

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”. Only one Scholarship will be offered each year until all the funds are used (likely by 2024)

## 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 and Selection Criteria

- 2.1. **To be eligible**, candidates must:

- 2.1.1 have achieved a minimum of NCEA Level 2 with Merit, or equivalent;
- 2.1.2 be studying at NCEA Level 3 (or equivalent) towards University Entrance at Otumoetai College, Tauranga Boys' College, or Tauranga Girls' College in the year prior to tenure;
- 2.1.3 be intending to enrol full-time (a full-time academic year comprises [120 points](#)) in the first year of an undergraduate degree programme<sup>1</sup> at the University of Waikato in Tauranga or Hamilton for the first time<sup>2</sup> in the year of tenure; and
- 2.1.4 be a New Zealand citizen or permanent resident.

- 2.2. **Selection is based on:**

- 2.2.5 Academic readiness;
- 2.2.6 future aspirations, especially those relating to the chosen degree;
- 2.2.7 motivation to succeed at University and why the chosen course of study will enhance your lifetime opportunities;
- 2.2.8 how the scholarship will assist you to undertake and complete your University studies, with emphasis on: financial need, social disadvantage; and/or physical disability

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<sup>1</sup> This does not include diplomas, certificates, etc. However, candidates whose degree structure requires them to enrol in an alternative programme of study in the year of tenure can request special consideration by emailing [scholarships@waikato.ac.nz](mailto:scholarships@waikato.ac.nz).

<sup>2</sup> Candidates who have undertaken **Unistart** papers at the University of Waikato are **not** excluded by this clause.

- 2.3. **To maintain eligibility**, recipients must:
- 2.3.1 gain University Entrance;
  - 2.3.2 be accepted into an undergraduate degree programme at the University of Waikato;  
and
  - 2.3.3 enrol full-time, as outlined in Clause 2.1.c.
  - 2.3.4 The tenure of the Scholarship may continue for consecutive periods of enrolment for up to three years' duration, provided that the recipient also passes all papers taken in each and trimester and year of tenure.

### 3. Value, Tenure and Awarding

- 3.1. The total value of the Scholarship will be **up to \$9,000** spread over a tenure of three years. The exact value and tenure will be contingent on the recipient maintaining ongoing eligibility (see Clause 2.3).
- 3.2. In each year of tenure, the recipient will be paid directly in two equal cash sums, after the withdrawal periods for A and B Trimesters. Payment of the B Trimester instalment is conditional on the recipient passing all papers in A trimester (see also Clause 2.3). as outlined in clause 2.3.4.
- 3.3. Successful applicants will be advised of the offer of a Scholarship via their MyWaikato portal and must accept the offer by the prescribed date or the offer will lapse, and the scholarship offered to the next reserve candidate.
- 3.4. In accepting the Scholarship, the recipient will be deemed to have read, understood, and accepted the conditions of the Scholarship and the [Scholarships Policy](#).

### 4. Application

- 4.1. The closing date for online applications is **31 August each year**.
- 4.2. As part of the online application process, each candidate must submit:
  - 4.2.1 A Personal Statement (using the prescribed template) that sets out the following:
    - (i) their future aspirations, motivation to succeed at University, and why their chosen course of study will enhance their lifetime opportunities; and
    - (ii) how the Scholarship will assist them to undertake and complete their University studies, with emphasis on any financial need, social disadvantage and/or physical disability.
- 4.3. Each candidate must also request the submission of an online Academic Assessment, which is to be completed by the candidate's Secondary School..

### 5. Selection Panel

- 5.1. The Selection Panel will comprise the Chair of the Scholarships Committee (in the chair), the Academic Director – Tauranga Campus, the Disabilities Services Manager, and the WSU Advocacy Coordinator (or their nominees).
- 5.2. The Selection Panel's decisions are final and no correspondence will be entered into following the selection meeting.

- 5.3. The Selection Panel may refrain from making a recommendation in any year if it finds no applicant of sufficient merit.

## **6. Other Conditions**

- 6.1. Recipients must remain enrolled full-time for the period of tenure. 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.
- 6.2. Recipients should seek independent financial advice about any tax implications of their Scholarship.
- 6.3. The Scholarship may be held in conjunction with any other scholarship, award or prize, unless the conditions of the other award preclude this.
- 6.4. 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 disrepute<sup>3</sup>, 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 award.
- 6.5. By accepting a Scholarship, the recipient agrees to participate in any publicity concerning the Scholarship arranged by the University of Waikato.
- 6.6. 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.

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<sup>3</sup> See [Code of Student Conduct](#).