

PRIME MINISTER'S SCHOLARSHIPS

**ATHLETE GUIDELINES
2025-2028
VERSION 2**

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CONTACT DETAILS

Email

pmscholarships@hpsnz.org.nz

Physical address

Level 3, AUT Millennium
17 Antares Place, Mairangi Bay
Auckland 0632

INTRODUCTION

High Performance Sport New Zealand (HPSNZ) has the responsibility of allocating investment (financial, expertise and capability support) to partner organisations such as National Sports Organisations (NSOs) and Peak Bodies (NZOC, PNZ) that will enable HPSNZ to achieve its vision and investment objectives on behalf of the New Zealand Government.

These guidelines set out the conditions by which the Prime Minister's Athlete and Gold Scholarship Programme operates and are written for NSOs, potential applicants and current scholarship recipients.

Guidelines will come into effect November 2025.

THE PRIME MINISTER'S SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME

The Prime Minister's Scholarship Programme is a New Zealand Government initiative established in 2000. Currently there are scholarship programmes for:

- Athletes
- Coaches
- Support Team
- Officials

The Prime Minister's Scholarship Programme is managed by HPSNZ on behalf of the Government. These scholarship guidelines, outcomes and values are aligned to the HPSNZ Strategic Plan 2025-2028.

Programme Purpose

The programme is driven by the high-performance sport system needs to strengthen long-term capability and innovation of New Zealand's high-performance sport environment. Through this, the programme aims to cultivate resilient, capable, and values-driven individuals who contribute meaningfully to their sport, their communities, and the broader high-performance sport system.

The Prime Minister's Scholarship programme purpose is to invest in the education and skillsets of high-performance athletes outside of their sport development and the professional development of coaches, officials, and support team members within their respective roles in the high-performance sport system, while maintaining their active participation in high performance sport.

Athlete Scholarship Purpose

The purpose of the Prime Minister's Athlete Scholarship is to provide scholarships to athletes, enabling them to pursue educational opportunities while maintaining their active participation in high-performance sport. These scholarships aim to broaden the skillsets and educational backgrounds of athletes, preparing them for diverse career paths by enhancing their non-sport development and encourage sustainability of the athlete talent pool.

The Athlete scholarship support includes:

- Financial contribution to study (course) costs and additional study fees,
- Financial contribution to Study Support Allowance (SSA).

PROGRAMME VALUES

He Tangata

We stand for
the people

Mahi Toa

We strive for
the remarkable

Ngātahi

We're better
together

Kia Tika

Act with fairness and accountability in all aspects of the high-performance sport system. This includes maintaining ethical standards, following rules and regulations, and being a role model both on and off the field.

Kia Pono

Communicate openly and honestly with all stakeholders— athletes, coaches, administrators, and the public. Build trust through clarity and consistency in actions and decisions.

Kia Aroha

Engage to understand the needs of the system; recognise the human side of high-performance sport treating people with kindness and care.

PRIME MINISTER'S ATHLETE SCHOLARSHIP LONG-TERM OUTCOMES

Retention
in the sport
ecosystem

Successful
career
transitions

Inclusive
and Diverse
representation
across sports and
populations

PROGRAMME PRINCIPLES

1. ELIGIBILITY

All relevant sections must be satisfied for an application to be eligible for scholarship consideration:

- Applicant Criteria
- NSO Criteria
- Provider Criteria
- Study Criteria
- Fees and Payment Criteria

1.1 Who is eligible to apply?

1.1.a. Applicant Criteria

- Be a New Zealand citizen.
- Be a High Performance Athlete:
 - i. Be identified by HPSNZ as a Tailored Athlete Performance Support (TAPS) athlete, **or**
 - ii. New Zealand Senior international representative athlete in an Invested or Non-Invested Sport.
- The proposed study must fit within the athlete's Individual Performance Plan (IPP) for the next 12-month period, with study requirements that do not restrict the athlete's ability to commit to their agreed national training and competition plans.
- Submit a complete application.
- Be endorsed by their NSO and HPSNZ (sought by PMS team, and based on guideline requirements and athlete performance) leading up to and during the scholarship.

Athlete Gold Applicants please see [Section 3](#) and [Schedule 1](#) for further eligibility information.

Previous applicants:

- Have met all recipient requirements whilst studying under the scholarship in the previous 12 months.

1.1.b. NSO Criteria

- Have no outstanding requirements in any of the four Prime Minister's Scholarship Programmes:
 - Completed all reporting requirements, **and**
 - Compliance with conditions of all Prime Minister's Scholarship awards

1.2 What is eligible to study?

1.2.a. Provider Criteria

- Education providers must be registered in New Zealand and the qualifications/course must appear on the New Zealand Register of Quality Assured Qualifications, subject to the below.
- Scholarships can be awarded for education providers (NZQA equivalent) based outside of New Zealand; however, these study requests will not be prioritised for award.

Provider Criteria Restrictions

Key provider exclusions can include:

- Consultants e.g. professional consultants which support athletic performance, holistic wellbeing, professional development.
- NSO providers.

1.2.b. Study Criteria

- The study area must support post-athletic career prospects and goals. Study or qualifications must not be used to support athlete sport development or athletic careers.
- The study must be at the tertiary (post-secondary) level.
- The study must be open to other students outside of the programme.
- The study must occur within the scholarship year (March – March).

Study Criteria Restrictions

Key study exclusions can include:

- Courses that relate to current in-sport development e.g. brand builder, Athlete mentoring, First Aid.
- Driving, boating or diving licences, except where there is evidence of alignment with post-athletic career plan.
- Career/holistic mentoring.
- Online course subscriptions e.g. Duolingo.
- Personal development courses e.g. DJ courses, barista courses, pottery, yoga or Pilates courses, emotional intelligence classes.

Note: Any study or courses that contributes to long-term career goals, while also benefiting the recipient short-term is eligible for consideration, however, there must be a connection to long-term career goals.

2. STUDY COSTS AND PAYMENT CRITERIA

Successful applicants can receive financial support in the form of:

- Financial contribution to study (course) costs and additional study fees,
- Financial contribution to Study Support Allowance (SSA).

2.1 Study Costs

- An award that contributes to study costs and additional fees will support the course, paper, or qualification specified in the approved application.
- A maximum of up to \$10,000 per year (including GST) can be requested for study costs per scholarship/applicant. What is awarded in the application outcome email, will be the maximum scholarship award (\$) for the scholarship year (March – March). Recipients are responsible for covering study expenses that go beyond the value of the scholarship.
- Study costs may be used for courses at more than one education provider.
- Study costs are paid directly to education providers upon receipt of an itemised invoice from the education provider.
- Costs incurred with education providers in excess of the awarded scholarship amount will be billed directly to the student/athlete. There are no exceptions to this condition.
- The awarded scholarship amount is directly related to the study approved in your application. Changes in study may require you to complete a moderation request (if eligible) to amend your award.

2.2 Study Costs Restrictions

- Study costs will not be available to recipients who receive another fee-paying scholarship, except where the other scholarship does not cover the full study costs.
- Study costs will not be available following non-refundable, late withdrawal from a course. The funds will be considered spent and cannot be reallocated to other study.
- Study cost awards do not cover books, course materials, travel or accommodation.
- Study costs will not be paid at international student rates or to New Zealand-based recipients' (athletes) choosing overseas providers, where New Zealand equivalent courses are available.
- All study must be passed by the recipient in each 6-month period. Late withdrawals, incomplete, did not sit, did not complete and failed papers are not deemed to be 'passed'.

2.3 Study Support Allowance (SSA)

An additional award for scholarship recipient to support their non-course study expenses while studying. This can contribute to transport expenses, course materials and study expenses (textbooks, software, printing).

- A maximum of up to \$2,500 (inclusive of GST if applicable) can be awarded per semester. The maximum SSA per academic year is \$5,000.
- Allocations of SSA are confirmed each year and can vary from year to year. Provided all athlete SSA requirements and conditions are met recipients can receive SSA directly.

