

## 2003 CANDIDATES' INFORMATION SHEET

### What is NZEST?

NZEST was founded in December 1991 to administer scholarship examinations to challenge and extend New Zealand's academically able seventh form students. Government abolished the state scholarship examination in 1989 and a group of teachers, headed by Rory Barrett (now an NZEST Trustee) organised scholarship examinations in 1990/91 before NZEST was established as a charitable trust. NZEST is an independent examining body, free from political control, sponsored by the business community.

### Why is a scholarship examination necessary?

Over the past 11 years, the number of students staying on for their seventh form year has dramatically increased. This has forced the NZQA bursary examination to become more broadly based and therefore less able to extend the more gifted students. NZEST believes the scholarship examinations are necessary for two reasons -

- to ensure that top academic standards are maintained in the senior secondary school
- to stimulate and challenge the most able students

### Why sit NZEST scholarship examinations?

The NZEST scholarship examinations are:

- strictly based on the NZQA bursary syllabuses but set at an extended level beyond that of the bursary examinations
- a focus for students encouraging them to read widely and prepare in depth for each subject
- competitive examinations providing 250 financial rewards and certificates of attainment for those who are successful
- a chance for students to test themselves against the best in the country
- not intended as practice examinations before bursary, although it inevitably means students start concentrating and preparing earlier
- an extra qualification when university faculties are deciding on selective courses or direct entry in level II courses

### Who sets the NZEST scholarship examinations?

University lecturers from throughout New Zealand set the scholarship examinations, working with senior schoolteacher moderators to ensure the examinations are pitched at the appropriate level and within the NZQA bursary syllabus. An NZEST moderator must not be teaching a specialist scholarship class which ensures the integrity of these examinations.

### Who marks the NZEST scholarship examination?

Examinations are marked by panels comprised of university personnel and experienced seventh form teachers. Examiners provide marking guidelines and meet with the marking panels to ensure consistency.

### NZEST 2003 Dates

20 June	Closing date for discounted entry fees
15 August	Closing date for entries
19 September	Closing date for: late entries withdrawal of entries to qualify for refund
3-12 November	Examinations held
26 November	Results posted to candidates and schools
8-15 December	Award ceremonies held

### Are past examination papers available?

NZEST can supply examination papers and examiners' reports, which include the marking schedule or model answers, for the years 1998-02. Order forms are available from the NZEST office or website: papers will only be supplied on receipt of an order form and/or appropriate cheque. The cost per examination paper (including model answers and examiner's report) is \$8 + GST = \$9.00. Aural tapes for the modern languages and music are available at the cost of \$5 per tape. *2001/2 examination papers with examiner's reports are available free of charge on the NZEST website, [www.nzest.ac.nz](http://www.nzest.ac.nz)*

### Are other resources available?

NZEST publishes The Top Five Candidates' Scripts which are a very valuable resource for students and schools as they provide tangible benchmarks in each subject. These are available for 1998-02 at a cost of \$15 + GST = \$16.87 per booklet (each booklet contains the scripts for one year for one subject). Order forms are available from the NZEST office or website: scripts will only be supplied on receipt of the order form and appropriate cheque.

### Who can enter NZEST?

Anyone can enter the NZEST scholarship examinations, but to qualify for financial prizes, candidates must be permanent New Zealand citizens and under the age of 20 as at 1.1.04. Students do not have to be attending a school to enter - NZEST accepts entries from independent or home-schooled candidates. NZEST will also subsidise entry fees - please refer to the heading "Is financial assistance available for entry fees?"

Modern languages: 'native speakers' do not qualify for financial prizes - for definition of 'native speaker', please refer to NZEST entry form or contact the NZEST office.

