

# Horizons Regional Council

## Sustainable Land Use Initiative (SLUI)

### Scholarship Guidelines

This document contains guidelines for Horizons Regional Council's three SLUI scholarships:

- 1 SLUI Scholarship,
- 2 SLUI Advanced Scholarship,
- 3 SLUI Research Scholarship.

Students may be awarded one of the three in any one year.

## 1 Sustainable Land Use Scholarship

Where there are sufficient suitable applications, Horizons Regional Council will provide up to five Horizons Regional Council Sustainable Land Use Scholarships up to a maximum value of \$2,000 each, for the duration of one year.

Recipients of the scholarship may be offered paid holiday employment at Horizons Regional Council following the successful completion of their study. Such employment would be based in Palmerston North and would run from November to February of the year the scholarship is awarded.

All scholarship applicants must read these guidelines in their entirety before applying for the scholarship. By signing and submitting these guidelines along with their scholarship application, applicants are confirming that they have read and understood these guidelines.

### 1.1 Purpose of Scholarship:

Horizons Regional Council provides the scholarships to encourage students who are interested in a career in an environmental field, to undertake study in soil science and farm management as part of their undergraduate degree. Applicants are expected to have a solid interest in environmental management, soil, and land use mapping. The scholarships are considered to be a good entry point for year three and postgraduate Horizons Regional Council Sustainable Land Use Advanced Scholarships.

### 1.2 Tertiary Provider:

Scholarships are available to students studying full-time at Massey University Palmerston North.

### 1.3 Criteria (Required Papers):

Students applying for scholarship must meet all of the following criteria:

- Enrolled full-time at Massey University Palmerston North, and
- Must be enrolled in, or have successfully completed:
  - For year one students:  
189.151 Principles of Soil Science.
  - For year two students:  
189.151 Soil Properties and Processes, and, two or more of the following:  
189.251 Soil Fertility and Fertilisers, **or**  
119.258 Agricultural Systems

Applicants should note that the requirements for third year scholarship require that they are studying or have successfully completed the above 200-level papers.

#### **1.4 Application:**

Scholarship applicants are required to submit an application containing:

- Scholarship application form.
- Verified copies of their high school academic records, and, where available, verified academic transcripts of tertiary study completed to date.
- A brief CV outlining relevant work experience, qualifications, and interests.
- A minimum of two referees who can be contacted by Horizons Regional Council to provide information on the students' likelihood of academic and work based success in this area.
- A short (up to 300-words) statement about why they deserve to receive the scholarship and what interests them about soils and land use.
- Signed scholarship guidelines.

Completed applications should be marked 'confidential' and sent to:

SLUI  
Horizons Regional Council  
Private Bag 11025  
Manawatu Mail Centre  
Palmerston North 4442

#### **1.5 Selection of Scholarship Recipients:**

Scholarship recipients will be selected by a panel of Horizons Regional Council representatives, including but not limited to staff from Environmental Management and Research Teams.

Scholarship applicants whose applications are short-listed may be interviewed by the selection panel.

#### **1.6 Timing:**

Applications for the 2023 scholarships will open on 1 January 2023, and will close on 13 April 2023.

#### **1.7 Payment of Scholarship:**

Scholarship payment will be made to successful applicants in two equal instalments by direct debit to students nominated bank accounts. 50% of the scholarship value will be paid to scholarship recipients by 31 May in the year they receive the scholarship, and the final 50% paid to scholarship recipients by 30 September in the year they receive the scholarship, providing that the student has provided Horizons with evidence of successful completion of their first semester 'required papers' (as defined above).

