

ACORN FOUNDATION ADULT LEARNER SCHOLARSHIP FOR WOMEN

The **Acorn Foundation**, formed in 2003, is a charitable trust that connects generous people who care with causes that matter, forever. The principal goal of the Foundation is to encourage people to consider making a gift in their will and/or during their lifetime to benefit the local community forever.



The Acorn Foundation Adult Learner Scholarship for Women was established in 2020 through a generous and anonymous donation to the Acorn Foundation. Originally from England, the donor moved to New Zealand in 1982, and has lived in Tauranga since 1997. The donor has been a long-time supporter of the Acorn Foundation, contributing annually through participation in a Giving Circle, and through the establishment of this Scholarship. The donor is particularly passionate about education, and views the Scholarship as an opportunity to help other women achieve their goals and realize their potential.

Purpose

The Acorn Foundation Adult Learner Scholarship for Women was established to financially assist adult female students (25 years and over) studying at the University of Waikato Tauranga campus. Awards are made to females on academic merit, financial circumstances, leadership, and contribution to the community.

Eligibility

To be eligible, applicants must:

- a) be female; and
- b) be 25 years of age or over; and
- c) be currently living in the areas administered by Tauranga City Council or Western Bay of Plenty District Council; and
- d) enrol at the University of Waikato Tauranga Campus.

Value and Tenure

One scholarship will be awarded each year and shall have a value of **\$3,000**. The value of the Scholarship may be pro-rated for students who are enrolled part-time over the tenure of Scholarship. The Scholarship will have a maximum tenure of one year.

Awarding

The Scholarship will be paid in one lump sum to the recipient after the withdrawal date for A Trimester in the year following awarding.

Application

The closing date for applications is **15 October annually**; applications are made electronically through the University of Waikato online application process. The following information must be included within the application:

- a) a personal statement (on the prescribed form) that outlines the following:
 - suitability for the award;
 - community involvement including leadership roles;
 - future study/career plans; and
 - financial circumstances.
- b) a brief CV (no longer than four A4 pages in length).
- c) Applicants should also seek submission of two references (one academic and one character).

Selection Criteria and Selection Panel

The Selection Panel will take academic merit, financial circumstances, leadership, and contribution to the community into consideration when selecting candidates.

The Selection Panel will be organised annually by the Acorn Foundation and may include any or all of the following: a representative of the Acorn Foundation (as chair), the Tauranga Liaison Partnership Manager (or nominee) and the University of Waikato Tauranga Manager - Student and Academic Services (or nominee).

The Selection Panel may refrain from making a recommendation if it finds no candidate of sufficient merit in that year. The Selection Panel's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into following the selection meeting.

Other Conditions

The Scholarship may be held with any other prize, scholarship, or award provided the regulations of the other award(s) allow this.

The Acorn Foundation (through the University of Waikato) and/or University of Waikato may terminate this Scholarship at any time, and recoup any funds disbursed, if the holder withdraws from the University of Waikato, brings the Acorn Foundation, Scholarship, or the University into disrepute¹, or is otherwise not complying with the conditions governing the Scholarship.

By accepting the Scholarship, the recipient agrees to participate in any publicity concerning the Scholarship arranged by the University of Waikato or the Acorn Foundation.

The Acorn Foundation may from time to time vary these regulations².

¹ See [Code of Student Conduct](#).

² Last reviewed 20 June 2022