

3. Value

- 3.1. The value of the Scholarship will be up to \$5,000 per applicant with a maximum of two applicants being supported per year (maximum of \$10,000 per annum).
- 3.2. The Scholarship will be paid to Massey University to administer through their scholarship programme.
- 3.3. It is expected that the Scholarship will be used for course-related expenses and/or accommodation.
- 3.4. The Scholarship is payable annually in May and September to a value of \$5,000 per year and will only be paid with the evidence that the recipient has maintained a 'B average' in all course work.

4. Application

- 4.1. Applications for the Scholarship must be received by the School of Agriculture and Environment at Massey University by 31 January.
- 4.2. As part of the online application process, each applicant must upload a (maximum two-page) personal statement that includes (but is not limited to) the following subheadings:
 - Evidence of having completed some Year 12 and/or Year 13 Agribusiness study at a secondary school in New Zealand.
 - Evidence of costs for study at Massey University and a statement seeking support with accommodation and/or course costs.
 - Future study and employment plans, with a focus on likely contribution to the Agribusiness sector of New Zealand.

4.3. Applicants must ask the following persons to provide:

- A reference letter from the head of the secondary school Agribusiness studies or the Principal/Headmaster (or both) recommending support.
- A work reference or letter of support from a business or person who has been the applicant's employer or supporter within the last three years.

5. Selection

5.1. Short-listed candidates may be invited to participate in an interview as part of the selection process. This interview would be via Skype or some other remote means.

5.2. The Scholarship selection will be made by a Selection Panel comprising:

- Up to two representatives of the New Zealand National Fieldays Society Inc
- The Chair of the University's Applied Academic Programmes Scholarships Committee, or nominee, who shall chair the Panel
- A nominee from the College of Science
- A senior academic involved in the Agribusiness, nominated by the Chair

5.3. The Selection Panel will pay attention to the applicant's desire to further their career in the NZ Agribusiness industry. Academic merit and leadership qualities will be other key considerations. The Selection Panel may also consider the applicant's future study and career aspirations.

5.4. The Selection Panel may refrain from making a recommendation or awarding a scholarship should the applications received not meet the necessary criteria.

5.5. All applicants will be advised by email of the outcome of their application.

5.6. The Selection Panel's decision will be final; no other correspondence will be entered into following the selection meeting.

6. Awarding

6.1. Successful applicants must advise the convenor of the selection committee of their acceptance by the date prescribed in the letter informing them of their success.

6.1.1. If a successful candidate declines a Scholarship, or does not take it up, the Selection Panel reserves the right to offer the Scholarship to another applicant.

6.2. The Applied Academic Programmes Scholarships Committee will monitor each recipient's progress and facilitate reporting to the funder. For example, recipients may be required to present at a Society Board meeting.

7. Conditions

7.1. The Scholarship may be held together with any other scholarship, bursary, or prize, or student allowance, unless the conditions of the other award preclude this.

7.2. The Applied Academic Programmes Scholarships Committee may terminate a scholarship at any time and recoup any funds disbursed if the holder withdraws from the University during the tenure of the Scholarship, brings the University into disrepute, or is otherwise not complying with the regulations governing the Scholarship.

7.3. The holder of a Scholarship shall have the right to appeal any decision to terminate the award.

7.4. By accepting a Scholarship, the recipient agrees to participate in events and publicity concerning the Scholarship as requested by the New Zealand National Fieldays Society Inc and/or Massey University.

7.5. A successful applicant for the Fieldays scholarship shall be placed on the NZ National Fieldays Society Inc database and will receive periodic news of events and general updates about the Society.

7.6. A successful applicant may also be offered internships (unpaid) from time to time with the Society.