The Otumoetai Trust Undergraduate Scholarship was established in 1998 to assist Bay of Plenty Students (from three targeted secondary schools) into tertiary study, with emphasis on supporting disadvantaged students. The Otumoetai Licensing (Charitable) Trust placed strong emphasis on education when providing grants. With the wind down of the Trust, the trustees decided to support undergraduate students and funded the Scholarship stating: “Financial hardship, as well as social and physical adversity, should not result in exclusion from tertiary education”. The funds are held by the University of Waikato and will provide support for one new recipient each year until the funds are used in their entirety.

1. Purpose

1.1. The purpose of the Scholarship is to provide financial support to first-year undergraduate students studying full-time at the University of Waikato (either campus), and who demonstrate financial need, social disadvantage, and/or physical disability and who, without the scholarship, may not be able to undertake tertiary education.

2. Eligibility

2.1. To be eligible, applicants must be:
   a) completing their secondary schooling at Otumoetai College, or Tauranga Boys’ College, or Tauranga Girls’ College in the year prior to taking up the Scholarship;
   b) intending to enrol full-time (a full-time academic year comprises 120 points) in the first year of an undergraduate degree at the University Waikato in Tauranga or Hamilton;
   c) Achieve at least Merit in NCEA level 2;
   d) accepted into their programme of study; and
   e) a New Zealand citizen or permanent resident.

3. Value

3.1. The Scholarship will have a total value of up to $9,000 over three years and in each year of tenure will be paid directly to the recipient in two equal cash sums, after the withdrawal period for A and B Semester.
   a) Payment of subsequent instalments is conditional on the recipient passing all papers in the previous Semester(s) as well as continued enrolment in an undergraduate degree at the University of Waikato.
4. Application

4.1. The closing date for applications is 15 October 2019.

4.2. As part of the online application process, each candidate must provide:
   a) a personal statement (using the prescribed template) that sets out the following:
      (i) future aspirations and motivation to succeed at University and why the course of study will enhance their lifetime opportunities;
      (ii) why the scholarship will assist the student to undertake and complete their University studies, with emphasis on financial need, social disadvantage and/or physical disability.
   b) a NCEA School Results Summary

4.3. As part of the application process, each candidate must also request the following documents to be submitted confidentially to the School of Graduate Research:
   a) A completed Principal's Assessment form (using the appropriate template provided)

5. Selection Panel and Criteria

5.1. The Scholarship Selection Panel will comprise of the Chair of the Scholarships Committee (as chairperson), the Academic Director-Tauranga Campus, the Disabilities Services Manager, and the WSU Advocacy Coordinator (or nominees).

5.2. Awards will be made on evidence provided in personal statements as outlined in clause 4.2 above.

5.3. In awarding Scholarships, the Selection Panel will take into particular consideration the applicant's financial need and/or social disadvantage and/or physical disability as well as their commitment to succeed at university study.

5.4. The Selection Panel may refrain from making a recommendation in any year 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. Awarding and Tenure

6.1. The offer of a Scholarship must be accepted by the date indicated in the letter of offer and taken up in the year for which it is offered.

6.2. Recipients must have met all eligibility requirements prior to enrolment (see clause 2.1).

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 tenure of the Scholarship may continue for consecutive periods of enrolment for up to three years' duration, provided that the recipient:
   a) remains enrolled full-time (i.e. 120 points, usually eight papers)
   b) passes all papers taken in each year of tenure.
7. Other Conditions

7.1. The Scholarship may be held with any other scholarship, award or prize, unless the conditions of the other award preclude this.

7.2. The Scholarships Committee may terminate this Scholarship at any time, and recoup any funds disbursed, if the holder withdraws from the University of Waikato during the tenure of the Scholarship, brings the Scholarship programme or the University into disrepute\(^1\), or is otherwise not complying with the regulations governing the Scholarship. The holder of a Scholarship will have the right to appeal to the Scholarships Executive against any decision to terminate the award.

7.3. 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.

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

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

7.6. The Scholarships Committee may, from time to time, vary these regulations.

\(^1\) See Student Code of Conduct