

2026 ACORN FOUNDATION STUDENT FINANCIAL GRANT

For eligible full-time medical students with a connection to the Bay of Plenty



**ACORN
FOUNDATION**
WESTERN BAY OF PLENTY



Key dates and award

Applications close **1 November 2026** | Outcome advised 10 November 2026 | Payment by 27 November 2026

Up to \$5,000 in total will be distributed among successful students.

1 Eligibility checklist

Tick each box. All criteria must be met.

- ☐ I am enrolled full-time.
- ☐ I will be in Year 3 or higher of medical study at the time of the grant.
- ☐ I am eligible for Studylink and can provide evidence.
- ☐ I can demonstrate financial hardship and need for assistance.
- ☐ I attended secondary school for at least 2 years in the eligible Bay of Plenty region.
- ☐ I will be studying in 2027.

Eligible region: Western and Eastern Bay of Plenty, including Kawerau, but excluding Rotorua.

2 Student details

* mandatory field

Surname *

First name(s) *

Preferred name

Date of birth (DD/MM/YYYY) *

Email address *

Mobile number *

Country of birth

Citizenship(s)

If not an NZ or Australian citizen, are you a permanent resident of New Zealand?

☐ Yes ☐ No

3 Study and demographic details

Current university *

Programme (e.g. MBChB) *

Year of study at application *

Eligible secondary school attended *

Years attended at that school *

Gender (optional)

☐

Female

☐

Male

☐

Non-binary

☐

Prefer not to say

Another term

Ethnicity / descent (select all that apply)

☐

NZ European

☐

Māori

☐

Pacific peoples

☐

Asian

Other ethnicity

Application details

Complete the statement, attachment checklist, and declaration

4 Financial hardship statement

Describe your financial circumstances, family or whānau support available, and the steps you are taking to improve your situation. Include any factors that would help the selection panel understand your need for assistance.

Supporting evidence may be attached. Information will be treated confidentially and destroyed after the decision process.

5 Attachments

Tick each item included with your application.

- ☐ Current CV ☐ Studylink eligibility evidence ☐ Medical student status evidence
☐ One written character reference ☐ Supporting financial evidence (optional)

6 Applicant declaration

- ☐ I confirm that I am a current medical student and am experiencing financial hardship.
☐ I confirm that the information in this application and my CV is true and accurate.
☐ I understand that the information supplied will be used to assess this application.
☐ If successful, I agree to be contacted about providing a photograph for publication.
Any publication use will be discussed with me first.

Typed full name (electronic signature) *

Date *

A returned email application will be accepted without a handwritten signature.

Submit your application

Email the completed form and required attachments to: Sandra.peter@tewhatuora.govt.nz

Applications must be received by 1 November 2026.

About the grant

This grant is administered by the BOP Clinical Campus, Hauora a Toi, Health New Zealand. Established in 1976 in memory of Dr John Mark, the fund supports financially disadvantaged medical students from the Bay of Plenty. Administration moved to the Acorn Foundation in 2007, and assets from the Bay of Plenty Post Graduate Medical Foundation Trust were added in 2009. The fund continues Dr Mark's legacy by supporting the next generation of doctors from the region.