2.4 Study Support Allowance (SSA) eligibility and restrictions

At all times recipients must be enrolled in:

- i. Equal to or greater than 0.5 Equivalent Full-Time Study (EFTS) in the 12-month period (whilst studying in both 6-month periods), **or**
- ii. 0.25 EFTS in a 6-month period (if studying for one 6-month period) in order to receive a full allocation of the SSA for that period.
- iii. Courses not specifying EFTS (credits/points) or periods of study that do not fall into a 6 or 12-month period, will not be eligible for SSA. This means that Summer School or short-courses are not eligible for SSA.
 - SSA will be recalled whenever a recipient's study falls below the minimum EFTS (per semester/6-month period), has failed papers or no longer meets the scholarship requirements.
 - Paid apprenticeships and paid internships are ineligible study to receive SSA.

Study Support Allowance (SSA) Conditions

Key provider exclusions include:

- SSA is optional. Applicants who wish to be considered for SSA must indicate this in the SSA section of the online scholarship application form.
- SSA eligibility is contingent upon receiving a Prime Minister's Athlete Scholarship that covers study costs; it cannot be issued independently of such an award.
- SSA cannot be requested through the moderation or appeal process. If study details change, any associated SSA entitlements will be adjusted accordingly. However, SSA cannot be newly requested after the award has been granted.
- Applications that present SSA as the primary purpose of the scholarship will be deemed ineligible.

3. ATHLETE GOLD SCHOLARSHIPS

The Prime Minister's Athlete Gold Scholarship is available to eligible recipients (athletes) after they transition-out or retire from all international competition, or Team sport athletes transition out or retire from New Zealand international representative "Teams in Black".

3.1 Eligibility Criteria

- Athletes may be eligible for a Prime Minister's Athlete Gold Scholarship based on their performance results at pinnacle events as agreed annually between NSOs and HPSNZ as set out in [Schedule 1](#).
- Athlete Gold Scholarships can be accrued to a maximum of 3 scholarship years, and all accrued scholarships expire 5 years after retirement.
- Recipients must start their course of study within 24 months (2 years) of transitioning-out or retiring from international competition.
- Athlete Gold Scholarships cannot be used prior to transitioning-out or retirement. However, Gold Scholarships can be used in situations where an athlete retires and transitions to a new sport.

3.2 Study Cost and Payment Criteria

Applicants are eligible for an award of:

- Up to a maximum of \$10,000 in study costs per year (including GST)
- Up to a maximum of:
 - \$500 per semester in SSA **or**
 - \$1,000 per academic year in SSA

SSA payments are GST inclusive (if applicable). Please refer to [Section 2.4](#) and [Schedule 2](#) for additional SSA details.

Study Costs and Payment Restrictions

- The eligibility of an Athlete Gold Scholarship guarantees one scholarship year; it does not provide entitlement to \$10,000 of ongoing study or its use over multiple years.
- A successful application outcome is the use of one Athlete Gold Scholarship year, including instances where awarded study is one semester or less.
- The amount of study costs allocated at the award of the scholarship will be the maximum entitlement for the scholarship year.

3.3 Application Process

- Athlete Gold application requirements and process are the same as that outlined in [Section 2](#) with one exception – applications for Gold Level Scholarships do not require NSO endorsement.

3.4 Selection Process

Funding for the Athlete Gold Scholarship is capped, and not all applicants will receive a scholarship.

- Selection priority will be given to the highest performing athletes at pinnacle events. The selection criteria is set out in [Schedule 1](#).
- Applicants for Athlete Gold Scholarships are expected to comply with all the other requirements as outlined in [Section 6-7](#), with the exception of the anti-doping requirements in [Section 6.3](#) where the athlete has retired.

4. APPLICATION PROCESS

- The Prime Minister's Scholarship Programme Guide is available on the HPSNZ website www.hpsnz.org.nz. Applications are made online via the HPSNZ Prime Minister's Scholarship management system at scholarships.hpsnz.org.nz.
- Applications must be complete with accurate information and submitted with all necessary attachments before the closure date to be considered. Failure to do so will result in an unsuccessful application.

