The WSU Sole Parent / Caregiver Award was established in 2007 to encourage and celebrate the efforts, achievements and contributions of students who are sole parents or caregivers.

1. Eligibility
   1.1. To be eligible, candidates must:
   a) be a sole primary caregiver;
   b) be enrolled part- or full-time at the University of Waikato in the year of tenure, and
   c) have completed at least 120-points (one full-time year of academic study) at the University of Waikato.

   1.2. 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. Value
   2.1. Two Awards of up to $1,000 each will be paid directly into the recipients’ bank account in one lump sum in the year of tenure. The amount offered is at the discretion of the Selection Panel and will be based on criteria such as, but not limited to, total available funding, period of enrolment, grades, financial need, number of credits enrolled, number of applicants.

3. Application
   3.1. The closing date for applications is 30 May annually.
   3.2. Applications must include the following information:
   a) a personal statement (using the template provided) addressing:
      • role as a caregiver;
      • financial situation; and
      • community contribution
   b) an academic reference
   c) a character reference of support outlining the criteria in 3.2a.

4. Selection Panel and Criteria
   4.1. The Selection Panel will comprise 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 as nominated by the President, the General Manager of the Waikato Students’ Union and a representative of the University of Waikato Scholarships Committee (as nominated by the Chair of the Scholarships Committee).
4.2. In selecting the recipients for these Awards, the Selection Panel will take into consideration the candidates’ financial situation, academic merit and community contribution, and statements of support.

4.3. The Selection Panel’s decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into following the selection meeting.

5. Awarding

5.1. The Award will have a maximum tenure of one year.

5.2. In accepting the Scholarship, the recipient will be deemed to have read, understood, and accepted the conditions of the Scholarship and the Scholarships Policy.

5.3. Applicants may receive this Scholarship on one occasion only.

5.4. All candidates will be notified of the outcome of their application as soon as practicable 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. 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, the University or Sponsor into disrepute¹, or is otherwise not complying with the conditions governing the Scholarship 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.

6.3. 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.

6.4. 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.

¹ See Code of Student Conduct.