



The University of Waikato International Excellence Scholarship was established in 2015 to promote educational opportunities, foster internationalisation and support talented international applicants who are enrolling as new students into undergraduate or postgraduate programmes¹ at the University of Waikato. The Scholarships have a value of up to NZD\$10,000, and will be awarded to applicants who demonstrate excellent academic achievement. Successful applicants may also be called upon to become global ambassadors for the University of Waikato.

The Scholarship will be applied to tuition fees only and is not transferrable.

1. Eligibility

1.1. To be eligible, applicants must:

- a) be applying to enrol in an undergraduate or postgraduate programme¹, **as a new international student** to the University of Waikato;
- b) have received a conditional or unconditional offer of place from the University of Waikato;
- c) have a minimum GPA-equivalency of B+.
- d) **not currently be enrolled at the University of Waikato** (including the Certificate of Attainment in Academic English, the Certificate of Attainment in Foundation Studies, the International Diploma of Business or Computer Science; Diploma of Postgraduate Preparation - Pre-Masters or any other pre-degree pathway programme);
- e) not have paid fees at the time of application;
- f) not be classified as a domestic student, (see clause 6.3.);
- g) have met the University of Waikato's [English language requirements](#) for admission, or have an offer for the Certificate of Attainment in Academic English at the University of Waikato, prior to beginning any studies through UOW;
- h) in the year of tenure, be commencing a full-time programme/s of study with a total duration of **at least** 12 months at the University of Waikato;
- i) be residing in New Zealand for the tenure of the scholarship and studying full-time on campus;
- j) not be coming to the University of Waikato via a sponsoring body²;
- k) not be coming to the University of Waikato on a Guaranteed Credit Arrangement³, or through a study abroad or student exchange agreement;

¹ All postgraduate programmes except the Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) and Master of Philosophy (MPhil) are eligible.

² Examples of a sponsoring body are: governments, institutions and employers who fund student scholarships for study.

³ Guaranteed credit arrangements are where an institution has a formal agreement with the University of Waikato whereby a student can study part of their degree at the partner institution and credit that study towards 1 – 2 years of study at the University of Waikato.

2. Value

- 2.1. The Scholarship will have a value **up to NZD\$10,000** and will be applied directly to the recipient's tuition fees for their chosen programme/s of study either at the time of enrolment or once their enrolment is completed. The amount offered for this Scholarship is at the discretion of the Selection Committee and will be based on criteria such as, but not limited to, total available funding, grades, financial need, number of credits enrolled, number of applicants, period of enrolment and chosen degree programme.

3. Application

- 3.1. Applications for the Scholarship can be submitted at any time.
 - 3.1.1. Decisions will normally be made within 8 weeks of the time of application. However, some decisions will take up to 12 weeks (e.g., when the University closes in late December).
- 3.2. Applicants must be intending to enrol on the date outlined in their Offer of Place.
- 3.3. Applicants must upload the following as part of their online application:
 - 3.3.1. their conditional or unconditional offer of place from the University of Waikato; and
 - 3.3.2. a personal statement that sets out the following (on the template):
 - In 100 words or less tell us why you want to study at the University of Waikato?
 - In 100 words or less tell us how you will be a global ambassador for the University of Waikato?

4. Selection Process and Panel

- 4.1. Scholarships will be offered on the basis of academic merit (equivalent B+ minimum) and potential to become global ambassadors for the University of Waikato.
- 4.2. Applications will be ranked and recommended according to their Grade Point Average by the University's International Regional Managers and forwarded to the Selection Panel for consideration.
- 4.3. The Selection Panel will comprise the Chair of the Scholarships Committee and the Director – International (or their nominees).
- 4.4. The Selection Panel's decisions are final and no correspondence will be entered into following each selection meeting.

5. Awarding, Tenure and Deferral

- 5.1. Applicants will be advised of the result of their application through their MyWaikato portal.
- 5.2. **Successful applicants will receive a scholarship offer which is valid for 14 days.** Students must confirm their acceptance of the Scholarship by the date requested in the offer or the offer will automatically lapse and no longer be valid.

5.2.1. After accepting the Scholarship Offer, recipients will receive an official Scholarship Offer Letter to assist in any student visa application.

Students may pay the full tuition fee amount **minus** the value of the scholarship in the offer. They must provide their Scholarship Offer Letter to Immigration New Zealand in order to do so.

- 5.3. The tenure is one year and the Scholarship is valid only within 12 months of the dates outlined in the Offer of Place, unless deferral is approved as outlined in Clause 5.4 and 5.5.
- 5.4. If for any reason a recipient is unable to complete enrolment and begin study at University of Waikato within the same calendar year, they may request a deferral of their scholarship by writing to scholarships@waikato.ac.nz. Approval is at the discretion of the Scholarship Committee, and deferrals will be considered only when:
- 5.4.1. the Offer of the Scholarship was accepted within the required time-frame; and
 - 5.4.2. the deferral is requested within the same calendar year for which the Scholarship was offered; and
 - 5.4.3. the deferral is requested for situations outside the control of the scholarship recipient (e.g., medical, bereavement, visa approval).
- 5.5. A request to defer may also be approved if a recipient is required by the University to undertake additional study in the Pathways College in order to meet the requirements of the academic program. Applicants will need to advise scholarships@waikato.ac.nz if deferral is required by the University, and provide the documentation outlining the additional study requirements.

6. Other Conditions

- 6.1. The Scholarship cannot be held in conjunction with any other University of Waikato funded tuition fees scholarship, award, bursary or other such funding, nor can it be held in conjunction with any Education New Zealand scholarships.
- 6.2. If, during the tenure of the Scholarship, a recipient's circumstances change in such a manner that their continued eligibility for the Scholarship may be affected, they must inform scholarships@waikato.ac.nz immediately.
- 6.3. The Scholarships Committee may terminate a Scholarship at any time, and recoup any funds disbursed, if the holder is not following the approved programme of study, withdraws from the University during the tenure of the Scholarship, brings the Scholarship or University into disrepute⁴, or is not otherwise complying with the regulations governing the Scholarship and/or the University of Waikato. The recipient will have the right to appeal against any decision to terminate the Scholarship.

⁴ See [Student Code of Conduct](#).

- 6.4. In accepting the Scholarship, the recipient will be deemed to have read, understood and accepted the conditions of the Scholarship, and the [Scholarships Policy](#).
- 6.5. By accepting a Scholarship, the recipient agrees to participate in any reasonable publicity concerning the Scholarship arranged by the University of Waikato.
- 6.6. Any ambassadorial duties will be at the discretion of the International Office. Any queries in regards to these duties can be made to gowaikato@waikato.ac.nz.
- 6.7. 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.