#### CURRENT SPONSORS

Dunedin Electricity  
Lion Nathan Education Partnership  
The Sir John Logan Campbell Residuary Estate  
NZ Funds Management  
Horwath Porter Wigglesworth  
Woolf Fisher Trust

#### PAST SPONSORS

Air New Zealand  
ANZ Bank  
Apple Computer Division of Renaissance Corporation  
Brierley Investments  
Carter Holt Harvey  
Credit Suisse First Boston  
Electricity Corporation of NZ  
Fay Richwhite  
Freightways Ltd  
Jackson Russell  
NZI Life  
Russell McVeagh

## What awards does NZEST offer?

### Scholarships for outstanding performance over five subjects

National Scholarships	20 x \$1,500	\$30,000
Medallist Awards (see note below)	5 x \$500	\$ 2,500
Scholarships	50 x \$500	\$25,000

### Top of Subject Awards

For the top scholar in each subject	19 at \$500	\$ 9,500
-------------------------------------	-------------	----------

### Prizes for high achievement

For outstanding performance in each subject	100 at \$150	\$15,000
---	--------------	----------

**Total = \$82,000**

### In addition, NZEST in conjunction with Lion Nathan Education Partnership, awards certificates showing grades of:

- Distinction = top 5% in subject
- Merit = next 10% in subject
- Credit = next 10% in subject

## Medallist Awards for all-round scholarship

There will be five Medallist Awards and NZEST acknowledges that these awards are for genuine all-round scholarship. A Medallist will receive \$500 which will be given in addition to a scholarship, plus a medal.

To qualify for a Medallist Award, a candidate must sit a minimum of five subjects, including two subjects from Category A and one subject from Category B, and must be ranked in the top 30 scholars. If a candidate sits more than five subjects, NZEST will count the best five subjects under the Medallist criteria. If a candidate is a Medallist one year, to qualify as a Medallist in his/her second year, the candidate must include three new subjects.

### CATEGORY A

Classical Studies	French	History	Latin
Economics	Geography	History of Art	Maori
English	German	Japanese	Music, Spanish

### CATEGORY B

Accounting	Chemistry	Maths with Statistics
Biology	Maths with Calculus	Physics

## Honoris Causa

Candidates gain Honoris Causa if they do not qualify for a financial prize for one of the following reasons:

not a permanent resident of New Zealand:

over 20 years as at 1/1/04:

is a native speaker in a modern language:

re scholarship awards – sitting same subjects for a second year

## How does NZEST finance its scholarship awards?

NZEST is well supported by the business community and has a trust fund in excess of \$1.3million. The trust fund supplies the scholarship funding, while the

examination administration is financed by the examination entry fees paid by candidates. NZEST acknowledges and thanks its major sponsors listed on reverse side of this sheet.

## NZEST Entry fees for 2003

### TERM TWO ENTRY

– closing 20 June

\$30 administration fee,  
plus \$40 per subject

### TERM THREE ENTRY

– closing 15 August

\$30 administration fee,  
plus \$50 per subject

No of subjects	Entry fee	No of subjects	Entry fee
1	\$70	1	\$ 80
2	\$110	2	\$130
3	\$150	3	\$180
4	\$190	4	\$230
5	\$230	5	\$280
6	\$270	6	\$330

Otago based students – please refer to your entry forms for your entry fee schedule

## Is financial assistance available for entry fees?

Students granted financial assistance from NZQA will automatically receive financial assistance from NZEST and will pay an entry fee of \$30, regardless of the number of subjects entered. Students should not send their entry form to NZEST until they have received NZQA approval - the school exam coordinator must ratify the NZQA approval on the reverse side of the entry form.

If a student is declined by NZQA, he/she will still qualify for entry at the discounted Term II rate regardless of when the entry is received by NZEST.

## Return of candidates' examination scripts

Candidates may apply for a recount and/or photocopy of any of their scripts at a cost of \$10 per paper. Application for recounts and photocopies must be lodged with NZEST by mid February of the year following the examinations. Please send your cheque, name, address and subjects required to NZEST (see address below). Examination papers will not be re-marked.

## Who runs NZEST?

- A very experienced Board of Trustees oversees the whole operation: financial, academic and administrative. There are 8 board members representing the major regions in the country.
- An Academic Committee of 15, from university and schools representing all aspects of the curriculum, is responsible for the academic standard of examinations.

## For further information

Please contact:

Sarah Taylor, Executive Officer, NZEST,  
C/- Philosophy Dept, The University of Auckland,  
Private Bag 92019, Auckland  
Phone: 09 3737 933 Fax: 09 3737 934  
Email: s.taylor@nzest.ac.nz  
Web site: www.nzest.ac.nz