The Tauranga Moana Futures Scholarships were established in 2022 to enable the University of Waikato and its partners to support talented undergraduate students to study in Tauranga on areas of importance to employers in the region. Through the Scholarship, the University will work closely with funding organisations to support the education of the leaders of tomorrow. The Scholarships provide talented students studying relevant undergraduate degree programmes at the University of Waikato Tauranga Campus up to $40,000 in financial support over the course of their studies, as well as opportunities for work-integrated-learning experience, project based learning, paid work placement and networking with other students and employers involved in the programme.

In the inaugural year (2023), the funding organisation is Tauranga City Council (TCC), who are investing in two Scholarships within Environmental Science and/or Civil Engineering.

1. Purpose

1.1. The Scholarships provide financial support, work experience opportunities and project-based learning opportunities in areas where there is employer demand for university graduates in roles that contribute directly to decision making and delivery for the development of Tauranga City and the wider region.

2. Eligibility and Selection Criteria

2.1. To be eligible for consideration, applicants must:

2.1.1. be studying at NCEA Level 3 (or equivalent) towards University Entrance in the year of application;

2.1.2. At the time of application have achieved NCEA Level 2 with at least Merit (or the equivalent), and at the time of consideration by the Selection Panel, have achieved NCEA Level 3 with at least Merit (or the equivalent\(^1\)), and have University Entrance;

2.1.3. be intending to enrol full-time (a full-time academic year comprises 120 points) in one of the following undergraduate degree programmes offered by the University of Waikato Tauranga Campus for the first time\(^2\) in the year following application:
   a) BE(Hons) in Civil Engineering; or
   b) One of the following Bachelor’s degrees with a major in Environmental Science; Bachelor of Climate Change, Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Computer Science or Bachelor of Science (Technology).

2.1.4. be willing to be part of a University-led visit to their secondary school, or another secondary school in the region, to highlight the importance of university study;

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\(^1\) through examinations such as the Cambridge International Examinations (CIE), the International Baccalaureate (IB) examination, or the Australian Secondary School examinations

\(^2\) Candidates who have undertaken Unistart papers at the University of Waikato are not excluded by this clause.
2.1.5. **be eligible for domestic fees status** (i.e. be a NZ Citizen, NZ Permanent Resident, NZ Resident Class Visa Holder, or Australian Citizen/Permanent Resident domiciled in NZ).

2.2. **Selection is based on:**

   2.2.1. academic ability;
   2.2.2. commitment and intention to succeed in university study;
   2.2.3. intention to study at the University of Waikato Tauranga Campus where possible (noting that for some options and courses, study from the Hamilton Campus may be required);
   2.2.4. alignment with the interests and aspirations of the scholarship funding organisation(s) as outlined in the preamble above.

2.3. **To maintain eligibility**, students offered the Scholarship must:

   2.3.1. enrol full-time in one of the eligible undergraduate degree programmes outlined in Clause 2.1.3 at the Tauranga campus in the year following application.
   2.3.2. in each consecutive year of tenure:
      a) continue full-time enrolment in the eligible undergraduate degree programme; and
      b) achieve at least a B grade point average in each Trimester of study.
   2.3.3. Participate, where reasonable, in Work-Integrated-Learning and course assessment opportunities offered by the funder, but not to the detriment of achieving the grades required for scholarship eligibility maintenance.
   2.3.4. Endeavour to make themselves available for networking event(s) led by industry partners, Priority One, and the University of Waikato.

3. **Value, Tenure and Awarding**

   3.1. Each Scholarship will have a value of **up to $10,000 in each year** of the recipient’s undergraduate degree programme, and will be paid as follows:

   3.1.1. **Year one:** The scholarship will normally be credited towards accommodation fees in the Tauranga Campus University Halls of Residence(s), with any remainder paid as cash to the recipient after the withdrawal date of A Trimester. If the successful recipient is unable to find a place in the Tauranga Campus Halls of Residence, or is a resident of Tauranga, their scholarship will instead be paid in two equal cash instalments with payments made after the withdrawal date of A and B Trimester.

   3.1.2. **Year two onwards:** The Scholarship will first be credited towards the recipient’s tuition fees (including student services fees), with any remainder paid as cash directly to the recipient. Cash payments will be made after the withdrawal date of B Trimester.

   3.1.3. Recipients will be offered the following opportunities during the tenure of their scholarship:
a) At least one paid summer work placement with the funding organisation over the course of the scholarship. This will be paid directly to the recipient by the funder and is in addition to scholarship funding; and

b) At least one project-based learning opportunity involving the funding organisation during their study (e.g., assignments and/or capstone projects required as part of course assessment.

c) If the funding organisation is not available for either of the above, then an equivalent experience will be found with another organisation by Priority One.

3.2. The Scholarship will have a tenure of three or four years, depending on the normal length of the undergraduate-degree programme of the recipient.

3.3. The successful applicant 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.

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.

3.5. Once the successful applicant has accepted their offer of the Scholarship, they may be contacted directly by the funder.

4. Application

4.1. The closing date for online applications is **10 December 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 outlines the following:

   a) Why completing their degree is important to the candidate and their future ambitions;
   
   b) Intention and commitment to studying in Tauranga;
   
   c) Any other information that may be of relevance to the Selection Panel.

4.3. Each candidate must also request the submission of two references:

4.3.1. An online Academic Assessment which is to be completed by the candidate’s Secondary School; and

4.3.2. A reference attesting to the applicant’s character. This may not be a member of their immediate family.

5. Selection of recipients

5.1. A steering committee formed by the funders, coordinated and supported by Priority One, will receive and rank all eligible applications, ensure the funders are in agreement with the rankings, and forward rankings to the Chair of the Scholarships Committee for consideration and endorsement.

5.2. Funding organisations may request an online interview with applicants as part of the ranking process, and will contact the applicants directly.

5.3. The Chair of the Scholarships Committee (or nominee) at the University of Waikato, will consider and endorse the applicant/s ranked by the steering committee.
5.4. The steering committee may refrain from nominating any candidates if they find no applicant(s) of sufficient merit. The Chair of the Scholarship Committee may refrain from endorsing the nomination if they deem the nominees do not show sufficient merit or due-diligence was not undertaken by the steering committee.

5.5. The decisions of the steering committee and Chair of the Scholarship's Committee are final and no further correspondence will be entered into following the selection meeting.

6. Other Conditions

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

6.2. 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.

6.3. Through the School of Graduate Research, the University monitors recipients' performance and reserves the right to impose further conditions where a recipient's performance is unsatisfactory.

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 Donor into disrepute\(^3\), or is otherwise not complying with the regulations governing the Scholarship and/or the University of Waikato. The holder of a Scholarship will have the right to appeal to the Scholarships Executive against any decision to terminate the award.

6.5. By accepting the Scholarship, the recipient agrees to participate in any publicity concerning the Scholarship arranged by the University of Waikato and/or the partners.

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

\(^3\) See [Code of Student Conduct](#).