



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**WAIKATO**  
*Te Whare Wānanga o Waikato*

# Parents' Information Guide

2021





# How do I know the University of Waikato is the right choice for my whānau?

University is an exciting chapter in any student's life and, as a parent or caregiver you play a key role in advising and supporting your child during this time.

We aim to make the transition to university as smooth as possible for not only our students, but for you as well.

So, this guide has been designed with you in mind. We hope it gives you the confidence to know that the University of Waikato will take great care of your child while also continuing to advise, support, educate and challenge them.

While academic success is our mainstay, we understand that there is a lot more to the university experience than just an outstanding education.

We offer plenty of opportunities for our students to make the most of their university experience and to settle in on

either of our campuses, as well as a range of support services to help your child achieve their best success with us.

We also provide a number of activities to bring your whānau on to campus. Campus and hostel tours and community days like Kīngitanga are a great way to get a taste of what studying with Waikato will be like, so why not pay us a visit?

We also welcome you to get in touch at any time should you have any questions or concerns by calling us on **0800 WAIKATO** or emailing **info@waikato.ac.nz**.

Visit **waikato.ac.nz/go/parents** to find out more.



# Why choose Waikato?

## Students are more than just a number

We are known as one of the friendliest universities in New Zealand. It is important to us that each student has an enjoyable, safe and prosperous university experience and feels welcome in our university community.

## Students learn from the best

Our teaching staff are world-leading, with vast knowledge and experience in their respective fields. Our academics are known for conducting ground-breaking research and achieving world firsts. We provided New Zealand's first connection to the internet in 1989 and have continued to lead the way since.

## Māori ki Waikato

A key feature of the University of Waikato is its strong Māori identity and heritage. Te Kāhui Pirere is a programme unique to Waikato University and is dedicated to supporting Māori students in their transition from beneath the wings of their whānau, into their new life and whānau at the university.

## Pacific student support

We are committed to enhancing the success of Pacific students who choose to study at Waikato. Pacific student support includes academic seminars, workshops, drop-in sessions, peer mentoring and study groups. Pacific support staff are available to help and on-campus cultural and faculty-specific groups represent and celebrate the vibrant cultures of the Pacific.

## Free regional bus service

As part of the Te Ara ki Angitū programme, we currently offer a free daily bus service for students living in wider areas of the Waikato Region. Additionally we also provide our students from Whakatāne, Rotorua and Katikati a free bus service to our Tauranga campus.

## A unique university experience

From the moment you step onto our Hamilton and Tauranga campuses, you know you're in a great place. Our picturesque campuses have everything students need during their studies - a library, lecture theatres, student support services, cafés, banks, a gym, swimming pools are located on campus or close to it.

## Volunteering opportunities

The Employability Plus Programme allows students to connect with the local community, learn practical skills and gain valuable work experience.

## Flexible degree structures

Flexible degree structures mean students can choose a qualification that combines interests with career goals.

## Waikato OE Student Exchange

Waikato students have the opportunity to study overseas for one or two trimesters at one of more than 60 partner universities. The OE Student Exchange allows students to experience new cultures, improve foreign language skills and travel to new places whilst studying.

# New challenges and experiences

The first trimester is an exciting time, full of change from secondary school. Being prepared is key for new students to be able to cope with the experiences and challenges of university study.

## A different learning style

University students have approximately 15 hours of lectures per week, in addition to tutorials, course readings, research, lab/studio work, writing and revision. Attendance in class is not compulsory, but a roll call may be taken. In some programmes of study, participation in group discussion is mandatory and can count towards overall grades. Each student is expected to take responsibility for managing their own study and must approach teaching staff if they have questions.

## Build networks

Over 12,000 people study at the University of Waikato across our Hamilton and Tauranga campuses. Opportunities to connect with other students, staff, researchers, industry professionals and members of the wider community can open up career prospects.

## Shifting relationships and responsibilities

With new-found independence at university, your child will begin to make their own decisions. They will become responsible for their own time, money and wellbeing. This is the time for young adults to learn to be self-motivated and organised.

## Student life at Waikato

At both our Hamilton and Tauranga campuses, the atmosphere is relaxed and inclusive. The first few weeks at university will be dedicated to attending introductory lectures, navigating the university grounds, making friends and learning about the support services available.

## Access available resources

MyWaikato is a fantastic mobile-friendly system designed to support students during their entire University journey from application right through to graduation. MyWaikato can be used to make enquiries, enrol, pay fees, view timetables and access final grades.



# Our degrees

We offer a wide range of degrees with flexible structures so that students can shape a qualification to suit specific interests and career plans.