### **1.8 Value and Tenure of Scholarship:**

The value of each scholarship is a maximum of \$2,000. Each scholarship is available for one year only

### **1.9 Scholarship Regulations:**

- a. The scholarship shall be known as the Horizons Regional Council Sustainable Land Use Initiative (SLUI) Scholarship.
- b. Scholarship is available to year one and two students meeting the criteria listed above, or students continuing to study but who do not meet the criteria for SLUI Advanced
- c. The scholarship will be administered by Horizons Regional Council in conjunction with Massey University Palmerston North.
- d. There will be up to five recipients of the scholarship each year. Where there are not enough suitable applicants, Horizons Regional Council reserves the right to award more or less than five scholarships, or to not award any scholarship.
- e. Horizons Regional Council reserves the right to change the value of each scholarship awarded, prior to awarding the scholarship. The value of a scholarship will not be changed once the scholarship is awarded.
- f. Receipt of scholarship in students' first or second year of study, in no way guarantees receipt of scholarship in subsequent years of study. Similarly, receipt of the year one and two scholarship, does not guarantee receipt of the year three and postgraduate scholarships (SLUI Advanced).
- g. Holiday employment at Horizons Regional Council is conditional on scholarship recipients meeting other Horizons Regional Council employment criteria including meeting the requirements within the pre-employment health declaration, and declaration of criminal convictions, charges pending, and serious traffic offences.
- h. Scholarship recipients will agree to media and publicity responsibilities as required.
- i. Scholarships will only be awarded to NZ citizens or NZ permanent residents.
- j. Only candidates undertaking full-time study in the year the scholarship is awarded are eligible for scholarship.
- k. Each scholarship is available for one year's study only. Candidates may reapply for scholarship in subsequent years, however successful award is not guaranteed.
- l. Scholarship recipients, who, without good reason, withdraw from full-time study or fail to successfully complete required papers, may be required to reimburse all or part of the scholarships value to Horizons Regional Council. This clause is subject to appeal to Horizons Regional Council.
- m. Successful completion of papers refers to a passing grade (C) or better. Restricted passes, which prevent the student from enrolling in subsequent papers required by the scholarship, will not constitute successful completion.
- n. Applicants are required to sign and submit these guidelines with their scholarship application. Scholarship applications that do not contain all the requirements listed in clause four of these guidelines will not be accepted.
- o. Horizons Regional Council reserves the right to make changes to these guidelines.
- p. These guidelines are written and effective as of January 2023.

### 1.10 Privacy of Personal Applicant Information:

Personal information on scholarship applicants is collected under the Privacy Act 1993, and remains property of Horizons Regional Council. Such information will be used to assess the candidates' suitability for scholarship, and for purposes listed in the above scholarship guidelines.

Information on successful and unsuccessful scholarship applicants will be held and stored in a confidential, secure manner, in line with the requirements of the Privacy Act 1993.

Personal information of scholarship recipients may be disclosed to external parties for the purposes of media statements, Horizons Regional Council publicity, and scholarship promotion.

Under the Privacy Act 1993, candidates are entitled to request to access, copy, and/or request changes to personal information.

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### Applicant Declaration

Applicants for the Horizons Regional Council Sustainable Land Use Scholarship (years one and two) are required to sign these guidelines below and submit with their scholarship application. Applicants are advised to retain a copy of the guidelines for their own records.

I \_\_\_\_\_(full name), confirm that I have read the above guidelines for the Horizons Regional Council Sustainable Land Use Scholarship in their entirety, and that I fully understand and accept them and their implications.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## 2 Sustainable Land Use – Advanced (SLU Advanced)

### Scholarships for year three, honours, and postgraduate/Masters students

Where there are sufficient suitable applications, Horizons Regional Council will provide up to two Horizons Regional Council Sustainable Land Use Scholarships up to a maximum value of \$5,000 each, for the duration of one year, to third year and postgraduate/honours/masters students.

For scholarship recipients successfully completing year three and intending to progress to further study in the following academic year paid holiday employment at Horizons Regional Council may be offered. Such employment would be based in Palmerston North and would run from November to February of the year the scholarship is awarded. Scholarship recipients successfully completing their third and/or final year of study may be offered permanent employment at Horizons Regional Council.

All scholarship applicants must read these guidelines in their entirety before applying for the scholarship. By signing and submitting these guidelines along with their scholarship application, applicants are confirming that they have read and understood these guidelines.

