



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

<b>To:</b>	Hon Chris Hipkins, Minister of Education		
<b>Date:</b>	02 December 2021	<b>Priority:</b>	Medium
<b>Security Level:</b>	In Confidence	<b>METIS No:</b>	1276255
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<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** due to the requirement of travel to Commonwealth countries involved in the awards, the number of applications for the 2022 round were significantly impacted by COVID-19 international travel restrictions.

**Note** only two applications were received for the 2022 round.

**Note** the selection committee did not support a second round of applications in an attempt to increase uptake in the award.

**Agree** to the decision of the selection committee to grant awards to two candidates for the 2022 award period 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 two successful candidates for the 2022 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 to candidates confirming the award.

## Recommended Actions

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The Ministry of Education recommends you:

- a. **agree** with the decision of the selection committee to award two successful candidates for the 2022 round.
- b. **sign** the letters of introduction for each successful candidate to be returned to the Ministry of Education.
- c. **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.

☒ Agree ☐ Disagree

Noted



Anna Welanyk  
Deputy Secretary  
Te Puna Ohumahi Mātauranga

21/12/2021



Hon Chris Hipkins  
Minister of Education

8/12/2021

## 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.
2. The appropriation is \$100,000 per annum from allocated funding sitting within Vote Education.
3. TeachNZ, on behalf of the Ministry of Education, administer the allocation of finances to recipients only. The Hudson Family Trust are responsible for eligibility criteria and marketing as well as preparing the selection committee.
4. 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)
5. 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.
6. The Queen Elizabeth II Technicians' Study Award Act 1970 does not impact the education sector specifically but provides for grants to be awarded annually under the delegation of the Minister of Education.
7. These awards require travel to Commonwealth countries involved in the awards, the number of applications for the 2022 round were significantly impacted by COVID-19 international travel restrictions.
8. The selection committee recommended that grants be paid to two successful candidates totalling \$24,000 (within the \$100,000 appropriation).
9. Both successful candidates met the award criteria.

### Successful Candidates

10. 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.
11. The decision of the selection committee is that the two applicants receive a grant from within the 2021/2022 award fund, see Appendix One.

## Appendix one

### Recommended candidates for the 2022 Queen Elizabeth II Technicians' Study Awards

Last name	First name	Employer	Occupation	Area of Study	Country	Amount
9(2)(a)	9(2)(a)	9(2)(a)	Research Technician	Undertake an M SC in plant pathology	NZ	\$15,000
9(2)(a)	9(2)(a)	9(2)(a)	Technologist	Undertake advanced training in aphid taxonomy and diagnostics	Canada	\$9,000
					<b>Total</b>	<b>\$24,000</b>