

# WSU Sole Caregiver Award - 2024



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**WAIKATO**  
*Te Whare Wānanga o Waikato*

The WSU Sole Caregiver Award (prior to 2022 called the WSU Sole Parent Award) was established in 2007 to encourage and celebrate the efforts, achievements and contributions of students who are sole primary caregivers. Up to three Awards will be offered each year.



## 1. Purpose

- 1.1. The purpose of the Scholarship is to celebrate and support academically achieving students who are sole caregivers.

## 2. Eligibility and Selection Criteria

### 2.1. To be eligible, applicants must:

- 2.1.1. have **completed at least 120-points** (i.e., one full-time year of academic study) at the University of Waikato;
- 2.1.2. be enrolled (part or full-time) at the University of Waikato in the year of tenure
- 2.1.3. be a sole primary caregiver; and
- 2.1.4. be a NZ Citizen, NZ Permanent Resident, NZ Resident Class Visa holder, or Australian Citizen/Permanent Resident domiciled in NZ.

- 2.2. Current members of the Waikato Students' Union Executive, or employees of the Waikato Students' Union who hold a fixed-term or continuing contract, are not eligible to apply for this Award.

- 2.3. The Scholarship may be held on only one occasion and previous recipients **are not eligible** to apply.

### 2.4. Selection will be based on:

- 2.4.1. academic merit;
- 2.4.2. financial situation;
- 2.4.3. community contribution;
- 2.4.4. supporting statements.

## 3. Value, Tenure and Awarding

- 3.1. The value of the scholarship will be **\$1,000 and will be paid** directly into the recipients' bank account in one lump sum as soon as practicable after acceptance of the Award.
- 3.2. The award will have a maximum tenure of one year.
- 3.3. In accepting the Award, the recipient will be deemed to have read, understood, and accepted the conditions of the Scholarship and the [Scholarships Policy](#).

#### 4. Application

- 4.1. The closing date for applications is **31 May** annually.
- 4.2. As part of the online application process, each applicant must provide information on their:
  - 4.2.1. role as a sole caregiver;
  - 4.2.2. financial situation; and
  - 4.2.3. community contributions
- 4.3. Request submission of two references from two different people who are **not family members** for:
  - a) an academic reference - a statement about their academic achievements at the University of Waikato.
  - b) a Character reference which supports the applicants personal statements provided in the online application about being a sole caregiver, financial situation and/or their community contribution(s).

#### 5. Selection Panel

- 5.1. The Selection Panel will comprise a representative of the University of Waikato Scholarships Committee (as nominated by the Chair of the Scholarships Committee) in the Chair, the President of the Waikato Students' Union (in the Chair), the Vice President of the Waikato Students' Union, one Director of the Waikato Students' Union (nominated by the President), and the General Manager of the Waikato Students' Union.
- 5.2. The Selection Panel may refrain from making a recommendation if it finds no applicant of sufficient merit.
- 5.3. The Selection Panel's decision is final, and no correspondence will be entered into following the selection meeting.

#### 6. Other Conditions

- 6.1. The Award may not be held together with the WSU Scholarship for Cultural Contribution or the WSU John Houstoun Memorial Award, but may be held 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 Award.
- 6.3. The Scholarships Committee may terminate an Award at any time, and recoup any funds disbursed, if the holder withdraws from the University of Waikato, brings the Award, University or Sponsor into disrepute<sup>1</sup>, or is otherwise not complying with the conditions governing the Award and/or the regulations of the University of Waikato. The holder of the Scholarship shall have the right to appeal to the Scholarships Executive against any decision to terminate the Scholarship.

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<sup>1</sup> See [Code of Student Conduct](#).

- 6.4. By accepting an Award, the recipient agrees to participate in any publicity concerning the Award arranged by the Waikato Students' Union or the University of Waikato, and agrees to attend a presentation ceremony to collect the Award.
- 6.5. The Scholarships Committee, in consultation with the WSU, has the power to amend or vary these regulations provided that there is no departure from the main purpose of the Scholarship.