

The University of Waikato Alumni Scholarship was established in 2016 by the University of Waikato Alumni Association (Te Rauika Pukenga) to support alumni who are returning to study to continue their academic journey, whether that be in a new field or a higher qualification.

The Association was founded on the belief that tertiary education is not a short-term activity, but rather a life-long link between alumni, staff and their University. The Association is no longer in existence, but the Scholarship continues to be funded by the University of Waikato Foundation. The Foundation provides a total of \$10,000 per year, which may be split evenly between up to two recipients each year.

1. Purpose

- 1.1. The Scholarship provides financial support for alumni to continue their academic journey and is intended for those who have made a significant contribution to the community since graduating and have been, and continue to be, visible advocates for the University of Waikato.

2. Eligibility and Selection Criteria

2.1. To be eligible for consideration, candidates must:

- 2.1.1. be a returning Alumnus¹ of the University of Waikato who has not studied at the University of Waikato in the past two calendar years;
- 2.1.2. have achieved at least a B in their last 120-points of study at the University of Waikato;
- 2.1.3. be 25 years or older;
- 2.1.4. be able to show engagement with the University since graduating as well as involvement in the wider community on a volunteer basis;
- 2.1.5. be intending to enrol in at least 60-points of study at the University of Waikato in the year following application.
- 2.1.6. at the time of application be residing in New Zealand.
- 2.1.7. be willing and able to be part of university-led promotion on the importance of education.

2.2. Those **not eligible** to apply include:

¹ **Alumnus:** a former student of the University of Waikato who has completed an approved and assessed course. This includes graduates of in-country partnership institutes such as ZUCC and SISU

2.2.1. current staff of the University of Waikato who are eligible for staff fees concessions.

2.2.2. previous recipients of the scholarship.

2.3. Selection is based on:

2.3.1. Academic merit;

2.3.2. Engagement with the university and wider community;

2.3.3. Preference may be given to applicants with financial need.

2.4. To maintain eligibility recipients must:

2.4.1. enroll in at least 60 points of study at the University of Waikato in the year of award.

2.4.2. Be residing in New Zealand while studying.

3. Value, Tenure and Awarding

3.1. The Scholarship will have a value of **up to \$10,000** and may be offered to one recipient or split equally between a maximum of two recipients. Scholarship payments are:

3.1.1. paid directly to the recipient's bank account in one lump sum after the withdrawal deadline for the intended programme of study.

3.1.2. intended to contribute to course-related costs.

3.2. 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.

3.3. In accepting the Scholarship, the recipient will be deemed to:

3.3.1. have read, understood, and accepted the conditions of the Scholarship, and the [Scholarships Policy](#).

3.3.2. agree to participate in any publicity concerning the Scholarship arranged by the University of Waikato and/or the Donor.

3.4. The Scholarship will have a maximum tenure of one year.

4. Application

4.1. The closing date for online applications is **15 December** each year.

4.2. As part of the online application process, each candidate must:

4.2.1. Complete the online personal statement questions:

- the rationale for returning to study, including what the applicant hopes to achieve through the completion of the paper and/or qualification;

- a brief statement outlining recent community involvement;
- a brief statement outlining engagement with the University since graduating;
- any other information that may be of relevance to the Selection Panel (e.g., financial need).

4.2.2. a CV of no more than two A4 pages in length.

5. Selection Panel

- 5.1.** The Selection Panel will comprise of the Chair of the Scholarships Committee (or nominee) and two representatives from the University of Waikato Development Office (nominated by the Chair of the Scholarships Committee).
- 5.2.** The Selection Panel may refrain from making a recommendation if it finds no candidate of sufficient merit.
- 5.3.** The Selection Panel's decision is 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.** 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.
- 6.4.** 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 University into disrepute², 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.
- 6.5.** The Scholarships Committee may, from time to time, vary these regulations.

² See [Code of Student Conduct](#).