The Tauranga Campus Returning Student Scholarship was set up in 2018 to enable students to continue their university education at the University of Waikato in Tauranga. These scholarships were made available through the generosity of Tauranga Energy Consumer Trust, Tauranga City Council and Bay of Plenty Regional Council. The funds are held in trust by the University of Waikato Foundation and up to 10 scholarships are available each year; the last year of award is 2022. The University of Waikato motto ‘Ko Te Tangata’ (For the People) is a core value and underpins the purpose of these scholarships.

1. Purpose
1.1. The purpose of the Scholarship is to provide financial support to students currently studying at the Tauranga Campus, and returning to study full-time at the University of Waikato in Tauranga in the following year.

2. Eligibility and Selection Criteria
2.1. To be eligible, applicants must:
   a) be currently enrolled full-time (a full-time academic year comprises of 120-points) at the University of Waikato with at least 75% of papers taken in Tauranga OR be currently enrolled on a Learning Pathway Programme studying a NZ Diploma/s,¹ and will be completing the final year of their degree at the University of Waikato Tauranga campus; and
   b) be intending to enrol full-time at the University of Waikato Tauranga Campus in the year of tenure; and
   c) not be eligible for Fees-Free under the NZ Government’s Fees-Free Tertiary Education Policy during the year of tenure of this Scholarship; and
   d) not be intending to study at Masters or Doctoral level in the year of tenure; and
   e) be a New Zealand citizen or permanent resident.
2.2. In selecting recipients the Selection Panel will take into particular consideration:
   a) future aspirations and motivation to succeed at university;
   b) the applicants’ commitment to succeed at university study; and
   c) their grades from the previous year’s study.
2.3. To maintain eligibility during the year of tenure recipients must:
   a) be accepted into a full-time programme of study at the University of Waikato; and
   b) have at least 75% of papers taken in Tauranga Campus.

¹ This also includes those students who are required to complete the first two years of their degree at Toi Ohomai, and the final year at the University of Waikato Tauranga.
3. Value, Tenure and Awarding

3.1. The Scholarship will have a value of $3,000 and will be credited towards the recipient’s University of Waikato tuition fees after the A Trimester withdrawal date.

3.2. The offer of a Scholarship must be accepted by the date indicated in the offer, or the offer will lapse.

3.3. If any recipient declines a Scholarship, or does not take it up, the Selection Panel reserves the right to offer the Scholarship to another applicant.

3.4. The Scholarship will have a maximum tenure of one year and must be taken up in the year for which it is offered.

4. Application

4.1. The closing date for applications is 01 November each year.

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

   a) a personal statement (using the prescribed template) of no more than two A4 pages that outlines the following:

      o Future aspirations and motivation to succeed at University;

      o Why the course of study and, in particular, study at UoW Tauranga Campus will enhance their lifetime opportunities;

   b) As part of the application process, each candidate must request a character reference be submitted confidentially to scholarships@waikato.ac.nz. (The character reference may not be provided by an immediate family member).

5. Selection Panel

5.1. The Scholarship Selection Panel will comprise of the Chair of the Scholarships Committee (or nominee) in the Chair, a representative of the Tauranga Tertiary Campus Charitable Trust (or its successor) and one academic staff member based at Tauranga Campus and appointed by the Chair of the Scholarships Committee.

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

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

6. Other Conditions

6.1. The Scholarship may be held with any other scholarship, award or prize, unless the conditions of the other award preclude this. Where more than one tuition fees scholarship is held, and the total value of the combined scholarships exceed the tuition fees, the remainder of the scholarship will be forfeit (i.e., no cash disbursements will be provided).

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

6.3. 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, University or Sponsor into disrepute\(^2\), 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 will have the right to appeal to the Scholarships Executive against any decision to terminate the award.

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

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

\(^2\) See [Student Code of Conduct](#)