

The TOMRA Fresh Food Scholarship for Women in STEM was established in 2021 through the generous donation of BBC



Technologies. TOMRA Fresh Food aims to positively impact women studying STEM subjects and working in industry by helping to create future leaders in the technology industry, particularly food technology.

Two \$7,500 scholarships with the potential for a work placement opportunity at TOMRA Fresh Food will be awarded each year between 2022-2024. The work placement will be paid directly by TOMRA Fresh Food.

1. Purpose

- 1.1. The Scholarship provides financial support and work experience opportunities for promising female undergraduate students studying in the STEM subjects who are, or could, influence and impact women in their chosen subject and who plan to pursue a career in the equivalent field in the Waikato or Bay of Plenty region.

2. Eligibility and Selection Criteria

- 2.1. **To be eligible for consideration**, applicants must:
 - 2.1.1. identify as female in the personal details listed in the applicant's MyWaikato Portal.
 - 2.1.2. at the time of applying be enrolled full-time (i.e., 120-points) in either:
 - a. the first year of an undergraduate degree programme in STEM subjects at the University of Waikato having achieved at least a B+ grade-point-average (GPA) in A Trimester; **or**
 - b. the second year of an undergraduate degree programme in a STEM subject at the University of Waikato having achieved at least a B+ grade-point-average (GPA) in their first 120 points of study.
 - 2.1.3. in the year following application be intending to enrol full-time (i.e., 120-points) in the year of tenure in their second or third year of an undergraduate degree programme in a STEM subject at the University of Waikato.; and
 - 2.1.4. have made, or show strong potential to make, an impact on women in the STEM industries; and
 - 2.1.5. 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).
- 2.2. Previous recipients of the scholarship (i.e., those who held it in their second year of study) may apply again.

- 2.3. **Selection of recipients** is based on:
 - 2.3.1. academic ability.
 - 2.3.2. the impact (or potential to make an impact) the applicant has made on women in STEM industries.
 - 2.3.3. the rationale for why a work placement at TOMRA interests the applicant.
- 2.4. Preference may be given to applicants who:
 - 2.4.1. are studying Artificial Intelligence (AI) and/or food technology areas and who plan to stay and work in the Waikato or Bay of Plenty region after graduation;
 - 2.4.2. do not hold any other scholarships/funding in the year of tenure.
- 2.5. **To maintain eligibility**, recipients must:
 - 2.5.1. enrol full-time in the undergraduate degree programme in a STEM subject at the University of Waikato in the year of tenure.
 - 2.5.2. For the B Trimester payment, recipient must pass all papers in A Trimester in the year of tenure.

3. Value, Tenure and Awarding

- 3.1. Two Scholarships will be awarded each year, and will normally be allocated as follows, however where no suitable applicant is available from one year level, two awards may be made in the other year level.
 - 3.1.1. One Scholarship will be awarded to a student who will be studying in their second year of an undergraduate degree programme in a STEM subject in the year of tenure.
 - 3.1.2. One Scholarship will be awarded to a student who will be studying in their third year of an undergraduate degree programme in a STEM subject in the year of tenure.
 - 3.1.3. Each Scholarship has a value of **\$7,500**, of which:
 - \$5,500 will be paid as a tuition fees credit;
 - \$1,000 will be paid directly to the recipient after the withdrawal date of A Trimester; and
 - \$1,000 will be paid directly after the withdrawal date of B Trimester conditional on the recipient continuing to meet all ongoing eligibility clauses under 2.5.
- 3.2. Each scholarship includes the potential for a work placement opportunity, subject to availability, which will be paid directly by TOMRA Fresh Food.
- 3.3. The Scholarship will have a tenure of one year and this is the year after application.
- 3.4. The successful applicant 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.
- 3.5. In accepting the Scholarship, the recipient will be deemed to have read, understood, and accepted the conditions of the Scholarship, and the [Scholarships Policy](#).

- 3.6. Once the successful applicant has accepted their offer of the Scholarship, they may be contacted directly by TOMRA Fresh Food.
- 3.7. Unsuccessful applicants of high calibre may also be approached directly by TOMRA for work placement opportunities.

4. Application

- 4.1. The closing date for online applications is **01 December each year**.
- 4.2. As part of the online application process, each applicant must complete an online Personal Statement that outlines the following:
 - 4.2.1. Why completing their degree is important to the applicant and their future ambitions;
 - 4.2.2. Any impact, or intention to make impact, on women in the technology industry;
 - 4.2.3. The applicant's intention to work in technology in the Waikato or Bay of Plenty region upon graduation;
 - 4.2.4. What interests the applicant in a work placement at TOMRA; and
 - 4.2.5. Any other information that may be of relevance to the Selection Panel.applicant.

5. Selection Panel

- 5.1. The Selection Panel will comprise of the Chair of the Scholarships Committee (or nominee) in the Chair, the PVC of the Division of Health, Engineering, Computing and Science (or nominee), and two representatives from TOMRA, nominated by the Vice President Head of People and Organisation TOMRA Fresh Food (which may include the Vice-President Head of People and Organisation TOMRA Fresh Food).
- 5.2. The Selection Panel may request a meeting with applicants as part of the selection process.
- 5.3. The Selection Panel may refrain from making a decision if it finds no applicant of sufficient merit.
- 5.4. The Selection Panel's decisions are final, and no further correspondence will be entered into following the selection meeting.

6. Other Conditions

- 6.1. The Scholarship may be held in conjunction with any other scholarship, award or prize, unless the conditions of the other award preclude this.
- 6.2. Recipients should seek independent financial advice about any tax implications of their Scholarship.
- 6.3. 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.
- 6.4. Through the School of Graduate Research, the University monitors recipients' performance and reserves the right to impose further conditions where a recipient's performance is unsatisfactory.

- 6.5. 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, University or Donor into disrepute¹, or is otherwise not complying with the regulations governing the Scholarship and/or the University of Waikato. The holder of a Scholarship will have the right to appeal to the Scholarships Executive against any decision to terminate the award.
- 6.6. By accepting the Scholarship, the recipient agrees to participate in any publicity concerning the Scholarship arranged by the University of Waikato and/or the Donor.
- 6.7. The Scholarships Committee may, from time to time, vary these regulations.

¹ See [Code of Student Conduct](#).