Private Bag 3016
Hamilton 3240
New Zealand
0800 651 156
www.lic.co.nz

2 September 2024

The LIC Patrick Shannon Scholarship Programme

Background:

Livestock Improvement Corporation (LIC) is a premier supplier of improved germplasm, herd testing and herd information management services to New Zealand dairy farmers and one of the largest integrated dairy cattle breeding companies in the world.

World-class research has been central to the success and standing of LIC both in New Zealand and internationally and is fundamental to its future.

Formed in the early 1900s, LIC has always attracted the best scientific minds in the world and today, the company's research and development team is actively involved in the areas of animal breeding and reproductive biology, quantitative genetics, bio-informatics and machine learning to support continuous improvement of products and services and to define the future with new science like the use of genomics in animal improvement.

Efforts to recruit scientists to join that research team indicate there is a shortage of suitably qualified quantitative geneticists/bio-informaticians and animal scientists coming through the university system in New Zealand.

To counteract that, LIC offers a unique scholarship programme aimed at encouraging students studying mathematics, statistics and/or bio-informatics to consider a higher degree with emphasis on genetics or a related animal science field, possibly resulting in a career with LIC.

The scholarship programme bears the name of one of the most remarkable and innovative bovine geneticists and reproductive biologists in the world. Patrick Shannon joined LIC in the mid-1950s and over the ensuing 50 years contributed numerous world-breaking discoveries that contributed to the vitality and profitability of the New Zealand dairy industry.

The LIC Patrick Shannon Scholarship for the 2025 academic year offers Honours and Masterate scholarships.

Scholarship Objectives:

- Signal the value of high-level academic skills in the mathematics and science disciplines and their importance to the future of LIC and the New Zealand dairy industry.
- Assist in focusing research into areas such as bio-informatics, to help create the knowledge growth required in LIC's Research and Development Group in the future.
- Encourage stronger university/LIC linkages by providing incentives to education providers to actively seek stronger alliances with LIC.
- Increase the supply of highly trained graduates in the area of quantitative genetics, bio-informatics and animal science.
- Develop a career with LIC.

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THE LIC PATRICK SHANNON

Honours and Masterate Scholarships

Funding Provisions and Identification of Candidates:

1) LIC will offer scholarships each year to outstanding maths/science students. The scholarships will be advertised in September 2024 with applications due on 28 November 2024.
2) Money will be distributed on the basis of one-off grants of $5000 to Students of Mathematics/Statistics/Animal Science in their fourth (Honours) year or up to $10,000 (in progressive payments) for Masterates.
3) A Selection Panel from LIC's Research and Development Group will assess applications according to the criteria outlined below.
4) Where feasible, successful candidates will be encouraged to undertake one month's paid work at LIC
5) The successful student/s will be required to present the findings of their dissertation or thesis to LIC and make a copy of the dissertation or thesis available for the LIC library.

Criteria for selection:

1) Academic excellence with special emphasis on mathematics/statistics and science disciplines. This should be accompanied by a recommendation from the Head of the Maths or Science departments of the relevant University.
2) A commitment to working in the mathematics/statistics and/or science disciplines arenas.
3) The student/s will use the scholarship grant towards completing his/her final year of study.
4) The student is a New Zealand citizen or resident legally able to work in New Zealand at the completion of study.

For further information please contact:

Kerri Brown
Personal Assistant to the Chief Scientist
Livestock Improvement Corporation Ltd
Private Bag 3016
Hamilton

Ph: 022 033 0266
Email: kerri.brown@lic.co.nz

Applications close on 28 November 2024 **and can be completed on-line at** https://careers.lic.co.nz/home **(scholarships tab)**

THE LIC PATRICK SHANNON HONOURS/MASTERATE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM

1. **Name:** _____
   (surname) *(first names)*
2. **University:** _____

   Course of study ☐ B.Sc (Hons) ☐ Masters of Science
3. **Home Address:** **Term Address *(if known)*:**

   _____ _____
   _____ _____
   _____ _____
   _____ _____
4. **Date of Birth:** _____ **Contact Telephone No.**: _____

   Email: _____
5. **Academic Distinctions or Awards:**
   (Current and previous)

   _____
   _____
6. **University Academic Record** *(please attach a copy of your record).*
7. **New Zealand Citizenship or Permanent Residence** *(tick box)*:

   ☐ This has already been provided to the Undergraduate Student Administrator

   ☐ Evidence is attached to this application *(please see your Enrolment information for acceptable methods of evidence of New Zealand citizenship or permanent residency)*

8. Please attach a written presentation that outlines your proposed future (and any present) involvement within the quantitative genetics arena. *(500 words maximum)*

   ☐ *(Tick when attached)*
9. Please attach a written presentation that demonstrates your leadership skills and/or your involvement with community, sport or other activities. *(500 words maximum)*

   ☐ *(Tick when attached)*
10. Please supply one testimonial or reference from your university to support your application.

    ☐ *(Tick when attached)*

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

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APPLICATION FOR THE LIC PATRICK SHANNON SCHOLARSHIP

REFEREE REPORT

Name of Applicant: _____

Postgraduate scholarship applied for:

☐ Masterate
☐ Honours

This assessment has been provided by: (*please print or type*)

NAME: _____

DIVISION: _____

UNIVERSITY: _____

DATE: _____ SIGNATURE: _____

Please place a ✓ under the ranking that most closely matches the student's position relative to other graduate students you are familiar with:

Top 2%	Top 3-5%	Top 6-10%	Top 11-25%	Remaining 75%

Research potential

Previous relevant - Academic experience

Previous relevant - Work experience

Any other comments: