PURPOSE
The University of Waikato Chiefs Super Rugby Scholarship was established in 2016 through the partnership between the University of Waikato and the Chiefs Rugby Club Limited. The University of Waikato is committed to strengthening partnerships with community and national sporting bodies to foster excellence in high performance sport.

Having meaningful study options from a reputable institution is vital for the ongoing success of players both on and off the field. This is especially important when a player is rehabilitating after injury as it adds purpose to their week and allows them to progress their goals and plans for life ‘after rugby’. It also benefits their well-being and mental health during a difficult time in their playing career.

Ongoing professional development opportunities for players are a major priority for the Chiefs, and opportunities to study using on-line learning and study at other University of Waikato campuses (e.g., Tauranga Campus) ensure flexibility for players. The Chiefs aspire to be a world-class organisation and ongoing investment in their people and their development is critical to achieving that goal. The Chiefs strongly believe that their partnership with the University of Waikato will help nurture the skill sets of their people, thus adding value to the organisation. In turn, their University of Waikato alumni can play a significant role in helping to promote the University as a great place to study for those embarking on professional sporting careers.

REGULATIONS
1. Eligibility
   1.1. To be eligible, applicants must:
       1.1.1. be a contracted Chiefs rugby player¹ in the year of tenure;
       1.1.2. be enrolling for either full-time (minimum of 105 credit points) or part-time (minimum of 15 credit points) study at the University of Waikato in the year of tenure;

¹ A contracted Chiefs rugby player includes members in the current squad and/or the development team.
1.1.3. meet the entry requirements for the programme they intend to enrol in at the University of Waikato; and
1.1.4. be a New Zealand citizen or permanent resident.
1.1.5. For re-applying applicants only, applicants must have passed the courses funded through previously held University of Waikato Chiefs Super Rugby Scholarships.

1.2. Officials, referees, umpires, and training partners are not eligible for consideration.

2. Value

2.1. The University will award a maximum of seven (7) full-time (or equivalent in part-time study) scholarships annually, to a maximum value of $35,000 plus GST.
2.2. The Scholarship will cover the full cost of the recipient’s domestic tuition fees and associated charges (e.g. Student Services Levy).
2.3. The Scholarship will be applied directly to the recipient’s fees account with the University of Waikato, at the time of enrolment.

3. Application

3.1. All applications must be submitted on the prescribed online form by the closing date, which is 30 November in the year preceding study.
3.2. All applicants must provide:
   3.2.1. a curriculum vitae (maximum two A4 pages) providing evidence of excellence in sport both inside and outside of the school/university context; and
   3.2.2. a personal statement including; sporting aspirations, personal attributes and leadership initiatives, and academic interests and achievements; and
   3.2.3. A letter of support from the Coach or National Body or Player Identification and Development Manager; and
   3.2.4. A brief academic plan of study outlining courses and qualifications that will be gained through study.
3.3. New applicants enrolling at the University of Waikato for the first time must also provide:
   3.3.1. their most recent available secondary school results; and
   3.3.2. proof of citizenship.
3.4. Previous and current recipients of the Scholarship may re-apply for the Scholarship for the following year. They must follow the application process as outlined in clauses 3.1 and 3.2 above and provide a transcript of academic results from their previous year of study.

4. Selection Criteria

4.1. The Scholarship will be offered on the basis of sporting potential, leadership and academic merit.
5. Selection Panel

5.1. The Selection Panel will comprise of the Chair of the University’s Scholarships Committee, the Chiefs Personal Development Manager, the Chiefs Talent Identification & Player Development Manager, and the Hillary Programme Manager (or their nominees).

5.2. The Selection Panel’s decisions are final and no correspondence will be entered into.

6. Awarding & Tenure

6.1. The offer of Scholarship is subject to the recipient enrolling in the programme of study indicated on their Scholarship application, in the year of tenure.

6.2. All applicants will be advised via email of the outcome of their application.

6.3. The Scholarship must be accepted within two weeks of the date the offer is made. If a recipient fails to accept the Scholarship within this timeframe, the offer will lapse.

6.4. The tenure of the Scholarship is one academic year.

7. Other Conditions

7.1. The Scholarship may not be held in conjunction with any other tuition fees scholarships offered by the University of Waikato, but may be held with any other scholarship, award or prize, unless the conditions of the other award preclude this.

7.2. A Scholarship awarded for part-time study may not subsequently be increased for the purpose of full-time study unless with discussion and agreement with all parties (i.e., the recipient and all members of the Selection Panel).

7.3. Recipients of this Scholarship will be expected to continue with their sport at the level currently attained or higher, while at University.

7.4. The Scholarships Committee may terminate a Scholarship at any time, and recoup any funds awarded, if it is satisfied that the recipient is not:

7.4.1. displaying conduct that upholds the reputation of both the Chiefs and the University of Waikato;

7.4.2. following the approved programme of study;

7.4.3. making satisfactory progress academically or with their sport; or

7.4.4. otherwise complying with the regulations governing the Scholarship and/or the University of Waikato, including appropriate conduct.

7.4.5. The recipient of a Scholarship shall have the right to appeal to the relevant University Committee against any decision to terminate the Scholarship.

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2 Student appeals for University of Waikato Scholarships granted for undergraduate or completely taught postgraduate level study should be made to the Education Committee; student appeals for research level study (e.g. Masters) should be made to the Research Committee.
7.5. By accepting a Scholarship, the recipient agrees to:

7.5.1 participate in any reasonable publicity concerning the Scholarship arranged by
the University of Waikato and/or the Chiefs, subject to the terms of the
sponsorship agreement;

7.5.2 meet with the Chiefs Personal Development Manager, the Chiefs Player
Development Manager and the Hillary Programme Manager once a semester
(usually the 3rd week of April and the 3rd week of August); and

7.5.3 share information on their academic progress at the University of Waikato, with
the Chiefs.

7.6. The Scholarships Committee may, from time to time, vary these regulations.