

PRIME MINISTERS SCHOLARSHIP

High Performance Sport New Zealand has a scholarship program called Prime Minister's Scholarship. This scholarship offers support for athletes, coaches, support team members and officials to gain educational or professional qualifications while continuing in sport.

Triathlon New Zealand applies each year to the Officials Scholarship to obtain funding for the Technical Official program. This Scholarship is provided from HPSNZ to help officials gain the skills to officiate at pinnacle events. There is only one intake a year for this scholarship due to it being often oversubscribed. While Triathlon New Zealand applies for the Officials PM Scholarship each year, this is not guaranteed to be awarded, and the amount offered by HPSNZ is subject to change based on their available funds and internal conditions.

Due to the HPSNZ Scholarship guidelines this scholarship is based on officials gaining experience and being able to attend events that represent New Zealand at high performance competitions, such as the ITU World Grand Finals, Olympic and Commonwealth Games. Therefore, Triathlon New Zealand applies according to this basis, with the purpose of helping our Technical Officials with costs associated with getting to overseas ITU events to enable them to progress through the ITU Technical Official Program. All Triathlon New Zealand Officials that hold an ITU Certification Level (NTO, CTO or ITO) are eligible to receive this funding.

The process to award funding is as follows:

1. Apply to HPSNZ for the three ITU Certificate Levels – this covers all **Active** Triathlon New Zealand ITU certified officials
2. Funding is granted by HPSNZ and communicated to Triathlon New Zealand, with funds awarded broken down to each ITU certification level
3. Triathlon New Zealand form a decision panel to review all eligible officials based on HPSNZ communication
4. Review presented to Triathlon New Zealand Board for ratification

The review panel look at multiple factors regarding who is awarded funding including, but not limited to: commitment to the Triathlon New Zealand Technical Program, eligibility to secure next level ITU certification course, previous self-funding to ITU events, indication of individual official development (development questionnaire). These factors are assigned points and officials are ranked based on this outcome.

Once the Triathlon New Zealand board has ratified the decision panel review, those awarded funds will receive communication. As part of the funding process these officials are required to complete the following:

- Complete a TO Spotlight feature questionnaire for Technical Newsletter
- Complete all travel associated with PM Scholarship allocation by 31st December of year awarded
- Complete and submit a PM Scholarship expense claim form for travel in association with the scholarship (include copies of all GST receipts)
- Complete a scholarship impact report and return by January 16th (detailed report template will be distributed)

Applications for funding are submitted by 30th November and notification of successful applications are done by March the following year. All funds granted are to be used by 31st December of the year granted, e.g Triathlon New Zealand applied for PM Scholarship in November 2017, were awarded funds in March 2018, therefore funds are to be spent by 31st December 2018.