

ERNEST WILLIAM FILE SCHOLARSHIP

The Ernest William File Scholarship was established in 1978 by members of the New Zealand Locomotive Engineers' Association as a tribute to Ernest William File, the retiring General Secretary of the Association at the time.

The scholarship was adopted and expanded by the Rail and Maritime Transport Union and extended to all members.

Purpose

The purpose of the scholarship is to support the sons and daughters of members of the Rail and Maritime Transport Union (RMTU) in their first year of degree study at a New Zealand university.

Eligibility

To be eligible to apply for this scholarship an applicant must be:

- the son or daughter of a financial member of the RMTU.¹
- enrolled or planning to enrol in their first year of full time study for an undergraduate degree at a New Zealand university.

The financial member of the RMTU may be, or may have been, the guardian of the applicant.

Applications will not be accepted from anyone who already has a qualification from a tertiary institution in New Zealand or overseas.

Number and value

Two scholarships may be awarded each year.

Each scholarship carries an award of \$2,000.

Tenure is for one year, the year in which the award is made.

One award is available for a son or daughter of a locomotive running staff member. The second award is available for a son or daughter of a non-locomotive running staff member.

¹ This aspect of eligibility will be confirmed by the RMTU.

Application

Candidates must complete an application using the Universities New Zealand online application system <https://universitiesnz.communityforce.com/Login.aspx>

The closing date is 1 April.

The application will request and applicants must:

- nominate two character referees and request them to testify confidentially to the selection committee; examples of suitable persons include teachers, community leaders, and employers or supervisors from paid or voluntary work
- provide proof of academic achievement and/or work experience:
 - applicants who are in Year 13 or recent school leavers should provide their National Student Number (NSN) and/or official results for Cambridge or IB exams (if applicable)
 - mature applicants should provide a CV, and have the option to attach their NZQA Record of Achievement.
- provide a statement explaining why they have chosen to study their particular programme, their aims from their degree, their need for the scholarship, and future plans
- provide any other evidence that they judge relevant to the application.

Examination results:

- Students with NCEA examination and/or NZ Scholarship results must attach a copy of their NZQA Record of Achievement to their application.
- IB and Cambridge candidates must attach a copy of their results to the application.

Conditions

The scholarships can be awarded to applicants studying in any field at any New Zealand university.

The scholarship may be held concurrently with any other bursary, award or scholarship, provided that the rules of the other award(s) allow this.

There is no age restriction.

There are no interviews for the scholarship.

Selection and assessment criteria

The selection committee will assess the overall quality of applications and focus on:

- academic achievement and/or a CV.
- relevance of study plans to career and future aspirations.
- references.

The scholarships will be awarded without restriction of gender, ethnic or religious background, or nationality.

Selection Committee

The Selection Committee will be appointed by Universities New Zealand. The Committee has the power to co-opt additional members if necessary.

Nomination and selection

No award shall be made in a year in which no applicant is found to be eligible and worthy.

The RMTU reserves the right to award a larger sum than the value stipulated, as and when it determines.

The Committee's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into following the selection meeting.

Finance and administration

The scholarships will be administered by Universities New Zealand which will be responsible for publicising the availability of the scholarships on the UNZ website, receiving applications, assisting the Committee in the selection process, advising candidates of the results, and arranging for payments.

The award will be paid directly to the scholar as a single payment upon Universities NZ receiving confirmation of the scholar's enrolment at university.

Power to vary

The RMTU, or the Selection Committee with the approval of the RMTU, may from time to time vary these regulations provided that such changes are consistent with the general purposes of the scholarship.