Beginning in 2018, Te Ara Whānui Scholarship recognises the importance the University of Waikato assigns to fostering, developing, and protecting excellence of Māori, and kapa haka, kaupapa Māori, tikanga, reo and/or mātauranga Māori.

Te Ara Whānui can be translated to mean the broad pathway, and is taken from the saying, Te Ara Whānui a Tāne. This is the pathway Tāne climbed into the heavens to seek knowledge, which he returned to earth as a treasure for all people. It is fitting, therefore, that this Scholarship provides a platform for Māori students to strive for excellence in a programme of study at the University of Waikato and to awaken and widen knowledge of Māori.

1. Eligibility and Selection Criteria

1.1. To be eligible, candidates must:

1.1.1. have achieved NCEA Level 2 with at least Merit, or the equivalent through examinations such as the Cambridge International Examinations (CIE) or the International Baccalaureate (IB) examination;

1.1.2. demonstrate cultural excellence in Māori (e.g., kapa haka, kaupapa Māori, tikanga, reo, and/or mātauranga Māori) and show leadership;

1.1.3. be intending to enrol full-time (a full-time academic year comprises 120 points) in an undergraduate degree programme1 at the University of Waikato for the first time2 in the year of tenure; and

1.1.4. be a New Zealand citizen or permanent resident.

1.2. Candidates who are taking ONE ‘gap year’ in the year of application may also be considered, provided they have achieved both NCEA Level 2 and NCEA Level 3 with at least Merit (or equivalent)

1.3. Selection is based on:

1.3.1. Academic ability;

1.3.2. Demonstrated excellence in kapa haka, kaupapa Māori, tikanga, reo, and/or mātauranga Māori; and

1.3.3. Leadership experience, community involvement and extracurricular activities, especially in the Māori community.

1.3.4. Preference may be given to applicants who indicate they will study kapa haka, kaupapa Māori, tikanga, reo, and/or mātauranga Māori.

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1 This does not include diplomas, certificates, etc, except the Te Tohu Paetahi. Other recipients whose degree structure requires them to enrol in an alternative programme of study in the year of tenure can request special consideration by submitting a Variation Request form https://www.waikato.ac.nz/scholarships/scholarship-variation-request.

2 Candidates who have undertaken Unistart papers at the University of Waikato are not excluded by this clause.
1.4. To maintain eligibility, students offered the Scholarship must:
   1.4.1. gain University Entrance;
   1.4.2. be accepted into an undergraduate degree programme at the University of Waikato; and
   1.4.3. In Year One, recipients must participate in Te Kāhui Pirere (the Māori Student Success Coordinator will send a report to Scholarships
   1.4.4. In each year of tenure enrol full-time as outlined in Clause 1.1.3 and achieve at least a B average across all papers.

2. Value and Awarding
   2.1. The value of each Scholarship will be up to $15,000. (see clause 1.4 for ongoing requirements that could result in a lesser amount being awarded).
      2.1.1. In Year One: The recipient will receive:
               • $1,000 paid to the recipient as soon as practicable after the withdrawal date of A Trimester; and
               • $9,000 to be put towards either accommodation fees in the University Halls of Residence OR to deferred tuition fees in years 2 and 3; deferred tuition fees will be split evenly between both years (i.e., $4,500 each year).
      2.1.2. In Year Two: The recipient will receive a tuition fees credit of $3,000. (For those who have deferred $4,500 from year one, then they will receive a total of $7,500 in tuition fees credit).
      2.1.3. In Year Three: The recipient will receive a tuition fees credit of $2,000. (For those who have deferred $4,500 from year one, then they will receive $6,500 in tuition fees credit).
   2.2. In all cases, the Student Services Levy is not covered by the scholarship.
   2.3. If in any year that the value of the scholarship is more than the tuition fees, the student will forfeit any remainder.
   2.4. If a recipient is not eligible for Fees-Free under the NZ Government’s Fees-Free Tertiary Education Policy in Year One and does not opt for their award to be put towards accommodation, then the recipient may request (via the Variation Request Form: https://www.waikato.ac.nz/scholarships/scholarship-variation-request), that the $9,000 be credited towards tuition fees in that year (not including the Student Services Levy) with the remainder of the Scholarship to be forfeited.
   2.5. The tenure of the Scholarship will be up to three years (see clause 1.4 for ongoing eligibility requirements).
   2.6. Successful applicants will be advised of the offer of a Scholarship via their MyWaikato portal and must accept the offer by the prescribed date or the offer will lapse.
   2.7. In accepting the Scholarship, the recipient will be deemed to have read, understood, and accepted the conditions of the Scholarship and the Scholarships Policy.
3. Application

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

3.2. As part of the online application process, each candidate must submit:

3.2.1. A Personal Statement (using the prescribed template) that sets out the following:
   a. Course of study while at University.
   b. Excellence in kapa haka, kaupapa Māori, tikanga, reo, and/or mātauranga Māori.
   c. Leadership experience, community involvement and extracurricular activities, especially in the Māori community.

3.3. Each candidate must also request the submission of:

3.3.1. An online Academic Assessment which is to be completed by the candidate’s Secondary School Principal or their nominee; and

3.3.2. A reference attesting to the candidate’s leadership qualities and/or community involvement. The referee must not be an immediate member of the applicant’s whānau.

4. Selection Panel

4.1. The Selection Panel will comprise the Chair of the Scholarships Committee (in the Chair), the Dean of the Faculty of Māori and Indigenous Studies, the Scholarships Committee representative from Māori and Indigenous Studies, and the Associate Director Future Students (or their nominees).

4.2. The Selection Panel’s decisions are final and no correspondence will be entered into following the selection meeting.

4.3. The Selection Panel may refrain from making a recommendation if it finds no applicants of sufficient merit.

5. Other Conditions

5.1. If a recipient is in receipt of a student allowance, another scholarship, or any type of financial assistance, it is their responsibility to check their entitlement to other income and any tax implications.

5.2. Recipients who take up this Scholarship are expected to complete at least four trimesters of study at the University of Waikato. Those who withdraw their enrolment before the end of this period will normally be required to pay back the full sum of monies received.

5.3. Should a recipient withdraw from any papers, without adding sufficient papers to maintain an overall enrolment in a minimum of 120 points for the academic year, the University may ask for the Scholarship to be repaid.

5.4. The Scholarship may not be held in conjunction with any other University of Waikato scholarship or any other University of Waikato funding that includes either a tuition fees credit or accommodation credit as a component. The exception is where a scholarship is specifically for financial hardship. It may be held in conjunction with any other scholarship, award or prize, unless the conditions of the other award preclude this.

5.5. 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 or the University into disrepute\(^3\), or is otherwise not complying with the conditions governing the Scholarship and/or the regulations of the University of Waikato. The holder of a Scholarship shall have the right to appeal to the Scholarships Executive against any decision to terminate the Scholarship.

5.6. The Scholarship is not refundable to the student under any circumstances, although (in the case of tuition fees payments) a student who withdraws from the University may (under the provisions of the Fees Regulations) apply for a refund of tuition fees paid that were not covered by the Scholarship.

5.7. By accepting a Scholarship, the recipient agrees to participate in any publicity concerning the Scholarship as arranged by the University of Waikato.

5.8. The Scholarships Committee has the power to amend or vary these regulations, provided that there is no departure from the main purpose of the Scholarship.

\(^3\) See Code of Student Conduct.