#### 2.1 Purpose of Scholarship:

Horizons Regional Council provides the scholarships to encourage students to specialise their 300-level and postgraduate study in the field of soil science, land use mapping, and land management. Scholarships are also aimed at encouraging extended specialised study at honours level or higher.

#### 2.2 Tertiary Provider:

Scholarships are available to students studying full-time at Massey University Palmerston North.

#### 2.3 Criteria (Required Papers):

Students applying for scholarship must meet all of the following criteria:

- Enrolled full-time at Massey University Palmerston North, **and**
- Must be have successfully completed:  
189.151 Principles of Soil Science, **and**
- Must be enrolled in, or have successfully completed:  
189.251 Soil Fertility and Fertilisers, **and**  
119.258 Agricultural Systems, **and**
- Must be enrolled in:  
189.362 Integrated Farm and Environmental Management, **and**  
119.381 Decision-making in Primary Industry, **or**
- Have successfully completed the above papers and be planning a related honours project or course of postgraduate study (including Masters Degree).

'Successful completion' denotes a passing grade for 100 level papers (excluding restricted passes), and a minimum grade average of B for required 200 and 300 level course papers (as specified above).

## **2.4 Application:**

Scholarship applicants are required to submit an application containing:

- Scholarship application form.
- Verified academic transcripts of tertiary study completed to date.
- A CV outlining relevant work experience, qualifications, and interests.
- A minimum of two referees who can be contacted by Horizons Regional Council to provide information on the students' likelihood of academic and work based success in this area.
- A copy of a relevant project undertaken during the student's course of study to date.
- Signed scholarship guidelines.

Completed applications should be marked 'confidential' and sent to:

SLUI  
Horizons Regional Council  
Private Bag 11025  
Manawatu Mail Centre  
Palmerston North 4442

## **2.5 Selection of Scholarship Recipients:**

Scholarship recipients will be selected by a panel of Horizons Regional Council representatives, including but not limited to staff from Environmental Management and Research Teams. Horizons Regional Council may also invite other parties to participate in the selection panel including representatives from Massey University, and/or Crown Research Institutes

Scholarship applicants whose applications are short-listed will, at minimum, be interviewed by the selection panel, and required to give a presentation on an environmental topic specified by the panel.

## **2.6 Timing:**

Applications for the 2023 scholarships will open on 1 January 2023 and will close on 13 April 2023.

## **2.7 Payment of Scholarship:**

Scholarship payment will be made to successful applicants in two equal instalments by direct debit to students nominated bank accounts. Payments will be made to scholarship recipients by 31 May and September respectively in the year they receive the scholarship. September payment will be made on the proviso that the student has provided Horizons with evidence of successful completion of their first semester 'required papers' (as defined above). Scholarship recipients undertaking two-year Masters Degree programmes of study may, by negotiation be able to split the scholarship payments over a two-year period.

## **2.8 Value and Tenure of Scholarship:**

The value of each scholarship is a maximum of \$5,000. Each scholarship is available for one year only, apart from for Masters students who negotiate a longer scholarship tenure.