4.1 Application intakes

Two scholarship intakes are offered per annum:

- i. The primary intake purpose is study for the following scholarship year (12-month period, March-March).
 - ii. The secondary intake purpose is study for the second 6-month period of the current scholarship year (note that the secondary intake is subject to available funds).
 - a. The second intake has additional criteria where applicants are eligible to apply if they have experienced a change in sporting circumstances which allows them to study.
 - b. This intake is not for applicants who were unsuccessful in the first intake to reapply, unless they meet the criteria of Section 4.1.ii.a.
- NSOs are required to endorse and in some cases prioritise applications in accordance with Prime Minister's Scholarship guidance and athlete performance.

5. SELECTION

5.1 Selection Process

- Applications are assessed and prioritised by the Prime Minister's Scholarship assessment panel tasked with evaluating and prioritising applications in line with the selection criteria.
- It is unlikely that all applicants will receive a scholarship because the demand typically exceeds the financial resources available.

5.2 Selection Criteria

All eligible applications are evaluated against the selection criteria and priorities as outlined in [Schedule 1](#).

5.3 Outcome

The application outcome will be communicated to applicants, with the following details:

- Applications will have study costs and additional study fees **approved in-full, approved in-part or declined**.
- SSA eligibility and estimates will be indicated, subject to EFT confirmation by relevant education providers.

6. SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT REQUIREMENTS

Upon scholarship award, recipients (athletes) must adhere to the following requirements to remain eligible for current and future scholarships.

6.1 Achievement

All study must be passed by the recipient in each 6-month period. Late withdrawals, incomplete, did not sit, did not complete and failed papers are not deemed to be 'passed'.

6.2 Reporting

Recipients can be required to complete up to two online questionnaires or feedback surveys in each year of receiving a scholarship. The requirements for completing this will be communicated by HPSNZ.

6.3 Anti-Doping

- Attendance by the recipient at a full Sport Integrity Commission approved anti-doping seminar is required for all non-TAPS first time Prime Minister's Athlete Scholarship recipients. This is to be completed within the first 12 months of the scholarship being awarded.
- If the recipient is unable to attend an approved anti-doping seminar within the appropriate timeframe for reasons acceptable to HPSNZ, then they must complete the alternative Sport Integrity Commission requirement.
- Recipients are required to adhere to the anti-doping policy of their NSO and comply with the World Anti-Doping Code.

6.4 Certificate Presentation Ceremonies

HPSNZ can host up to four scholarship certificate presentation ceremonies per cycle. It is expected that recipients will make the best possible effort to either:

- a. Attend the ceremony in their most appropriate region, **or**
- b. Arrange suitable representation should they be unable to attend.

6.5 Tax and Income Declaration

- The Prime Minister's Scholarship funding attracts GST.
- GST and income tax obligations are the responsibility of the recipient. HPSNZ recommends advice is sought from the Inland Revenue Department.
- SSA payments will count toward the income assessment for student allowances through Study Link. You must declare these SSA payments, and all other income, according to Study Link procedures. For more information, see studylink.govt.nz.

6.6 Recipient Information

- It is the responsibility of the recipient to ensure all contact and scholarship-related information is up to date and current. This can be done through the HPSNZ Prime Minister's Scholarship management system or by contacting the Prime Minister's Scholarships Team at HPSNZ.

7. NON-COMPLIANCE WITH RECIPIENT REQUIREMENTS

7.1 Non-Compliance Overview

- The requirements set out in [Sections 6.1 – 6.6](#) are collectively referred to as the 'recipient requirements'. Failure to meet all recipient requirements during a 12-month scholarship period (March – March) will deem the recipient ineligible to apply for a scholarship for the next 12-month scholarship period in which they study, unless HPSNZ agrees otherwise.
- If an athlete believes they have not met (or are in jeopardy of not meeting) the recipient requirements, we advise them to immediately contact the HPSNZ Prime Minister's Scholarships Team.
- One instance of failure to comply with any one of [Sections 6.1 – 6.6](#) constitutes non-compliance with the recipient requirements.

