

The Tauranga Moana Futures Scholarships were established in 2022 to enable the University of Waikato and its partners to support talented undergraduate students to study in Tauranga, in areas of importance to employers in the region. Through the Scholarship, the University works closely with funding organisations to support the education of the leaders of tomorrow. The Scholarships provide talented students studying relevant undergraduate degree programmes at the Tauranga campus up to \$40,000 in financial support over the course of their studies, as well as opportunities for work experience, project based learning and paid work placement and networking with other students and employers involved in the programme.

For study commencing in 2024, the funder organisation is **Tauranga City Council (TCC)**, who are investing in one Scholarship.

## 1. Purpose

- 1.1. The Scholarships provide financial support, work experience and project-based learning opportunities in areas of employer demand for university graduates. These roles contribute directly to decision making and delivery for the development of Tauranga City and the Bay of Plenty.

## 2. Eligibility and Selection Criteria

2.1. **To be eligible for consideration**, applicants must:

- 2.1.1. be intending to enrol full-time (a full-time academic year comprises 120-points) in the **first year** of an undergraduate degree at the University Waikato in Tauranga.
- 2.1.2. Have achieved academically:
  - a) School leaver applicants must have achieved NCEA Level 2 with at least Merit or equivalent.
  - b) All other applicants must have a minimum achievement of NCEA Level 3.
- 2.1.3. be intending to enrol in the first year of one of the following undergraduate degree programmes offered by the University of Waikato Tauranga Campus<sup>1</sup> in the year following application:
  - a) BE (Hons) in Civil Engineering, Environmental Engineering or Software Engineering, Bachelor of Computer Science;
  - b) BSc with a major in Environmental Science or Computer Science.
- 2.1.4. be willing to be part of a University-led visit to a secondary school in the region, to highlight the importance of university study;
- 2.1.5. be a New Zealand citizen or permanent resident.

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<sup>1</sup> Applicants who have undertaken **Unistart** papers at the University of Waikato are **not** excluded by this clause.

## 2.2. Selection will be based on:

- 2.2.1. academic ability;
- 2.2.2. commitment and intention to succeed in university study;
- 2.2.3. intention to study at the University of Waikato Tauranga Campus where possible (noting that for some options and courses, study from the Hamilton campus may be required. In these cases there should still be an intention to undertake work integrated learning with the Tauranga-based funding organisations);
- 2.2.4. alignment with interests and aspirations of the scholarship funding organisation(s) as outlined in the preamble above. The quality of written responses to these sections will be important in the final decision.

## 2.3. To maintain eligibility recipients must:

- 2.3.1. be accepted into the undergraduate degree-programme;
- 2.3.2. enrol full-time in the first year of one of the eligible undergraduate degree programmes outlined in clause 2.1.4 at the University of Waikato Tauranga Campus in the year following application;
- 2.3.3. in each consecutive year of tenure:
  - a) continue full-time enrolment in the eligible undergraduate degree programme; and
  - b) achieve at least a B grade-point-average (GPA) each year.
- 2.3.4. Participate, where reasonable, in work integrated learning and course assessment opportunities offered by the funder, but not at the detriment of achieving the grades required for scholarship eligibility maintenance.
- 2.3.5. Endeavour to be available for networking event(s) led by industry partners, Priority One, and the University of Waikato.

## 3. Value, Tenure and Awarding

- 3.1. Each Scholarship will have a value of **up to \$10,000** for each year of the recipient's undergraduate degree programme, and will be paid as follows:
  - 3.1.1. **Year one:** The scholarship will normally be credited towards accommodation fees in the Tauranga Campus University Halls of Residence, with any remainder paid as cash to the recipient, after the withdrawal date of A Trimester. If the successful recipient is unable to find a place in the Tauranga Campus Halls of Residence, or is a resident of Tauranga City, their scholarship will instead be paid in two equal cash instalments (payments will be made after the withdrawal date of A and B Trimester).
  - 3.1.2. **Year two onwards:** The Scholarship will be first credited towards the recipient's tuition fees (including student services fees), with any remainder paid as cash directly to the recipient. Cash payments will be made after the withdrawal date of B Trimester.
  - 3.1.3. Recipients will be offered the following opportunities:
    - a) At least one paid summer work placement with the funding organisation over the course of the scholarship. This will be paid directly to the recipient by the funder and is in addition to scholarship funding; and

- b) At least one project-based learning opportunity involving the funding organisation during their study e.g., assignments, capstone projects required as part of course assessment.
  - c) If the funding organisation is not available for either of the above, then an equivalent experience will be found with another organisation.
- 3.2. The Scholarship will have a tenure of three or four years, depending on the normal length of the undergraduate degree programme of the recipient.
- 3.3. 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.
- 3.4. In accepting the Scholarship, the recipient will be deemed to have read, understood, and accepted the conditions of the Scholarship, and the [Scholarships Policy](#).
- 3.5. Once the successful applicant has accepted their offer of the Scholarship, they may be contacted directly by the funder.

#### **4. Application**

- 4.1. The closing date for online applications is **15 October each year**.
- 4.2. As part of the online application process, each applicant must provide information on the following:
  - 4.2.1. Why completing the degree is important to the applicant and their future ambitions;
  - 4.2.2. Intention and commitment to studying in Tauranga;
  - 4.2.3. Any other information that may be of relevance to the Selection Panel.
- 4.3. Each applicant must also request the following:
  - 4.3.1. the submission of a completed Academic Assessment form from their school.
  - 4.3.2. a reference attesting to the applicant's character. This may not be a member of their immediate family.
  - 4.3.3. An automatic request is sent to the school and referee email on submission of the application.

#### **5. Selection Panel**

- 5.1. A steering committee formed by the funders, coordinated and supported by Priority One, will receive and rank all eligible applications, ensure the funders are in agreement with the rankings, and forward rankings to the Selection Panel for consideration and endorsement.
- 5.2. Funding organisations may request an interview with applicants as part of the ranking process and will contact the applicants directly.
- 5.3. The Selection Panel will comprise of the Chair of the Scholarships Committee (or nominee) in the Chair, and no more than three University of Waikato academic staff members appointed by the Director of Development and Alumni.
- 5.4. The Selection Panel may refrain from making a decision if it finds no applicants(s) of sufficient merit.
- 5.5. 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 disrepute<sup>2</sup>, 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 partners.
- 6.7. The Scholarships Committee may, from time to time, vary these regulations

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<sup>2</sup> See [Code of Student Conduct](#).