## **2.9 Scholarship Regulations:**

- a. The scholarship shall be known as the Horizons Regional Council Sustainable Land Use Advanced (SLU Advanced) Scholarship.
- b. Scholarship is available to year three, honours, and postgraduate students meeting the criteria listed above.
- c. The scholarship will be administered by Horizons Regional Council in conjunction with Massey University Palmerston North.
- d. There will be up to two recipients of the scholarship each year. Where there are not enough suitable applicants, Horizons Regional Council reserves the right to award less than two scholarships, or to not award any scholarship.
- e. Horizons Regional Council reserves the right to change the value of each scholarship awarded, prior to awarding the scholarship. The value of a scholarship will not be changed once the scholarship is awarded.
- f. Prior receipt of a Horizons Regional Council Sustainable Land Use Scholarship in year one or two of study, does not guarantee receipt of the year three or postgraduate scholarship.
- g. Scholarship applicants are expected to have a solid interest in environmental management, soil, and land use planning, and must have the express intention of developing a career in this area.
- h. Scholarship recipients are expected to achieve a high academic standard, with a minimum grade average of B in the required papers.
- i. Scholarship recipients who have successfully completed their third and/or final year of study may be offered permanent employment with Horizons Regional Council on the basis that Horizons Regional Council would have first right of refusal.
- j. Subject to positions and locations available, such employment would be in a position related to the recipients' course of study, and would be on terms and conditions as negotiated between the scholarship recipient and Horizons Regional Council, and consistent with other graduate positions within Horizons Regional Council. It is envisioned that such employment would be to an Environmental Management Position, and on a technical pay scale.
- k. If employment offered by Horizons Regional Council on reasonable terms and conditions was not accepted by the scholarship recipient, the scholarship recipient may be required to repay all or part of the scholarships value. This clause is subject to appeal to Horizons Regional Council.
- l. Where employment is offered and accepted, scholarship recipients will be bonded as employees of Horizons Regional Council for a period of one year. Scholarship recipients whose employment is terminated by either party within this year (other than for reasons of redundancy) would be liable for part repayment of the scholarships value, based on part of year remaining.
- m. Receipt of scholarship does not guarantee employment with Horizons Regional Council.
- n. Where suitable employment cannot be offered, no repayment of the scholarship will be required.

- o. Any employment at Horizons Regional Council (temporary or permanent) is conditional on scholarship recipients meeting other Horizons Regional Council employment criteria including meeting the requirements within the pre-employment health declaration, and declaration of criminal convictions, charges pending, and serious traffic offences.
- p. Scholarship recipients completing an honours course under scholarship would be required to complete one Land Use Plan under Horizons Regional Council's Sustainable Land Use Initiative (SLUI), as well as a research project related to environmental issues.
- q. Students undertaking an honours or Masters course would be expected to meet credit requirements pertaining to soil, land use mapping, GIS, and farm management.
- r. Upon completion of the honours or Masters requirement, scholarship recipients may be offered employment on the terms outlined in i. to o. inclusive above.
- s. Scholarship recipients will agree to media and publicity responsibilities as required.
- t. Scholarships will only be awarded to NZ citizens or NZ permanent residents studying full time at Massey University Palmerston North.
- u. Only candidates undertaking full-time study in the year the scholarship is awarded are eligible for scholarship.
- v. Each scholarship is available for one year's study only. Candidates may reapply for scholarship in subsequent years, however successful award is not guaranteed.
- w. Scholarship recipients who, without good reason, withdraw from full-time study, or, fail to successfully complete required papers, and / or fail to maintain a B grade average in required papers, may be required to reimburse all or part of the scholarships value to Horizons Regional Council. This clause is subject to appeal to Horizons Regional Council.
- x. Applicants are required to sign and submit these guidelines with their scholarship application. Scholarship applications that do not contain all the requirements listed in clause four of these guidelines will not be accepted.
- y. Horizons Regional Council reserves the right to make changes to these guidelines.
- z. These guidelines are written and effective as of January 2023.

## **2.10 Privacy of Personal Applicant Information:**

Personal information on scholarship applicants is collected under the Privacy Act 1993, and remains property of Horizons Regional Council. Such information will be used to assess the candidates' suitability for scholarship, and for purposes listed in the above scholarship guidelines.

Information on successful and unsuccessful scholarship applicants will be held and stored in a confidential, secure manner, in line with the requirements of the Privacy Act 1993.

Personal information of scholarship recipients may be disclosed to external parties for the purposes of media statements, Horizons Regional Council publicity, and scholarship promotion.

Under the Privacy Act 1993, candidates are entitled to request to access, copy, and/or request changes to personal information.



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## **Applicant Declaration**

Applicants for the Horizons Regional Council Sustainable Land Use Advanced Scholarship (years three, honours, and postgraduate) are required to sign these guidelines below and submit with their scholarship application. Applicants are advised to retain a copy of the guidelines for their own records.