7.2 Non-Compliance in Relation to Study and Costs

Non-compliance with the recipient requirements will result in the full or partial repayment of study costs should recipients be unable to reach compliance without adequate explanation or justification. Refer to [Schedule 3](#) for Moderation and Appeal eligibility.

The following are examples of non-compliance with these requirements:

- i. Failure to pass a course in which the recipient has been enrolled.
- ii. Late withdrawal with no refund from a course in which the recipient has been enrolled.
- iii. Failure to contact HPSNZ and address non-compliance.
- iv. Failure to comply with the annual reporting requirements.
- v. Failure to attend a full Sport Integrity Commission approved anti-doping seminar in the first 12 months of being awarded a scholarship (for non-TAPS Athletes).
- vi. Any anti-doping violation under the World Anti-Doping Code.

7.3 Non-Compliance in Relation to Study Support Allowance

- Non-compliance with the recipient requirements will result in the full or partial repayment of SSA should recipients be unable to reach compliance without adequate explanation or justification.
- Non-compliance concerning study will automatically prompt non-compliance with Study Support Allowance, however other instances of non-compliance can also prompt SSA repayment to HPSNZ.

7.4 Removal from the Non-Compliant Situation

The recipient will be removed from the non-compliant situation when either:

- a. All recipient requirements are fulfilled, **and/or**
- b. The recipient repays the scholarship study costs and associated SSA payments for any course that was not passed.

7.5 Repeated or Serious Non-Compliance with Recipient Requirements

Recipients will be placed in a debt situation (see below) or removed permanently from the Prime Minister's Scholarship Programme for repeated or serious non-compliance including, by way of example, but not limited to:

- i. Bringing the Programme into disrepute.
- ii. Repeated non-compliance with the recipient requirements:
 - Continued failure to pass a course in which the recipient has been enrolled.
 - Continued late withdrawal with no refund from a course in which the recipient has been enrolled.
 - Failure to contact HPSNZ and address non-compliance.
 - Continued failure to comply with the annual reporting requirements.
 - Failure to attend a full Sport Integrity Commission approved anti-doping seminar in the first 12 months of being awarded a scholarship (for non-TAPS Athletes).
 - Any anti-doping violation under the World Anti-Doping Code.
- iii. Knowingly defrauding the Programme.

Debt situation

- a. The recipient will be suspended from the Programme and required to repay all scholarship study costs and the SSA for the 6-month period in which the recipient was studying through the Programme.
- b. The recipient will be removed from the debt situation after the 6-month period when the recipient repays the amount owing, or established a payment plan.
- c. NSOs may be notified of athlete non-compliance and debt situation.

8. PROGRAMME PROMOTION

HPSNZ may use images of recipients to promote the Prime Minister's Scholarship Programme at no charge, however in all cases we will discuss this with scholarship recipients in advance.

9. PRIVACY STATEMENT

Information collected about you as part of the Prime Minister's Scholarship Programme is handled in accordance with the PM Scholarships Privacy Statement which can be found on our website at [HPSNZ Prime Minister's Scholarships Programme Privacy Statement](#).

SCHEDULE 1: SELECTION CRITERIA AND PRIORITIES

Athlete Scholarship

Key selection criteria considered

Athlete applications are assessed against the following selection criteria:

Past/present

- Potential positive impact on HPSNZ Vision, particularly by way of international sporting results.
- Endorsement and ranking by NSO.
- Career Plan and course workload will allow sport performance goals to be met and have been approved by a Performance Life Coach or Professional Development Manager.
- Adherence to the Programme Recipient Requirements.

The Prime Minister's Scholarship team reserves the right to apply discretion to award or decline applications, on a case-by-case basis.