## Hamilton campus

### Undergraduate programmes offered in Hamilton in 2021:

- Bachelor of Arts (BA)
- Bachelor of Business (BBus)
- Bachelor of Communication Studies (BCS)
- Bachelor of Computing and Mathematical Sciences (with Honours) (BCMS(Hons))
- Bachelor of Design (BDes)
- Bachelor of Engineering (with Honours) (BE(Hons))
- Bachelor of Environmental Planning (BEP)
- Bachelor of Health (BHealth)
- Bachelor of Health, Sport and Human Performance (BHSHP)
- Bachelor of Laws (LLB)
- Bachelor of Management Studies (with Honours) (BMS(Hons))
- Bachelor of Music (BMus)
- Bachelor of Science (BSc)
- Bachelor of Science (Technology) (BSc(Tech))
- Bachelor of Social Sciences (BSocSc)
- Bachelor of Teaching (BTchg)
- Diploma in Te Tohu Paetahi

## Tauranga campus

### Undergraduate programmes offered in Tauranga in 2021:

- Bachelor of Arts (BA)
- Bachelor of Business (BBus)
- Bachelor of Health, Sport and Human Performance (BHSHP)
- Bachelor of Science (BSc)
- Bachelor of Social Sciences (BSocSc)
- Bachelor of Social Work (BSW)
- Bachelor of Teaching (BTchg)
- Diploma in Law (Dip(Law))
- Diploma in Te Tohu Paetahi

### The following qualifications can be started in Tauranga:

- Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) (BE (Hons))\*
- Bachelor of Laws (LLB)\*\*

\* Year 1 and year 4 can be completed in Tauranga

\*\* In order to start this degree, students must enrol in the Diploma in Law and then they will be given credit for the first two years of the LLB

At Waikato, we have more than 100 subjects to choose from. Look online for more information about subjects, papers and qualifications. For more information, visit [waikato.ac.nz/study](http://waikato.ac.nz/study)

# Accommodation

## Hamilton

Our on-campus Halls of Residence are the ideal place for first year students to settle into university life.

The beginning of every year in the halls kicks off with a full orientation for new residents. Each room comes fully furnished with a single bed, mattress, mattress protector, duvet, blankets, pillow, chair, desk, desk light, bookcase, drawers and wardrobe. All rooms have free WiFi, are fully carpeted and centrally heated.

There is one Residential Assistant (RA) to every 30 students to provide help and guidance. Fully catered halls have a dining room where breakfast, lunch and dinner is served (21 meals a week).

All halls have lounges with TVs and computer rooms with quiet study areas. Residents share bathroom, laundry and kitchenette facilities.



## Tauranga

There are options available to students looking for affordable accommodation in Tauranga.

The University of Waikato manages two accommodation complexes in Tauranga: Selwyn St Studio Rooms and Mayfair Court Apartments. These are both conveniently located a short distance from the campus. The apartments are fully furnished and self-catered.



Applications for accommodation open 1 August 2020. Applications are made online at [waikato.ac.nz/go/accommodation](https://www.waikato.ac.nz/go/accommodation)

# Fees and costs

## Fees-free policy

The government's fees-free policy covers one year's full-time study (120 points, which can take more than a year if you study part-time), and is for all students who are new to tertiary education. Almost all University of Waikato courses are covered under this policy. *(Correct at the time of printing - subject to change.)*

## Eligibility

You are eligible for fees-free study if you:

- Are a New Zealand citizen, or meet New Zealand residency requirements
- Are not enrolled in secondary school when your qualification starts
- Have not undertaken previous study or training of more than 60 credits, except while you were at school
- Enrol in an eligible qualification (all University of Waikato bachelors degrees are eligible).

Visit [waikato.ac.nz/go/fees-free](http://waikato.ac.nz/go/fees-free) or [feesfree.govt.nz](http://feesfree.govt.nz) for more information about the fees-free policy and to check your eligibility.

## Student loans and allowances

Domestic students can apply for Student Loans and Student Allowances through Studylink. Applications for Student Loans and Student Allowances should be submitted at least two months before starting studying. This will allow plenty of time for the application to be processed, to ensure that payments are made on time. Visit [studylink.govt.nz](http://studylink.govt.nz) or phone 0800 88 99 00.



## Financial planning

Students are often faced with new expenses during their first year of study.

Student Job Search is a job placement service for tertiary education students looking for work to boost their finances. This free service is run by students and matches more than 27,000 students with employers every year. Visit [sjs.co.nz](http://sjs.co.nz) for more information.

### What is the difference between a Student Loan and Student Allowance?

#### Student Loan

A Student Loan is to pay for course fees, study materials and living costs. This needs to be paid back once the student has finished studying.

#### Student Allowance

A Student Allowance is a weekly payment to assist with living expenses whilst studying. This does not need to be paid back. Eligibility is based on parents' combined income.

