



## Education Report: Queen Elizabeth II Technicians' Study Awards

<b>To:</b>	Hon Chris Hipkins, Minister of Education		
<b>Date:</b>	09 December 2020	<b>Priority:</b>	High
<b>Security Level:</b>	In Confidence	<b>METIS No:</b>	1245134
<b>Drafter:</b>	9(2)(a)	<b>DDI:</b>	9(2)(a)
<b>Key Contact:</b>		<b>DDI:</b>	
<b>Messaging seen by Communications team:</b>	No	<b>Round Robin:</b>	No

### Purpose of Report

The purpose of this paper is for you to:

**Note** the selection process for this year's awards was delayed until October 2020 due to the impact of COVID-19.

**Note** that because of the uncertainty of travel, only 11 applications were received. Of these, five applicants did not meet the criteria for the award.

**Note** a second round of applications will be held, closing 1 March 2021.

**Agree** the decision of the selection committee to grant awards to six candidates for 2020/2021 round one and sign off the letters of introduction for each candidate.

### Summary

This report provides background information on the Queen Elizabeth II Technicians' Study Awards and recommends that you agree to the decision to grant the award to six successful candidates for the 2020/2021 round.

It is proposed that you provide each successful candidate with a signed letter of introduction that will assist the process of networking and building relationships in their area of study.

Letters of introduction are attached for each successful candidate and will be included with the formal letters confirming the award.

## Recommended Actions

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The Ministry of Education recommends you:

- a. **note** that the annual selection of the Queen Elizabeth II Technicians' Study Awards has been split into two rounds due to the low number of applications this year from the impact of COVID-19.

**Noted**

- b. **agree** with the decision of the selection committee to award six successful candidates for 2020/2021 round one.

**Agree** **Disagree**


- c. **sign** the letters of introduction for each successful candidate to be returned to the Ministry of Education.

- d. **note** that, upon approval of the recommendations, the successful candidates will be sent a formal confirmation of the award, accompanied by the letter of introduction.

**Noted**

  
Deborah Kent  
**Associate Deputy Secretary**  
**Early Learning and Student Achievement**

09/12/2020

  
Hon Chris Hipkins  
**Minister of Education**

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## Background

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1. The Queen Elizabeth II Technicians' Study Awards were established following the visit of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II to New Zealand in 1970. The objective of the award is to assist technicians to pursue full-time study in a Commonwealth country, from which the people of New Zealand will benefit. For the purposes of these awards, technicians are defined as trained people, qualified and recognised as technicians in their discipline, and who have worked in their field for at least three years.
2. The Queen Elizabeth II Technicians' Study Award Act 1970 provides for grants to be awarded annually within the total funds voted by Parliament for the purposes of the award under the delegation of the Minister of Education. The appropriation is \$100,000 per annum from allocated funding sitting within Vote Education.
3. The selection committee, as specified in the 1991 amendment to the Queen Elizabeth II Technicians' Study Award Act, comprises of a representative from each of the following:
  - Vice Chancellors' Committee 9(2)(a)
  - New Zealand Qualifications Authority 9(2)(a)
  - Ministry of Primary Industries 9(2)(a)
  - New Zealand Institutes of Technology and Polytechnics 9(2)(a)

The selection committee recommended that grants be paid to six successful candidates totalling \$23,000 (within the \$100,000 appropriation).

4. All of the successful candidates met the award criteria.

### Successful Candidates

5. Successful candidates will be required to submit a short report (maximum of two pages of typescript) to the Secretary of the Queen Elizabeth II Technicians' Study Awards on the completion of their award. This report will outline the project for which the grant was utilised and the allocation of the funding.
6. The decision of the selection committee is that the six applicants receive a grant from within the 2020/2021 award fund, see Appendix One.

## Appendix one

### Recommended candidates for the 2020/2021 Queen Elizabeth II Technicians' Study Awards

9(2)(a)	Area of Study	Country	Amount
	Use of herbicides in weed control	NZ	\$1,000
	Technical skills in sensory science	UK	\$6,500
	Masters of Environmental Engineering	NZ	\$2,500
	Underwater photogrammetry	UK	\$5,500
	Training for coral reef conservation	Niue Island	\$6,000
	Women & Leadership	NZ	\$1,500
	Total		\$23,000