Likely selection priorities

1. **Elite** - Athletes within HPSNZ Podium and Aspirational Sports.
2. **Potential** - Athletes within HPSNZ Podium and Aspirational Sports.
3. **Confirmation** - Athletes within HPSNZ Podium and Aspirational Sports.
4. **HP Development** - Athletes within HPSNZ Podium and Aspirational Sports
5. Athletes in an HPSNZ invested Team Sports.
6. Athletes in a non-invested Sport
 - NZ international representative "Teams in Black", or
 - NZ international representative placing top 8 at a Pinnacle Event

Note: Athletes retiring or transitioning-out will have their applications considered and prioritised based on their most recent TAPS pathway level.

Athlete Gold Scholarship

Key eligibility criteria and selection priorities considered

Athlete Gold eligibility is determined by the qualifying performance standards in the table below. These standards determine if or how many Athlete Gold Scholarships an athlete is eligible to apply for.

Note: Athlete Gold applications must meet the criteria in Section 1 and 3, however eligibility is determined by the following qualifying performance standards:

Sport Type	Minimum qualifying performance standard
Individual Sport Athletes Olympic	Top 3 placing at nominated pinnacle or benchmark event
Team Sport Athletes Olympic	Top 3 placing at nominated pinnacle or benchmark event
Individual Sport Athletes Paralympic	Top 3 placing at nominated pinnacle or benchmark event
Individual Sport Athletes non-Olympic	Gold at nominated pinnacle or benchmark event
Team Sport Athletes non-Olympic	Gold at nominated pinnacle or benchmark event

Additional selection considerations

Applications will be assessed against the key selection criteria as outlined above. Further selection considerations will be:

Past/present

- Adherence to the Programme Recipient Requirements.
- Contribution (value, commitment and/or longevity) to high performance sport in New Zealand.
- Performance at pinnacle or benchmark events.
- Athletes should consult with their NSO to confirm their sport's qualifying pinnacle or benchmark events.

SCHEDULE 2: SSA FOR ATHLETE AND ATHLETE GOLD SCHOLARSHIPS

Study Support Allowance is calculated based on total "Equivalent Full-Time Study (EFTS) during a 6-month or 12-month study period, within the academic study year.

The EFTS table across is available to support the following:

- SSA eligibility differs between Athlete Scholarships and Athlete Gold Scholarships. The table shows the SSA thresholds of each athlete scholarship type, for applicants to understand how SSA is calculated.
- EFTS information for papers or courses may not be available to applicants; however, points/credits or study hours can be converted into EFTS. The table on the right will assist in converting.

Please refer to Section [2.3](#) and [2.4](#) for additional SSA criteria and restrictions.

EFTS			SSA - Athlete Scholarship		SSA - Athlete Gold Scholarship	
Points/ Credits	Hours	EFTS	6 month study	12 month study	6 month study	12 month study
10	100	0.0833	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
15	150	0.1250	\$1,250	\$ -	\$250	\$ -
20	200	0.1667	\$1,250	\$ -	\$250	\$ -
25	250	0.2083	\$1,250	\$ -	\$250	\$ -
30	300	0.2500	\$2,500	\$1,250	\$500	\$250
35	350	0.2917	\$2,500	\$1,250	\$500	\$250
40	400	0.3333	\$2,500	\$1,250	\$500	\$250
45	450	0.3750	\$2,500	\$1,250	\$500	\$250
50	500	0.4167	\$2,500	\$1,250	\$500	\$250
60	600	0.5000	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$500	\$500
70	700	0.5833	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$500	\$500
80	800	0.6667	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$500	\$500
90	900	0.7500	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$500	\$500
100	1000	0.8333	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$500	\$500
120	1200	1.0000	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$500	\$500

SCHEDULE 3: MODERATIONS AND APPEALS

The sport landscape for Athletes can change due to sporting commitments and personal circumstances. Moderations and Appeals can flex your scholarship to work alongside relevant changes during your Athletic career. Scholarship recipients are eligible to apply for moderation or appeal in accordance with the conditions set out in this Schedule.

