

Beginning in 2018, Te Ara Whānui Scholarship recognises the importance the University of Waikato assigns to fostering, developing, and protecting excellence of Māori, and kapa haka, kaupapa Māori, tikanga, reo and/or mātauranga Māori. Te Ara Whānui can be translated to mean the broad pathway, and is taken from the saying, Te Ara Whānui a Tāne. This is the pathway Tāne climbed into the heavens to seek knowledge, which he returned to earth as a treasure for all people. It is fitting, therefore, that this Scholarship provides a platform for Māori students to strive for excellence in a programme of study at the University of Waikato and to awaken and widen knowledge of Māori. Up to 30 scholarships are awarded each year.

1. Eligibility and Selection Criteria

1.1. To be eligible for consideration applicants must:

- 1.1.1. have achieved NCEA Level 2 with at least Merit, or the equivalent through examinations such as the Cambridge International Examinations (CIE) or the International Baccalaureate (IB) examination.
 - 1.1.2. demonstrate cultural excellence in Māori (e.g., kapa haka, kaupapa Māori, tikanga, reo, and/or mātauranga Māori) and show leadership.
 - 1.1.3. be studying at NCEA Level 3 (or equivalent) towards University Entrance in the year of application. (Applicants on a ONE 'gap year' in the year of application may be considered provided they achieved at least Merit (or the equivalent) at **both** NCEA Level 2 **and** NCEA Level 3).
 - 1.1.4. be intending to enrol full-time (a full-time academic year comprises [120 points](#)) in an undergraduate degree programme¹ at the University of Waikato for the first time² in the year of tenure.
 - 1.1.5. be eligible for domestic fees status (i.e. be a NZ Citizen, NZ Permanent Resident, NZ Resident Class Visa holder, or Australian Citizen/Permanent Resident domiciled in NZ).
- 1.2. New Zealand citizens studying at an overseas secondary school in the equivalent NCEA Level 2 year, the year prior to application, can apply if they meet all other conditions.
- 1.3. **Selection is based on:**
- 1.3.1. Academic ability.
 - 1.3.2. Demonstrated excellence in kapa haka, kaupapa Māori, tikanga, reo, and/or mātauranga Māori.
 - 1.3.3. Leadership experience, community involvement and extracurricular activities, especially in the Māori community.

¹ This does not include diplomas, certificates, etc, except the Te Tohu Paetahi. Other recipients whose degree structure requires them to enrol in an alternative programme of study in the year of tenure can request special consideration by submitting a Variation Request form <https://www.waikato.ac.nz/study/scholarships/scholarship-variation-request-form/>

² Applicants who have undertaken **Unistart** papers at the University of Waikato are **not** excluded by this clause.

- 1.3.4. Preference may be given to applicants who meet the strategic objectives of the University of Waikato.
- 1.4. **To ensure ongoing eligibility** and scholarship maintenance recipients must:
- 1.4.1. by the withdrawal deadline of A Trimester in the year following application be accepted into an undergraduate degree programme at the University of Waikato³.
- 1.4.2. enrol full-time in at least two Trimesters each year of tenure (i.e., 120 points, usually eight papers).
- 1.4.3. achieve at least a B average across all papers each year of tenure.
- 1.4.4. In Year One participate in [Te Kāhui Pīreke](#) (the Māori Student Success Coordinator will send a report to Scholarships).

2. Value, Tenure and Awarding

- 2.1. The value of each Scholarship will be **up to \$20,000 for up to three years** tenure subject to the recipient maintaining eligibility (refer to clause 1.4), and any additional funding the recipient may gain.
- 2.1.1. **In Year One** the recipient will receive \$1,000 paid to the recipient as soon as practicable after the withdrawal date of A Trimester; and may choose **either**:
- \$10,000 towards accommodation in the University Halls of Residence
 - **OR** \$2,000 cash after the withdrawal deadline for C trimester (contingent on Clause 1.4.3) and a tuition fees credit of up to \$8,000, including Student Services Fees; any remainder of the tuition fees portion of the scholarship will be forfeited.
- 2.1.2. **In Years Two and Three:**
- The recipient will receive \$4,500 in tuition fees credit.
 - If a recipient's fees are covered by another scholarship (not fees-free), then the recipient may request to receive a portion back as cash (up to \$3,000 maximum), which will be paid after the withdrawal date of C Trimester.
 - If the value of the scholarship is more than the tuition fees, the remainder will be put towards the Student Services Fees. Any additional funds remaining will be forfeited.
- 2.2. Successful applicants will be advised of the offer of a Scholarship via their MyWaikato portal and must accept the offer by the prescribed date or the offer will lapse.
- 2.3. In accepting the Scholarship, the recipient will be deemed to have read, understood, and accepted the conditions of the Scholarship and the [Scholarships Policy](#).

