

Wool Classer Development Scholarship 2025

An exciting opportunity for your wool classing career

The New Zealand Merino Company (NZM) in partnership with the New Zealand Wool Testing Authority (NZWTA) is excited to offer, for a third consecutive season, the Wool Classer Development Scholarship. This is an opportunity to further enhance your practical skills by training under experienced classers in high quality merino sheds.

Trainees will complete a customised programme designed to hone their skills in fine wool classing and provide an overall well-rounded education on wool harvesting through to the market delivery of the product.

The programme will be provided by The New Zealand Merino Company (NZM) along with two highly experienced wool classer mentors.

As well as the practical in shed classing component, trainees will build an understanding and appreciation for ZQ values, wool contracts, and the administration requirements needed to be a successful classer in the industry. Successful applicants will receive a payment to assist with covering travel and accommodation costs, a resource kit and a customised set of ZQ apparel.

The classer programme is designed to lift individuals' performance and skills while

- Promoting training and a career in wool classing in New Zealand
- Communicating market needs and requirements
- Developing future mentors and leaders within the sector

An applicant will be successful if they have the following

- NZ Certificate in Wool Technology and Classing (Level 4) - you must have obtained your P Stencil
- Good communication skills
- A desire to learn
- Basic classing skills
- A positive attitude and a passion for wool
- The goal of working as a wool classer within the industry in New Zealand

We are seeking candidates who conduct themselves in a way that is consistent with NZM's core values

- **Live with integrity:** Be authentic and do the right thing, always
- **Act courageously:** Think and act boldly
- **Be curious:** Explore the world, learn and evolve
- **Act with empathy:** Seek to understand & respect others
- **Persevere:** Persist and work together

How to apply

- Complete the following application form
- Send the completed application form, with a CV/resume and cover letter, to the below contact details
- If you require any more information regarding the programme, please contact

Nic Blanchard
021 306 878
nic.blanchard@nzmerino.co.nz

Application form

Wool Classer Development Scholarship 2025

First name

Surname

Address

Date of birth

Email

Phone number

The fine print

- The programme requires a full-time commitment from the 14 July 2025 until 20 October 2025
- During this time participants will be required to travel, and some programme activities will take place on weekend days

The key dates

- Applications close Friday, 23 May 2025
- Applicants must be available for an interview between 28 to 30 May 2025

Course dates are as follows

- **Course dates:** 14 July – 20 October 2025
- **Programme summary and presentations:** 20 October 2025

Course dates are subject to change, but will be adhered to where possible

PLEASE SUBMIT ALL APPLICATIONS BY 23 MAY 2025 TO NIC BLANCHARD

nic.blanchard@nzmerino.co.nz / 021 306878

I have read and understand the application criteria: Yes, I agree (tick box) ☐

REASON FOR APPLICATION In 300 words or less, complete in your own words why you believe this scholarship will support your career.