



Anglican Diocese of Auckland

DIOCESAN SCHOLARSHIPS

FUNDING MANUAL

2026

1 INTRODUCTION

The Diocese of Auckland's Scholarship Fund was established in 2025 following changes to funding methods by the St John's College Trust Board (SJCTB).

1.1 The St John's College Trusts Act provides funds to be awarded for education that 'includes instruction in the principles of the Christian faith.' The preamble to the Act further defines education as teaching of the 'doctrines' of the Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia. In recent years a broader interpretation has been taken, but applicants must ensure that all applications clearly explain how the education programmes for which funding is being sought will meet the definition of education under the Act.

1.2 From 2025 the Diocese of Auckland is bulk funded a grant to award scholarships for theological education/ministry-related training in line with the St John's College Trusts Act.

1.3 The purpose of this Funding Manual is to assist in applying for funding from the Diocese of Auckland's Scholarship Fund, to:

- understand the process to apply for funding,
- the different funding categories,
- the funding criteria relating to each category, and
- each Applicants' obligations should their application be approved.

1.4 Scholarships are granted for theological education/ministry-related training for clergy and laity exercising ministry in the Diocese of Auckland

1.5 Scholarships are also granted for clergy undertaking sabbaticals in accordance with the Licensed Ministry Statute of the diocese.

1.6 This Manual will be updated regularly as funding criteria and other matters are reviewed. Therefore, users of this Manual should ensure they have the latest version which will be available on the diocesan website <https://aucklandanglican.org.nz/scholarships/>

2 DIOCESAN SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

2.1 Scholarship applications are received by the diocesan Scholarship Committee, who consider the applications and award scholarships on behalf of Diocesan Council (the recipient of SJCTB funds).

2.2 The diocesan Scholarship Committee is formed as follows
Bishop
Two external academic advisors
Diocesan Ministry Educator
Lay Ministry Developer
Diocesan Manager

3 WHO CAN APPLY

3.1 Scholarships for Clergy and Candidates in Training for Ordination

3.1.1 Applicants for funding from the Scholarship Fund can be made by:

- Clergy licensed to the Bishop of Auckland
- Persons having been discerned as Candidates in Training for Ordination in the Diocese of Auckland.

3.2 Clergy Sabbatical Leave

3.2.1 Licensed clergy of the diocese may apply for a scholarship for Sabbatical Leave that has been granted under the provision of the FINANCIAL REGULATIONS STATUTE 2000 (amended 2024) clause 34.

3.2.2 The maximum scholarship amount that will be funded for sabbatical leave is \$10 000

3.2.3 However, consideration of the costs being incurred, and education content will determine the actual funding awarded up to this maximum.

3.3 Scholarships for Laity/Lay Ministers

3.3.1 Laity applying for a scholarship must be recognised as lay members of a parish of the diocese, participating in either parish or diocesan lay ministry.

3.3.2 As part of its consideration of applications, the Scholarship Committee requires endorsement from the applicant's vicar (or equivalent) as to their participation/ministry in the life of the Church.

3.3.3 While employees of the Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia, are eligible to apply a scholarship, the education being undertaken must include education consistent with Sections 1.1. and 1.2

3.3.4 That the education received may be deployed in the applicant's employment, is not solely grounds for funding being approved.

3.4 Sabbatical Leave for Laity/Lay Ministers

3.4.1 Employees holding a Lay License may apply for Sabbatical Leave that has been granted under the provision of the FINANCIAL REGULATIONS STATUTE 2000 (amended 2024) clause 34.

3.4.2 Funding will not be awarded to laity who are proposing to accompany their ordained spouse as they complete approved sabbatical leave

4 APPLICATIONS (Clergy & Laity)

4.1 Multiple Year Applications

4.1.1 Applications may be submitted for periods of study up to five years.

- 4.1.2 Applications for multiple years must detail the total cost of the study being undertaken over the period of the proposed education.
- 4.1.3 All new applications for multi-year study (full or part-time) need a development submitted with their application detailing the relevance and rationale for the scholarship and its value for the applicant's contribution to the life of the diocese.
- 4.1.4 As a minimum the development plan should explain:
- How this course of study will develop the applicant
 - as a disciple
 - as a leader.
 - How this course of study will help the applicant reflect on the aspirations of the Diocese of Auckland (as part of three-tikanga Anglican Church in Aotearoa New Zealand and Polynesia).
- 4.1.5 The approval of an application that seeks funding for multiple years is not a guarantee of funding, and the Scholarship Committee reserves the right to withdraw funding at any time.
- 4.1.6 Multiple year applications will be subject to successful applicants submitting continuing funding applications each year
- 4.1.7 Continuing scholarship applicants will need to submit details of their education achievement results and a report, prepared by a course supervisor or educational institute, detailing the applicant's academic performance.
- 4.2 Requests for Variation or Deferral**
- 4.2.1 All requests for variation must be submitted in writing to the Scholarship Committee c/- diomanager.pa@aucklandanglican.org.nz
- 4.2.2 Requests for variation must outline the circumstances leading to the request for the variation of funding and the intended use of the funds should the variation be approved.
- 4.2.3 Approval may be sought and granted for scholarships to be deferred up to one year. Deferrals beyond one year will result in the Applicant being asked to submit a new scholarship application.
- 4.2.4 Applicants seeking a variation of funding will be advised in writing by the Scholarship Committee. In the event a request is not approved, the funding must be returned to the Diocesan Council.
- 4.2.5 A recipient that does not return unspent funds or applies such funds to other purposes without the consent of the Scholarship Committee, may forfeit their opportunity to apply or receive further funding for a period of time at the discretion of Scholarship Committee.

