The University of Waikato Summer Research Scholarships Programme was established in 2006 to provide promising undergraduate, final-year honours and first-year master’s degree students enrolled in taught papers (particularly those considering further study at the University of Waikato), with the opportunity to experience the challenges and rewards of research.

Scholarships are offered in various disciplines and support a ten-week period of full-time research during C Trimester (November to February). The number of Scholarships offered in any one year will be determined by the availability of funding and appropriate supervision.

1. **Purpose**

1.1. The University of Waikato Summer Research Scholarships are intended to support and enhance research at the University. The Scholarships provide students with funding while undertaking a research project. The experience is designed to assist students in the development of their research skills, particularly those considering further study at the University of Waikato, and provide the opportunity to experience the challenges and rewards of research work.

1.2. The Summer Research Scholarships will support a **ten-week period of full-time research during C Trimester** (November to February; up to a maximum of 400 hrs) and will include enrolment in a credit bearing paper. Enrolment in this paper will not incur any cost to the student.

2. **Eligibility**

2.1 To be eligible for consideration applicants must be enrolled at a New Zealand or Australian University in one of the following qualifications:

(a) undergraduate degree

(b) final year honours degree

(c) first-year master’s degree (taught papers only)

2.2 Applicants concurrently enrolled in taught papers and a thesis (593 or 594) will still be eligible to apply providing they are still in their first year of enrolment in a masters degree.

2.3 Preference will be given to applicants whose intention is to continue with study at the University of Waikato after the completion of the scholarship.

3. **Value**

3.1. The scholarship will have a value of $6,000 and will also include enrolment in a credit bearing paper. The enrolment in this paper will not incur any cost to the student.

3.2. The scholarship will be paid in four instalments:

1. the first (25%) on commencement of the project;
2. the second instalment (25%) four weeks through the term of the scholarship;
3. the third instalment (25%) eight weeks through the term of the scholarship and is conditional upon receipt of interim report from the Academic Supervisor confirming satisfactory progress; and
4. the final instalment (25%) following submission of the final research poster.
3.3. All recipients (who submit a final research poster) are automatically eligible for the annual Summer Research Scholarship Award for Best Research Poster (one at $1,000), or one of two Summer Research Scholarship Award Runner-up Research Poster Awards (two at $500 each).

4. Applications

4.1. Applications for Scholarships close **15 September 2020**.

4.2. Applicants must include with their application:

   a) a curriculum vitae (no longer than four A4 pages in length);
   
   b) a brief one page summary of relevant background, experience, and interest in the research area(s) outlined in the projects;
   
   c) The names of two referees who can provide an academic reference; and
   
   d) where previous tertiary study has not been completed at the University of Waikato then applicants will also need to provide copies of academic transcripts

5. Selection Criteria

5.1. Applicants will be assessed on:

   a) Expertise in at least one of the specific areas in which the research is being offered in a given year;
   
   b) Academic merit. The Grade Point Average (GPA) will be calculated on the candidate’s most recent 240 points of study, i.e. the equivalent of two years’ full-time enrolment; and
   
   c) Future intentions to continue study, especially research qualifications, at the University of Waikato.

6. Selection Panel

6.1. The Selection Panel will comprise of the Academic Supervisor and any co-supervisor/s or external funders (if applicable) listed on the project abstract.

6.2. The selection panel may choose to formulate a reserve list and may refrain from making a recommendation if it finds no candidate of sufficient merit for a specific project.

6.3. The selection panel’s decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into following selection.

7. Awarding

7.1. Successful applicants will be advised of the offer of a Summer Research Scholarship through MyWaikato and must accept by the date stipulated in the offer.

7.2. Scholarships must be taken up and research commenced no later than **30 November** in the year that the Scholarship is offered. If a recipient has not enrolled in the credit bearing paper by **30 November**, they will be removed from the Programme. The supervisor will have the opportunity to offer the scholarship to their reserve candidate who must accept the offer and enrol before a date outlined in the offer.

7.3. All Summer Research students will be required to enrol in a credit-bearing paper for the duration of the summer research programme (Nov-Feb). The specific paper code and enrolment in this paper will be at the discretion of the Division/Faculty/School.

   7.3.1. Enrolment in this paper will not incur any cost to the student.
8. Other Conditions

8.1. Recipients of the Summer Research Scholarship are required to attend the Summer Research Induction and a research poster workshop. They will also be expected to attend the Summer Research Scholarship Closing Function held at the end of the Programme in February.

8.2. Recipients of a Summer Research Scholarship are required to submit a research poster at the conclusion of the Scholarship period, and this is linked to the final payment. Recipients should prepare their research poster in collaboration with their academic supervisor and submit to the School of Graduate Research by the date specified.

a) All posters will be reviewed by the Divisional/Faculty/School Research Committee Representatives, and the top two student posters from each School/Faculty will be sent to the Scholarships Executive for final consideration.

b) Awards will be announced at the Summer Research Closing Function, with the top poster receiving $1,000, and two runner-ups receiving $500 each.

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

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

8.5. The Scholarships Executive may terminate a scholarship at any time and recoup any funds disbursed if the holder withdraws from the University, brings the University into disrepute, or is otherwise not complying with the regulations 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.

8.6. 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.

8.7. 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 any tax implications.

8.8. Recipients travelling to New Zealand must arrange their own health and travel insurance and, upon their arrival, provide the University of Waikato with a copy of their full policy document(s).

8.9. International scholars must comply with the conditions of their Immigration New Zealand (INZ) Student Permit.

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1 See Student Code of Conduct