The Hamilton Club Scholarship in Health was established in 2017 by the generous legacy of The Hamilton Club. The Club served the Hamilton and wider rural communities for 119 years (1898 – 2017). However, like many other clubs in New Zealand, membership of the Club declined over the years (a reflection of the changing times), thus making it no longer viable. The remaining 54 members of the Club decided unanimously to dissolve the Club and distribute its $1.3 million capital to five Hamilton organisations, creating an enduring legacy. The assets are derived from the sale of the Club’s historic building. Purchased by a developer, the former clubhouse was restored to its original 1904 state and has since been re-purposed for professional office use. It will stand proud for another 100 years under the name ‘Panama House’. Up to two scholarships are awarded each year with a combined total value of $10,000; one award is to an undergraduate student and the other to a graduate student.

1. Purpose

1.1 The purpose of the Scholarship is to support students enrolled in either an undergraduate or graduate degree to pursue studies in a health-related area that will contribute to the New Zealand health sector.

2. Eligibility and Selection Criteria

2.1. To be eligible, candidates must:

2.1.1. be enrolled full-time (120-points);

2.1.2. Undergraduates must be currently enrolled in an undergraduate degree in any division/school/faculty at the University of Waikato and be intending to enrol into their 2nd year or above in the year of tenure (i.e., year after application);

2.1.3. Graduates must be currently enrolled in their final year of undergraduate study or in their graduate degree in any division/school/faculty at the University of Waikato and be intending to enrol/remain enrolled in their graduate degree in the year of tenure (i.e., year after application);

2.1.4. be undertaking a programme of study in a health-related area that will contribute to the NZ health sector; and

2.1.5. be a New Zealand citizen or permanent resident.

2.2. Selection will be based on:

2.2.1. Academic merit, with a minimum Grade Point Average (GPA) of A- required.

2.2.2. The likelihood of the candidate using their study to contribute to the NZ health sector in the future (as demonstrated by their personal statement and supported by the reference).

2.3. To maintain eligibility recipients must:

2.3.1. remain enrolled full-time (120-points) in the relevant degree-programme as outlined in Clause 2.1.
2.3.2. Graduate students must begin their studies on or before the 30 June in the year of tenure (i.e., the year after application).

3. Value, Tenure and Awarding

3.1. The Undergraduate Scholarship will have a value of $2,500 and the Graduate Scholarship will have a value of $7,500 and will be credited directly towards the recipient’s tuition fees (including the Student Services Levy) in the year of tenure¹.

3.2. The successful applicant 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.

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

3.4. The Scholarship will have a tenure of one year and this is a calendar year (i.e., 01 January to 31 December).

4. Application

4.1. The closing date for online applications is 1 November each year.

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

4.2.1. A personal statement (using the prescribed template) that outlines the following:
- Why you’re interested in the field of health
- How your current study will help you contribute to the NZ health sector in the future
- Your future study and/or career plans

4.3. Candidates should also request the submission of an academic reference attesting to their academic abilities and likelihood to contribute to the NZ health sector in the future.

5. Selection Panel

5.1. The Selection Panel will comprise the Chair of the Scholarships Committee (or nominee) in the Chair, the Dean of the School of Health (or nominee), and a University of Waikato academic staff member with expertise in a health-related area, nominated by the Dean of the School of Health.

5.2. The Selection Panel may refrain from making a recommendation if it finds no candidate(s) of sufficient merit.

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

6. Other Conditions

6.1. The Scholarship may be held together with any other scholarship or award, unless the conditions of the other award preclude this.

6.2. 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 tax implications.

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

¹ If the recipient’s tuition fees for the year of tenure are less than the value of the Scholarship, the recipient will forgo the unused balance of the Scholarship.
6.4. The Scholarships Committee may terminate a Scholarship at any time, and recoup any funds disbursed, if the holder withdraws from the University of Waikato during the tenure of the Scholarship, brings the University or the sponsor into disrepute\(^2\), or is otherwise not complying with the regulations governing the Scholarship. The holder of a Scholarship will have the right to appeal to the Scholarships Executive against any decision to terminate the award.

6.5. By accepting the offer of a Scholarship, the recipient agrees to participate in any publicity concerning the Scholarship arranged by the sponsor and/or the University of Waikato.

6.6. 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.

\(^2\) See Code of Student Conduct.