I \_\_\_\_\_(full name), confirm that I have read the above guidelines for the Horizons Regional Council Sustainable Land Use Advanced Scholarship in their entirety, and that I fully understand and accept them and their implications.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## 3 Sustainable Land Use Research

### Scholarships for honours, postgraduate, or masters students

Where there are sufficient suitable applications, Horizons Regional Council will provide up to two Horizons Regional Council Sustainable Land Use Scholarships. The standard value is \$5,400 plus lab/vehicle costs per student, for the duration of one year, to postgraduate, honours or masters students.

For scholarship recipients paid holiday employment at Horizons Regional Council may be offered. Such employment would be based in Palmerston North and would run from November to February of the year the scholarship is awarded. Scholarship recipients successfully completing their third and/or final year of study may be offered permanent employment at Horizons Regional Council.

All scholarship applicants must read these guidelines in their entirety before applying for the scholarship. By signing and submitting these guidelines along with their scholarship application, applicants are confirming that they have read and understood these guidelines.

#### 3.1 Purpose of Scholarship:

Horizons Regional Council provides the scholarships to students to answer questions of relevance to Horizons Regional Council's Sustainable Land Use Initiative. A list of suggested projects is available as an Annex.

#### 3.2 Tertiary Provider:

Scholarships are available to students studying full-time at Massey University Palmerston North.

#### 3.3 Criteria (Required Papers):

Students applying for scholarship must submit a study proposal, addressing the above purpose, for approval by Horizons.

Students must be studying or have completed all required papers to complete the proposed project to the satisfaction of their supervisor.

#### 3.4 Application:

Scholarship applicants are required to submit an application containing:

- Scholarship application form.
- Their research proposal including;
  - research question,
  - summary of information gaps to be addressed by, or benefits of, the research
  - methods to be employed
- Verified academic transcripts of tertiary study completed to date.
- A CV outlining relevant work experience, qualifications, and interests.

- A minimum of two referees who can be contacted by Horizons Regional Council to provide information on the students' likelihood of academic and work based success in this area.
- A copy of a relevant project undertaken during the student's course of study to date.
- Signed scholarship guidelines.

Completed applications should be marked 'confidential' and sent to:

SLUI  
 Horizons Regional Council  
 Private Bag 11025  
 Manawatu Mail Centre  
 Palmerston North 4442

### **3.5 Selection of Scholarship Recipients:**

Scholarship recipients will be selected by a panel of Horizons Regional Council representatives, including but not limited to staff from Environmental Management and Research Teams. Horizons Regional Council may also invite other parties to participate in the selection panel including representatives from Massey University, and/or Crown Research Institutes.

Scholarship applicants whose applications are short-listed will, at minimum, be interviewed by the selection panel, and required to give a presentation on an environmental topic specified by the panel.

### **3.6 Timing:**

Applications for the 2023 scholarships will open on 1 September 2022 and will close on 13 April 2023.

### **3.7 Payment of Scholarship:**

Scholarship payment will be made to Massey University to be disbursed by their current research assistance systems.

### **3.8 Value and Tenure of Scholarship:**

The value of each scholarship is a maximum of \$5,400. Each scholarship is available for one year only, apart from for Masters students who negotiate a longer scholarship tenure. Scholarship recipients undertaking multi-year Masters Degree programmes of study may apply for additional SLU Research scholarships for subsequent years of study in order to complete later stages of the project.

### **3.9 Scholarship Regulations:**

- a. The scholarship shall be known as the Horizons Regional Council Sustainable Land Use Research (SLU Research) Scholarship.