## Example weekly budget

Income	Weekly
Student Loan Living Costs (full entitlement*) OR	\$235.84
Student Allowance (full entitlement*)	\$227.03
Wages (15 hours per week, \$18.90 per hour)	\$190 (after tax)
Total	\$417.03 - 425.84
Expenses	Weekly
Accommodation (Halls of Residence**)	\$322
Gym membership (UniRec)	\$10
Food (in addition to meals at the Halls of Residence)	\$20
Entertainment/leisure	\$35
Total	\$402
Difference	\$15.03 - \$23.84

\*Visit [studylink.govt.nz](https://www.studylink.govt.nz) for the most up-to-date student loan and allowance entitlements

\*\* The weekly payment can be reduced if a scholarship is put towards accommodation.

Note: These figures are approximate and subject to change.



# Scholarships

Our scholarships reward academic ability, leadership potential, sporting skills, and creative and performing arts talent.

We appreciate the diversity of our student group and provide funding for students from all backgrounds. Scholarships may offer support for fees, accommodation and/or cash.

## **Te Paewai o te Rangi: The University of Waikato Scholarship for Outstanding Academic Achievement**

Up to \$25,000 over three years

## **Sir Edmund Hillary Scholarship Programme**

Up to \$10,000 a year during undergraduate study

## **Te Ara Whānui Scholarship**

Up to \$10,000

## **Pacific Excellence Scholarship**

Up to \$10,000

## **D.V. Bryant Trust Residential Scholarship**

Up to \$10,000 towards Halls of Residence fees

## **Edna Money Future Pacific Leaders' Scholarship**

\$6,000 a year for up to three years (cash)

## **The Frank and Alma Kemp Scholarship**

Up to \$5,000 a year during undergraduate study

## **The 'Ko Te Tangata' School Leaver Scholarship**

Up to \$5,000

## **University of Waikato Professional Athletes Dual-Career Scholarship**

Up to \$7,000 + a complimentary annual membership to the University gym, UniRec.

## **2degrees Esports Scholarship for School Leavers**

Up to \$5,000

We also have plenty of other scholarships on offer.

Visit [waikato.ac.nz/scholarships](http://waikato.ac.nz/scholarships) for more information and to apply.

Get in touch

Our Scholarships Team is here to answer any questions you have regarding eligibility, how to apply, closing dates and more.



Website

[waikato.ac.nz/scholarships](http://waikato.ac.nz/scholarships)



Email

[scholarships@waikato.ac.nz](mailto:scholarships@waikato.ac.nz)

*All scholarship information is correct at the time of printing, but is subject to change.*

# Student support

Our students tell us we are one of the friendliest and most supportive universities in New Zealand.

We are enthusiastic about helping students get the advice, support and services they need to make sure their time at the University of Waikato is successful.

## Academic advice

Prospective students, and their families and whānau, can make an appointment with one of our Future Student Advisors to ask questions before they enrol. We can talk over the phone, via Skype or Adobe Connect, or we can meet and talk on campus. We can also arrange campus and Halls of Residence tours if you would like to see what's on offer. Email our Future Student Advisors at [info@waikato.ac.nz](mailto:info@waikato.ac.nz) or call **0800 WAIKATO**.

## Learning support

We offer learning support for assignment preparation and writing. Our tutors can assist with the development of specific skills such as time management, essay writing, note-taking or exam preparation. Students can join a workshop, make use of interactive resources, be tutored online, or have an individual face-to-face consultation. Visit [waikato.ac.nz/students/student-learning](http://waikato.ac.nz/students/student-learning) for more information.

## Clubs, sports and social events

Joining a club is a great way for your child to get involved and to meet new people. It can be something they love doing or something they have never tried before. Students can also represent their faculty in different events and can get involved with social sports teams on campus. Visit [wsu.org.nz](http://wsu.org.nz) to see the full list of student clubs on offer.

## Support for Māori and Pacific students

Supporting Māori and Pacific students throughout their studies is a priority at Waikato. Our services include a diverse network of specialist Māori and Pacific support staff, with mentoring units based in each faculty. For Māori student support visit [waikato.ac.nz/maori](http://waikato.ac.nz/maori) and for Pacific student support visit [waikato.ac.nz/go/pacific](http://waikato.ac.nz/go/pacific)

## Career Development Services

The careers team assists with employment skills, job opportunities and job interview skills. Students can get help with their CVs and cover-letter writing and can also attend free career skills workshops. Potential employers also conduct presentations on campus during the year as part of their graduate recruitment activities. Visit [waikato.ac.nz/students/careers](http://waikato.ac.nz/students/careers) for more information.



