Quantum Technologies Aotearoa

CRITERIA FOR PhD SCHOLARSHIP

Applicants for PhD Scholarships are assessed on the following:

- Excellence of the candidate: academically capable of conducting research with prior experience of academic research to support their application.
- The student must be supervised by a QTA investigator, and the PhD study must be at a New Zealand University
- Feasibility of the project and alignment of student capability with project goals.
- The potential for the project to have impact on the development and use of quantum technologies.
- Synergies and potential synergies with the rest of the QTA research efforts.
- The strength of the international collaboration and if the international collaboration is with one of our six target countries (US, UK, Germany, Singapore, Japan and the Republic of Korea)

Quantum technologies have at their heart inherently quantum mechanical effects such as entanglement, superposition and the properties of atoms or atom-like systems. However, the scope of the QTA research program and these PhD projects is slightly broader. Included in scope are enabling technologies closely targeted at the further development of quantum technologies, as well as the application of "spin-out" technologies, developed as part of quantum technology research but which turn out to be useful more broadly.

Applications should state whether the studentship is related to any Main Tranche Funding Applications, noting whether the studentship could go ahead if the MTF application is unsuccessful.

Students applying for QTA scholarships are expected to also apply or have already applied for the University scholarships of their host institutions. If the applicant hasn't applied for a University Doctoral Scholarship at the time they apply for a QTA scholarship, a clear reason why should be given in the application.

If the student is awarded a University Doctoral Scholarship, this should be accepted over the QTA PhD Scholarship, but QTA support (for example for the travel to international collaborators) will still be available.

A goal of the QTA program is growing Māori and Pasifika engagement with quantum technologies. Applications should highlight any direct contribution to this.

Scoring criteria:

- 50% Academic excellence of the candidate and demonstrated research capability.
- 10% Quality of the project.
- 10% Feasibility of the project and alignment of student capability with project goals.
- 30% International collaboration.

2025 Rounds: 12 February, 14 May, 6 August, 12 November (If Scholarships are still available)