Investing in excellence - Te Paewai o te Rangi: The University of Waikato Scholarship for Outstanding Academic Achievement has been established to contribute to the University’s Vision of achieving excellence, distinctiveness and international connectedness.

Te Paewai o te Rangi can be translated to mean the water horizon. It is the place where the ocean meets the sky, and where the sun sets and rises every day. This is the transition point where Tāne traveled on his quest to ascend into the heavens and to suspend the stars in the sky. Metaphorically, Te Paewai o te Rangi describes a person’s journey to achieve excellence. It is the pathway to the stars; an unending pursuit to reach the pinnacle of your desires which in the case of this scholarship is education and knowledge.

Te Paewai o te Rangi is also a pathway where the terrestrial becomes the celestial and people move on to a higher state of being and understanding. It is a point where change occurs and people push the boundaries and go beyond the norm. It is fitting therefore that this scholarship provides a platform for outstanding students to strive for excellence in a programme of study at the University of Waikato and to reach the stars.

The University of Waikato will award up to 50 Scholarships for Outstanding Academic Achievement annually on the basis of academic excellence, leadership potential, and community citizenship. The Scholarship will be applied to Halls of Residence accommodation costs and tuition fees.

1. Eligibility

1.1. To be eligible, candidates must:
   a) be enrolled in the New Zealand secondary school system or be a New Zealand citizen studying at an overseas secondary school in the two years preceding tenure;
   b) be enrolling full-time (a full-time academic year comprises 120 points) in undergraduate study at the University of Waikato for the first time in the year of tenure.
   c) have achieved NCEA Level 2 with Excellence or the equivalent through examinations such as the Cambridge International Examinations (CIE), the International Baccalaureate (IB) examination, of the Australian Secondary School Examinations (see Appendix A).

2. Value

2.1. The value of each Scholarship will be up to $25,000 over three years, subject to the recipient maintaining the required level of academic achievement (refer to

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1 Candidates who have undertaken STAR papers at the University of Waikato are not excluded by this clause.
clause 5.3). This will be awarded as up to $10,000 in Year one, and up to $7,500 in each of Years two and three.

2.2. **In Year One:** If a recipient is **not eligible for Fees-Free** under the NZ Government’s Fees-Free Tertiary Education Policy during the year of tenure of this Scholarship, then the Scholarship may first be credited to the recipient’s University tuition fees with the remainder may be used towards accommodation fees in the Halls of Residence **OR** forfeited. Alternatively, the Scholarship may be put towards accommodation cost only.

2.3. **In Year One:** If a recipient is **eligible for Fees-Free** under the Fees-Free Tertiary Education Policy during Year one of the tenure of this Scholarship then the Scholarship may be used either for accommodation fees in the Halls of Residence **OR** the recipient may receive $5,000 which will be paid directly to the recipient in two equal instalments after the withdrawal date for each semester.

2.4. **For Years Two and Three:** The award will be paid as a tuition fee credit of up to $7,500.

2.5. Recipients will be guaranteed a place in the University’s Halls of Residence in the first year of the scholarship.

2.6. The tenure of the scholarship will be up to three years.

3. **Application**

3.1. The closing date for the online applications is **31 August each year**.

3.2. As part of the online application process, each candidate must provide:
   (a) a personal statement (maximum two-pages) that sets out the following:
      (i) future aspirations
      (ii) leadership experience
      (iii) community involvement and extracurricular activities
   (b) a CV of no more than two A4 pages in length
   (c) References as follows:
      (i) A completed Principals assessment form
      (ii) A reference attesting to the applicant’s leadership qualities and/or community involvement. The referee may not be an immediate member of the applicant’s family.
   (d) a NCEA School Results Summary

4. **Selection Panel**

4.1. The Selection Panel will comprise of the Vice-Chancellor (or nominee), the Dean of the School of Graduate Research (in the Chair), the Deputy Vice-Chancellor – Māori, the Associate Director Future Students and the Scholarships Manager.
4.2. The Selection Panel will consider the applications and may contact referees on a confidential basis for further relevant information.

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

5. Awarding

5.1. Successful applicants will be advised of the conditional offer of a Scholarship in writing and must advise the University of their acceptance of the offer by the prescribed date. If the candidate fails to accept the Scholarship within the specified time, the offer will lapse.

5.2. Awarding of the Scholarship will be conditional upon the recipients achieving:
   (a) NCEA Level 3 Certificate with Excellence, or 300 points in the Cambridge International Exams or 30 points in the International Baccalaureate (see appendix B);
   (b) University Entrance
   (c) Admission to their programme of study

5.3. The tenure of the Scholarship may continue for consecutive periods of enrolment for up to three years’ duration, provided that the recipient:
   (a) remains enrolled full-time (i.e a 120 points, usually eight papers)
   (b) achieves at least a B+ average across all papers taken in each year of tenure;
   and,
   (c) participates in any prescribed leadership and personal development activities that may be offered.

5.4. The Scholarships Committee may terminate an undergraduate scholarship at any time and recoup any funds disbursed if the holder withdraws from the University during the tenure of the Scholarship, brings the University into disrepute, or is otherwise not complying with the regulations governing the Scholarship.

6. Other Conditions

6.1. The Scholarship may not be held in conjunction with any other University of Waikato scholarship that contains a tuition fees or accommodation credit component, except the D.V. Bryant Trust University of Waikato Residential Scholarship. It may be held in conjunction with any other scholarship or award, unless the conditions of the other award preclude this.

6.2. In signing and returning the Scholarship acceptance form, the student will be deemed to have read, understood and accepted the conditions for the award and retention of the Scholarship.

6.3. By accepting a Scholarship, the recipient agrees to participate in any publicity concerning the Scholarship as arranged by the University of Waikato.
### CIE and IB Equivalences

**NCEA Level 2 with Excellence endorsement**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Qualification</th>
<th>CIE</th>
<th>IB</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Level of achievement</td>
<td><strong>200 points</strong> on the UCAS tariff, at AS or A level in <strong>four subjects</strong> equivalent to the NZQA-approved subjects, with at least 30 points in each of those four subjects</td>
<td>Assessed by the Scholarships Office at the time of application</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**NCEA Level 3 with Excellence endorsement**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Qualification</th>
<th>CIE</th>
<th>IB</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Level of achievement</td>
<td><strong>300 points</strong> on the UCAS tariff, at AS or A level in <strong>four subjects</strong> equivalent to the NZQA-approved subjects, with at least 40 points in each of those four subjects</td>
<td><strong>30 points in the Diploma</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Australian Secondary School Excellence Endorsement Equivalencies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Australian Territory Admission Rank (ATAR)</th>
<th>Overall Position (OP)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NSW, ACT, VIC, NT, WA</td>
<td>QLD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>91.5 TO 100</td>
<td>5 to 1</td>
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