- b. Scholarship is available to honours, postgraduate and masters students meeting the criteria listed above.
- c. The scholarship will be administered by Horizons Regional Council in conjunction with Massey University Palmerston North.
- d. There will be up to two recipients of the scholarship each year. Where there are not enough suitable applicants, Horizons Regional Council reserves the right to award less than two scholarships, or to not award any scholarship.
- e. Horizons Regional Council reserves the right to change the value of each scholarship awarded, prior to awarding the scholarship. The value of a scholarship will not be changed once the scholarship is awarded.
- f. Prior receipt of a Horizons Regional Council Sustainable Land Use Scholarship in any one year of study, does not guarantee receipt of the scholarship the following year, however for a project covering 2 or more years, approval for the following year would be expected unless the student is demonstrably not achieving satisfactory progress.
- g. Scholarship recipients are expected to achieve a high academic standard, with a minimum grade average of B in the required papers.
- h. Scholarship recipients will agree to media and publicity responsibilities as required.
- i. Scholarships will only be awarded to NZ citizens or NZ permanent residents studying full time at Massey University Palmerston North.
- j. Only candidates undertaking full-time study in the year the scholarship is awarded are eligible for scholarship.
- k. Each scholarship is available for one year's study only. Candidates may reapply for scholarship in subsequent years, however successful award is not guaranteed.
- l. Scholarship recipients who, without good reason, withdraw from full-time study, or, fail to successfully complete required papers, and / or fail to maintain a B grade average in required papers, may be required to reimburse all or part of the scholarships value to Horizons Regional Council. This clause is subject to appeal to Horizons Regional Council.
- m. Applicants are required to sign and submit these guidelines with their scholarship application. Scholarship applications that do not contain all the requirements listed in clause four of these guidelines will not be accepted.
- n. Horizons Regional Council reserves the right to make changes to these guidelines.
- o. These guidelines are written and effective as of January 2023.

### **3.10 Privacy of Personal Applicant Information:**

Personal information on scholarship applicants is collected under the Privacy Act 1993, and remains property of Horizons Regional Council. Such information will be used to assess the candidates' suitability for scholarship, and for purposes listed in the above scholarship guidelines.

Information on successful and unsuccessful scholarship applicants will be held and stored in a confidential, secure manner, in line with the requirements of the Privacy Act 1993.

Personal information of scholarship recipients may be disclosed to external parties for the purposes of media statements, Horizons Regional Council publicity, and scholarship promotion.

Under the Privacy Act 1993, candidates are entitled to request to access, copy, and/or request changes to personal information.

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## **Applicant Declaration**

Applicants for the Horizons Regional Council Sustainable Land Use Research Scholarship are required to sign these guidelines below and submit with their scholarship application. Applicants are advised to retain a copy of the guidelines for their own records.

I \_\_\_\_\_(full name), confirm that I have read the above guidelines for the Horizons Regional Council Sustainable Land Use Research Scholarship in their entirety, and that I fully understand and accept them and their implications.

Signed:\_\_\_\_\_ Date:\_\_\_\_\_

## Annex 1:

**Horizons Regional Council**  
– Sustainable Land Use Scholarships

### **Sustainable Land Use – Research Project (SLU Research)**

#### **Suggestions for research topics - 2023**

These are examples of possible projects of interest to the Horizons hill country Sustainable Land Use Initiative programme. The list is not exhaustive. Any proposals of interest to hill country environmental or catchment management will be considered. Funding of all projects by Horizons is subject to approval by Horizons.

- Reviewing catchment water quality data and land management to recommend sustainable land use practises.
  
- Testing the downstream effects of SLUI works on farm.
  
- Removing nitrogen from on-farm waterways or wetlands; e.g. denitrification or removal by harvesting. Quantification of these processes on farm or helping to derive best management practices.
  
- Crop, feed crop or grazing management to minimise sediment and bacteria loss to waterways. Quantification of these processes on farm or helping to derive best management practices.
  
- Making SLUI farm plan information more useful to farmers:
  - Deriving computer applications to help identify nutrient or sediment hot spots/no-spread zones to fertiliser spreaders.
  - Summarising LUC units to management units.
  
- Reviewing the effects of farm plans on management and environmental and farm resources after 5 to 10 years.
  
- Cost benefit analysis of afforestation or retirement options.