

The Te Piringa – Faculty of Law School Leaver Scholarship (formerly known as Te Piringa – Faculty of Law Entrance Scholarship and Te Piringa – Faculty of Law Endeavour Scholarship) was renamed in 2020 and is intended to assist school leaver students studying law who have excellent academic performance or who face difficult circumstances that affect their ability to attain academic success.

These scholarships are funded by Te Piringa - Faculty of Law and the number of scholarships awarded varies from year to year.

1. Purpose

- 1.1. The purpose of these Scholarships is to provide financial support to first-year school leaver students studying at Te Piringa – Faculty of Law who have performed excellently academically or whose financial circumstances are severely constrained or for whom there are other special circumstances.

2. Eligibility

- 2.1. To be eligible, applicants must:
 - a) be school leaver students enrolling full-time (a full-time academic year comprises 120 points) in the first year of a Bachelor of Laws (LLB), Diploma of Law or a conjoint degree¹ with Te Piringa - Faculty of Law at the University of Waikato (see also clause 2.3);
 - b) have performed at a high standard, with a minimum endorsement of Merit, in the National Certificate in Educational Achievement (NCEA) Level 2 and/or the NZ Scholarships assessments, or equivalent, in the year of application;
 - c) be New Zealand citizens or permanent residents.
- 2.2. Candidates who are taking a 'gap-year' in 2021 may also be considered, provided they meet all other eligibility criteria outlined above.
- 2.3. To maintain eligibility, students offered the Scholarship must:
 - a) gain University Entrance;
 - b) be accepted into the first year of a Bachelor of Laws (LLB), Diploma of Law or a conjoint degree with Te Piringa – Faculty of Law at the University of Waikato.

3. Application

- 3.1. The closing date for applications is **31 August annually**.
- 3.2. Along with the prescribed application form, each applicant must submit:
 - a) a personal statement (using the template provided); and
 - b) a CV (maximum two A4 pages in length).

¹ Students enrolling in a conjoint degree must undertake the full first-year Law programme (LEGAL103, LEGAL104 and LEGAL106).

4. Value and Tenure

- 4.1. The Scholarship will have a value of up to \$2,000 and will be paid directly to the recipient in one lump sum after the withdrawal period for A trimester.
 - 4.1.1. The amount offered is at the discretion of the Selection Panel and will be based on criteria such as, but not limited to, total available funding, period of enrolment, grades, financial need, number of credits enrolled, number of applicants.
- 4.2. The Scholarship will have a maximum tenure of one year and must be taken up in the year for which it is offered.

5. Selection Panel and Criteria

- 5.1. The Selection Panel will comprise the Scholarships Committee representative from the Division of Arts, Law, Psychology and Social Sciences (in Chair), the Dean of Law (or nominee), and at least two members of the Law Student Admissions Committee.
- 5.2. The main criterion will be academic excellence, but in appropriate circumstances financial need or other circumstances that have constrained the applicant's ability to succeed academically will be taken into account.
- 5.3. The number of Scholarships awarded will be decided annually by Te Piringa – Faculty of Law, and may vary from year to year.
- 5.4. The Selection Panel may refrain from making a recommendation if it finds no applicants of sufficient merit.
- 5.5. 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 together with any other scholarship, award, prize or student allowance, unless the conditions of the other award preclude this.
- 6.2. 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.
- 6.3. 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.
- 6.4. The offer of a Scholarship must be accepted by the date indicated in the letter of offer.
- 6.5. In accepting the Scholarship, the recipient will be deemed to have read, understood, and accepted the conditions of the Scholarship and the [Scholarships Policy](#).
- 6.6. 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 disrepute², 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.

² See [Code of Student Conduct](#)

- 6.7. 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.
- 6.8. By accepting the Scholarship, the recipient agrees to participate in any publicity concerning the Scholarship arranged by the University of Waikato.