Moderations

A moderation is a request to vary your scholarship award **prior** to the change occurring. This requires the scholarship recipient to complete a moderation form (available from [HPSNZ Prime Minister's Scholarship](#)) or submit an email request, with appropriate endorsements, and submit the form/request to the Prime Minister's Scholarship Team (pmscholarships@hpsnz.org.nz). The request will be considered by a panel and outcome emailed to the applicant.

Moderation eligibility

Moderation is required when the approved study of an Athlete requires one of the following changes:

- Study dates require changing (e.g. moved between Semester 1, Semester 2, Summer School),
- Where changing papers within an approved degree/course change the overall award amount or SSA eligibility,
- Study costs which are outdated at the point of approval and require adjusting,
- Education provider change for the approved study,
- Changes in sporting commitment which impacts approved study.

Requests will **not be approved** where scholarship recipients request:

- Change in study activities from what was approved,
- Add papers, courses or other study activity to their scholarship, without a significant change in sport commitment for requested consideration,
- Post-award, add papers or study to improve their eligibility for external financial support or allowance,
- Rectify a Prime Minister's Scholarship compliance breach,
- Retrospective action (including request processing time) to approve study changes.

Moderation Threshold

A moderation request document will be required for any request over \$100, however requests for under \$100 can be an email for consideration. Requests (moderation form or email) require appropriate information explaining the need for moderation, and submission to the Prime Minister's Scholarship inbox (pmscholarships@hpsnz.org.nz) with sufficient time for consideration and outcome response (e.g. 2-3 weeks minimum for processing).

Schedule 3: Moderations and Appeals (continued)

Moderation outcomes

The moderation outcome will be communicated to applicants, with the following details:

- Study changes including relevant study costs and additional study fees will be approved in-full, approved in-part or declined.
- Any changes in SSA eligibility and estimates will be indicated, subject to EFT confirmation by relevant education providers.

Appeals

An appeal is a request to reduce compliance consequence **after** the compliance breach has occurred. This requires the scholarship recipient to complete an appeal form (available from [HPSNZ Prime Minister's Scholarship](#)), with appropriate endorsements, and submit the request to the Prime Minister's Scholarship Team (pmscholarships@hpsnz.org.nz). The request will be considered by a panel and a decision outcome emailed to the applicant.

Appeal eligibility

An appeal is required when the awarded scholarship and athlete enter non-compliance due to any of the following:

- New or unexpected sporting requirements for the athlete;
- Extenuating personal circumstances;

Requests **will not be approved** where:

- Scholarship recipients have changed their study activities/costs from what was approved, without moderation approval.
- Appeal request is submitted more than one month from non-compliance notice.
- Athletes claim a lack of awareness due to not having read the guidelines or consulting with the Prime Minister's Scholarship team.

Appeal threshold

An appeal request document will be required for all requests. Requests require appropriate information providing justification for the appeal, and the request document submission to the Prime Minister's Scholarship inbox (pmscholarships@hpsnz.org.nz) with sufficient time for consideration and outcome response (e.g. 2-3 weeks minimum for processing).

Appeal outcomes

The appeal outcome will be communicated to applicants, with the following details:

- Applicant Compliance Requirement(s) breached and associated penalties.
- Outcome response to request will be approved in-full, approved in-part or declined.
- Actions and next steps to rectify non-compliance e.g. refund fees to HPSNZ.
- Final state of compliance with scholarship requirements (compliant, non-compliant, associated conditions) will be confirmed. This will impact future eligibility for the Prime Minister's Athlete Scholarship.

Note: Athletes cannot apply, through the moderation or appeal process, for increased study (papers, courses) post-award. All additional study requests must be made during intake 1 or intake 2 of the scholarship year through a complete and submitted application form. Refer to [Section 1](#) and [Section 4.1](#) for further information.



HIGH PERFORMANCE
SPORT NEW ZEALAND

HIGH PERFORMANCE SPORT NEW ZEALAND
NATIONAL TRAINING CENTRE
17 ANTARES PLACE,
MAIRANGI BAY, AUCKLAND 0632

Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa
New Zealand Government