# Enrol in five easy steps



# 1

## Create a MyWaikato account

To apply visit [enrol.waikato.ac.nz](http://enrol.waikato.ac.nz) and select 'Create an account'. Ensure that the email address you enter in your MyWaikato account is one that you will use when you start university, as most communications sent from the Admissions Office are done by email.

# 2

## Log in and apply for your course

You'll need to know which qualification you want to study, which subject you want to focus on (your major subject) and which trimester you want to begin study. We may ask you for more information. Some programmes have an additional selection process and/or interview. We aim to respond to applications within one week, however this may take longer during peak periods.



# 3

## Respond to Offer of Place

You will be sent an Offer of Place by email if your application is approved. Log into MyWaikato to accept your Offer of Place to let us know you have decided to study your undergraduate degree at the University of Waikato.

# 4

## Choose your papers and complete your enrolment

Once enrolment is open (usually the last three months of the previous year), you can choose your papers by logging into MyWaikato. We will contact you at this stage to assist with paper selection and finalising your enrolment.

# 5

## Accept your Enrolment Agreement

Once you receive your Enrolment Agreement by email, you will need to accept it and let us know how you will pay your tuition fees.

For the most up-to-date fees information, search for your qualification online at [waikato.ac.nz/study/course-finder](http://waikato.ac.nz/study/course-finder).

# Health and wellbeing at Waikato

Study is important, but there's more than just academic life at the University of Waikato. We are dedicated to supporting the health and wellbeing of all students.

## Student Health Centres

University of Waikato students based in Hamilton have access to low-cost consultations and prescriptions by registering with our on-campus Student Health Service.

The Student Health Nurse at our Tauranga campus is available for consultations, treatment of minor wounds, and facilitates regular wellbeing workshops on a range of topics. She can also refer students to other free and low-cost health providers where required.

## Counselling and Mental Health

Counselling and mental health support services are available to help with issues students may face such as loneliness, stress, anxiety and depression and other aspects of life including relationships and sexuality. A mental health nurse is also available to support students with a range of mental health needs, or who are experiencing crisis.

## Accessibility Services

Accessibility Services aim to provide equity in education, and work to ensure that students with impairments have access to all areas of campus life. All students with an impairment are encouraged to register with Accessibility Services before coming to university, or very early in their studies. This will ensure the right access to support.

## Safety and respect while at university

### Campus patrols and monitoring

As well as offering 'safe walk' services after dark, security staff carry-out foot patrols around campus, regular safety checks of computer labs and courtesy calls to people working late in University buildings. There are CCTV cameras in operation 24/7 across the campus.

### Consent Matters

All students are encouraged to complete the Consent Matters module. The module reminds students about sexual consent, explores common misconceptions and reinforces how to communicate consent to a partner.

### Violence prevention

The University of Waikato's Violence Prevention Coordinator is available to discuss issues regarding harassment, violence and abuse. Services supplied in these strictly confidential sessions include support and advocacy, help accessing services, safety planning and referrals to see other professionals if required.

# Tips for parents

**Prepare** your child to be financially responsible so they understand the stresses and strains of living on a limited budget. Have a conversation with your child before they leave for university about what costs they will have and how they will pay for them.

**Support** your child to do the very best they can in their studies. Keep in touch and be available to talk in case they need advice or guidance.

**Encourage** your child to balance studies with extracurricular activities. Students can join a club, get involved in cultural groups and attend social or academic events.

**Motivate** your child to look after their health while at university. As a parent, whānau member or caregiver, you can encourage your child to adopt good physical activity habits and make healthy food choices.

**Familiarise** yourself with the resources available at university to support your child. If a problem arises you can then recommend the appropriate University services to your child and encourage them to reach out. Your child will appreciate the support you give them.

## Key dates

<b>July</b>	<b>31 July:</b> Come and see us at our Hamilton Open Day to explore study options and get a taste of student life at Waikato. Check out <a href="http://waikato.ac.nz/go/openday">waikato.ac.nz/go/openday</a>
<b>August</b>	<b>1 August:</b> Halls of Residence applications open <b>31 August:</b> Most scholarship applications are due
<b>October</b>	<b>1 October:</b> Halls of Residence applications close. You can still apply after this date, but the rooms will be filling up fast so get in quick
<b>November</b>	<b>6 November:</b> NCEA examinations begin - good luck!
<b>December</b>	StudyLink encourages all students who are applying for a loan or allowance to submit an application before mid-December
<b>January</b>	NCEA results are out! We will contact you to confirm your enrolment
<b>March</b>	<b>8 March 2020:</b> A Trimester starts! Welcome to Waikato



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**WHERE THE WORLD IS GOING**  
TE AHUNGA O TE AO

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