3. Application

- 3.1. The closing date for online applications is **31 August each year**.
- 3.2. As part of the online application process, each applicant must provide information on the following:

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- 3.2.1. A brief outline of why you want to study your chosen programme.
- 3.2.2. Your academic accomplishments.
- 3.2.3. Leadership experience, community involvement and extracurricular activities, especially in the Māori community (for example, kapa haka, kaupapa Māori, tikanga, reo, mātauranga Māori).
- 3.2.4. Gap year activities during the year of application (if applicable); and
- 3.2.5. Any other information of relevance to the Selection Panel.
- 3.3. Each applicant must also request the submission of:
 - 3.3.1. An online Academic Assessment which is to be completed by the applicant's Secondary School Principal or their nominee (The school will be contacted directly by the University to obtain the assessment; however, the applicant must also make their school aware of this impending request); and
 - 3.3.2. A reference attesting to the applicant's leadership qualities and/or community involvement. The referee must not be an immediate member of the applicant's whānau.

4. Selection Panel

- 4.1. The Selection Panel will comprise the Chair of the Scholarships Committee (in the Chair) (or nominee), the Deputy Vice-Chancellor Māori (or nominee), the Dean of the Faculty of Māori and Indigenous Studies (or academic nominee), the Scholarships Committee representative from Māori Academic Board, and the Deputy Director Strategic Engagement (or nominees).
- 4.2. The Selection Panel will consider the applications and may contact referees on a confidential basis for further relevant information.
- 4.3. The Selection Panel's decisions are final and no correspondence will be entered into following the selection meeting.
- 4.4. The Selection Panel may refrain from making a recommendation if it finds no applicants of sufficient merit.

5. Other Conditions

- 5.1. If a recipient is in receipt of a student allowance, another scholarship, or any type of financial assistance, it is their responsibility to check their entitlement to other income and any tax implications.
- 5.2. Recipients who take up this scholarship are expected to complete at least four trimesters of full-time study at the University of Waikato (i.e., 240 points). Those who withdraw their enrolment before the end of this period will normally be required to pay back the full sum of monies received.
- 5.3. Should a recipient withdraw from any papers, without adding sufficient papers to maintain an overall enrolment in a minimum of 120 points for the academic year, the University may ask for the Scholarship to be repaid.
- 5.4. The Scholarship may not be held in conjunction with:

- 5.4.1. any other University of Waikato funded scholarship or any other University of Waikato funding that includes either a tuition fees credit or accommodation credit as a component.
- 5.4.2. any other scholarship or award of the same or greater total value.
- 5.5. The Scholarship may be held in conjunction with any other scholarship, award or prize, unless the conditions of the other award preclude this.
- 5.6. The Scholarships Committee may terminate this Scholarship at any time, and recoup any funds disbursed, if the holder withdraws from the University of Waikato, brings the Scholarship or the University into disrepute⁴, or is otherwise not complying with the conditions governing the Scholarship and/or the regulations of the University of Waikato. The holder of a Scholarship shall have the right to appeal to the Scholarships Executive against any decision to terminate the Scholarship.
- 5.7. The Scholarship is not refundable to the student under any circumstances, although (in the case of tuition fees payments) a student who withdraws from the University may (under the provisions of the Fees Regulations) apply for a refund of tuition fees paid that were not covered by the Scholarship.
- 5.8. By accepting a Scholarship, the recipient agrees to participate in any publicity concerning the Scholarship as arranged by the University of Waikato.
- 5.9. The Scholarships Committee has the power to amend or vary these regulations, provided that there is no departure from the main purpose of the Scholarship.

⁴ See [Code of Student Conduct](#).