4.3 Return of Unspent Funding

- 4.3.1 All funding distributed by the Scholarship Committee is to be utilised in the year for which it has been granted.
- 4.3.2 All unspent funding is to be returned to the Diocesan Council.
- 4.3.3 Unspent funds relating to individual education programmes may not be transferred to another education programme without a request for variation being approved by the Scholarship Committee.
- 4.3.4 All unspent funds must be returned to the diocese by contacting diomanager.pa@aucklandanglican.org.nz.
- 4.3.5 If no request for variation is sought, all unspent funds must be returned to the Trust.
- 4.3.6 A recipient that does not return unspent funds, or applies such funds to other purposes without the consent of the Scholarship Committee, may forfeit their opportunity to apply or receive further funding for a period of time at the discretion of Scholarship Committee.

4.4 Number of applications able to be submitted

- 4.4.1 Applicants are only able to submit one application for one course of study in each application period (being May-July each year).
- 4.4.2 Applicants are not able to submit applications for courses that overlap. For example, an application cannot be submitted when a prior course of study which that the Applicant has received funding for has not finished.
- 4.4.3 Similarly, applications for 'follow on' courses or study cannot be submitted as one application, especially when the follow-on study is dependent on the outcome of the first course. For example, an application for an Undergraduate course (Degree) and a follow-on Post Graduate course (PG Diploma/Masters/PhD) cannot be submitted as a single application.
- 4.4.4 Such study objectives would need to be submitted as two separate applications, the follow-on application only being submitted as a new application on the successful outcome of the first course, and with the necessary ongoing approval of the Scholarship Committee.

4.5 Stand-down periods

- 4.5.1 Applications may not be accepted from persons who have received a residential scholarship to attend St John's College for a period of three years after having attended the College, without a waiver being granted by the Bishop (via the Scholarship Committee).
- 4.5.2 Applications from persons receiving multiple year scholarships or a scholarship exceeding \$5,000 in value may not be accepted for a period of three years

following the completion of the previous scholarship, without a waiver being granted by the Bishop (via the Scholarship Committee).

- 4.5.3 The request for a waiver should clearly indicate the reasons it is being sought and the value that the Diocese will gain from the granting of a waiver. The applicant's past academic performance while on a scholarship may be considered in the review of the application for a waiver.

4.6 Submission and Review of Applications

- 4.6.1 Applications for funding from the diocesan Scholarship Fund can be submitted via the online process available via the diocesan website

<https://aucklandanglican.org.nz/scholarships/> Applications open 1st May and close 31st July each year.

- 4.6.2 Late applications will not be considered.

- 4.6.3 Applications will be considered by the diocesan Scholarship Committee. As part of this review the committee may submit queries to the Applicant and/or seek feedback from the Bishop, Ministry Educator or other persons in determining the strength of the application.

- 4.6.4 Applicants will be advised in writing of the Scholarship Committee's decision by the end of August.

- 4.6.5 Any variation to this time frame will be advised in writing.

4.7 Costs that Can be Covered

- 4.7.1 In regards to the scholarship funds, the Scholarship Committee will consider covering the costs the applicant will incur in order to complete a course of study.

As examples the following costs may be met by the scholarship:

- Course enrolment and attendance costs
- Reasonable travel and accommodation costs relating to attendance at courses
- Course material costs
- Reasonable living costs while attending courses of study, if away from your normal place of residence.

- 4.8 PhD and other Research requires a significant contribution from the Scholarship Fund (sometimes over long periods of time) that may not be funded. The Scholarship Committee reserves the right to consider PhD scholarships in light of the impact on other scholarship commitments and opportunities.

4.9 Costs that Will Not be Funded

- 4.9.1 The scholarship will not fund:

- Travel and accommodation costs not directly related to course attendance
- Travel and accommodation costs of family/whānau
- Relocation costs
- Vehicle rental costs

4.9.2 The scholarship will not cover costs not considered to be related to the completion of a course of study, costs which are believed to convey a personal benefit beyond the education being received, or costs that would normally be incurred by the Applicant.

4.9.3 The actual costs the diocesan scholarship will meet will depend on the individual circumstances of each application. It is possible that the Scholarship Committee may not approve the full value of the costs being sought by the applicant.

4.10 Approved and Declined Applications

4.10.1 All recipients of scholarship funding for a period greater than one year are required to submit a brief annual report detailing the outcome of their studies, including the academic performance achieved. This report will be a prerequisite for the continued funding of the scholarship.

4.10.2 The Scholarship Committee may also undertake a review of the outcome of the education being achieved during the period of the scholarship to assess the outcomes being achieved. This review may be undertaken by third parties (refer to section 18 of this Manual).

4.11 Inaccurate Applications or Reporting

4.11.1 Inaccurate or misleading information being provided from an applicant in applying for a scholarship will result in the applicant being prohibited from applying for funding for a period to be determined by the Scholarship Committee.

4.11.2 Inaccurate or misleading information being provided from an applicant in reporting on the outcome achieved from a scholarship or the utilisation of funding received will result in cancellation of the scholarship, the requirement for the return of any funding received and the prohibition of the applicant being able to apply for funding for a period to be determined by the Scholarship Committee.