



THE UNIVERSITY OF WAIKATO ACADEMIC MERIT SCHOOL LEAVER SCHOLARSHIP 2017

BACKGROUND

The University of Waikato recognises the importance of the achievements of our secondary school students and has committed to acknowledging and rewarding their successes through School Leaver Scholarships. The University of Waikato Academic Merit School Leaver Scholarship was established in 2011 and is one of two awards¹ offered by the University to recognise academic excellence and merit in the National Certificate of Educational Achievement (NCEA), or in the Cambridge International Examinations (CIE), International Baccalaureate (IB), or an Australian equivalent.

The Scholarship can be applied towards the tuition fees for their programme of study or accommodation fees in a University hall of residence.

REGULATIONS

1. The award shall be known as the University of Waikato Academic Merit School Leaver Scholarship.
2. For ***most*** candidates there is no formal application required for this Scholarship.²
3. To be eligible for consideration for this Scholarship, candidates must meet the following criteria:
 - a. Be a New Zealand: citizen, permanent resident or temporary permit holder, OR be an Australian citizen
 - b. Have achieved the required entry qualifications while studying at a New Zealand or Australian secondary school in 2016 and meets all other criteria of the scholarship regulations
 - c. Have achieved University Entrance
 - d. Have achieved the NCEA Level 3 Certificate **with a Merit endorsement**, or equivalent³, through a New Zealand or Australian secondary school
 - e. Apply to enrol at the University of Waikato by the application deadline for new students
 - f. Apply to study as a full-time student (in a minimum of 120 points, usually eight papers) in an undergraduate degree
 - g. Be enrolling at the University for the first time⁴ in 2017, and commencing study in the first semester of 2017.

¹ The other award is the Vice-Chancellor's Academic Excellence School Leaver Scholarship.

² Students who took a 'gap year' in 2016 will **not** be considered automatically. They may use the [application form](#) to apply for one of a number of contestable Scholarships.

³ The Cambridge International Examinations (CIE) or the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma with an appropriate number of points (as detailed in Appendix A); the Australian secondary school equivalencies (as detailed in Appendix B)

⁴ Students who have undertaken **STAR** papers at the University of Waikato are **not** excluded by this clause.

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4. Candidates who are identified as meeting the criteria and who are accepted into a full-time undergraduate degree programme in 2017 will be offered a Scholarship.
5. The candidate must accept the Scholarship by signing and returning the Scholarship acceptance form to the University, ideally with the candidate's Enrolment Agreement⁵.
6. This one-year Scholarship will have a value of NZ\$3,000.
7. Recipients may choose to have the Scholarship applied **either** to tuition fees for a fulltime (120 point) academic programme in which they enrol in 2017, **or** to accommodation charges in a University hall of residence in 2017.
8. A University of Waikato Academic Merit School Leaver Scholarship **cannot** be held in conjunction with a Sir Edmund Hillary Scholarship or with a Vice-Chancellor's Academic Excellence School Leaver Scholarship. It may be held with any other award, unless the conditions of this Scholarship or of the other award preclude this.
9. If the scholar receives a fees scholarship from another source, the balance of the University of Waikato Academic Merit School Leaver Scholarship (not already applied to tuition fees or accommodation charges in 2017) may be credited to tuition fees at the University of Waikato for the 2018 academic year. Any credit can only be applied to 2018 fees if the scholar achieves a passing grade in all papers in which they are enrolled in 2017.
10. The Scholarship is non-refundable. If a student withdraws from the University, they may apply for a refund of fees paid that were not covered by the Scholarship (under the provisions of the Fees Regulations).
11. Scholars must remain enrolled full-time for the year of tenure. Should the student withdraw from any papers without adding sufficient papers to maintain an overall enrolment in 120 points for the 2017 academic year, the Scholarship must be repaid in full.
12. International students must comply with Immigration New Zealand (INZ) requirements, which includes holding a valid Student Visa throughout the tenure of studies.
13. In signing and returning the Scholarship acceptance form, the student will be deemed to have read, understood and accepted the conditions of the award of the Scholarship.
14. School leavers who took a 'gap year' in 2016 will **not** be automatically assessed for this Scholarship. **'Gap year' candidates may apply for a limited number of contestable Scholarships by submitting an [application form](#) by 7 February 2017⁶.**

⁵ If the Enrolment Agreement has already been returned, the Scholarship acceptance form should be returned separately (to Student Administration, Student Centre (Level 2), University of Waikato, Private Bag 3105, Hamilton 3240).

⁶ To be considered for this Scholarship, 'gap year' applicants will need to meet all eligibility criteria apart from completing secondary school in 2016.



APPENDIX A – CIE AND IB EQUIVALENCES TO NCEA LEVEL 3 WITH MERIT ENDORSEMENT

Qualification	CIE	IB
Level of achievement	200 points on the UCAS ⁷ tariff, at AS or A level in four subjects equivalent to the NZQA-approved subjects, with at least 30 points in each of those four subjects	30 points in the Diploma
Assessment	Will occur when <i>candidates</i> provide results ⁸	

APPENDIX B – AUSTRALIAN SECONDARY SCHOOL MERIT ENDORSEMENT EQUIVALENCES

Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR)	Overall Position (OP)
NSW, ACT, VIC, NT, WA	QLD
85 to 92	8 to 6

⁷ Universities & Colleges Admissions Service

⁸ School leavers who complete **CIE** and/or an **IB Diploma** in 2016 will have to provide the University with a verified copy of their results by **7 February 2017**.