The Sir Edmund Hillary Scholarship is the University of Waikato's premier school leaver scholarship. It enables recipients to excel and is for those with strengths in three key pillars: 1) excellence in a sporting code or creative or performing art, 2) high academic achievement, and 3) strong leadership qualities or potential. Recipients will be supported during their studies with a tailored leadership and personal development programme.

For more information, visit the website: [www.waikato.ac.nz/about/hillary/](http://www.waikato.ac.nz/about/hillary/)

1. **Eligibility**

   1. To be eligible, applicants must:

       1.1. be completing their final year of secondary school in the year prior to taking up the Scholarship;

       1.1.1. Students who are taking ONE ‘gap year’ may also apply for the Scholarship (refer to clause 3.2.8), provided they meet the eligibility criteria.

       1.1.2. be a New Zealand citizen or permanent resident1, or an Australian citizen who will be resident in New Zealand for the duration of their undergraduate degree;

       1.1.3. demonstrate academic achievement, as defined under section 4 below;

       1.1.4. demonstrate significant achievement to date and potential to further excel in either

           1.1.4.1. a sporting code, or

           1.1.4.2. a creative or performing art; and

       1.1.5. demonstrate strong leadership or strong potential for leadership.

   1.2. Consideration of applications will also be subject to an assessment of:

       1.2.1. the alignment of the sport or creative or performing art concerned2 to the University’s *Vision* and to the Sir Edmund Hillary Scholarship Programme’s Purpose;

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1 International students may only apply for the Scholarship by invitation and with the support of a Sport or Art partner. Should an international student be awarded a Scholarship, the Scholarship will cover the equivalent of the recipient’s tuition fees at domestic rates. It will be the responsibility of the student to pay the balance of their fees.

2 For a list of the creative/performing arts and sporting codes currently supported, please refer to the Hillary Scholarship website ([www.waikato.ac.nz/about/hillary/partners.shtml](http://www.waikato.ac.nz/about/hillary/partners.shtml)).
1.2.2. the University’s capability, in conjunction with relevant local agencies, to provide access to facilities and developmental support appropriate to the sport or creative or performing art; and

1.2.3. the applicant’s ranking by appropriate partners (see https://www.waikato.ac.nz/about/hillary/ for details about ranking criteria).

1.3. When selecting recipients, the Selection Panel will also take into account the applicant’s willingness and ability to fully participate in, and contribute to, the Sir Edmund Hillary Scholarship Programme.

2. Value

2.1. The value of each Scholarship will be **up to $10,000 per annum** for the duration of the recipient’s undergraduate degree, subject to the recipient maintaining the required level of performance (refer to section 7).

2.2. **In Year One:** If a recipient is **not eligible for Fees-Free** under the NZ Government’s Fees-Free Tertiary Education Policy during year one of the tenure of this Scholarship, then the Scholarship will first be credited to the recipient’s University tuition fees for the year of tenure. The remainder may then be used towards accommodation fees in the University’s Halls of Residence OR paid directly to the recipient after the withdrawal deadline for B Semester.

2.3. **In Year One:** If a recipient is **eligible for Fees-Free** under the NZ Government’s Fees-Free Tertiary Education Policy during year one of the tenure of this Scholarship, then the Scholarship may either be used towards accommodation fees in the University’s Halls of Residence OR the recipient may receive up to $5,000 which will be paid directly to the recipient in two equal instalments, the first after the withdrawal deadline for A Semester and the second after the withdrawal deadline for B Semester.

2.4. **For Years Two onwards:** The Scholarship will first be credited towards the recipient’s University of Waikato tuition fees, with the remainder paid directly to the recipient after the withdrawal deadline for B Semester.

2.5. Some Scholarship recipients will enrol part-time as a result of their individual sporting or creative/performing art programme. In these circumstances, the annual value of their Scholarship will vary (refer to the table in Appendix 1 for further details).

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3 For a list of the creative/performing arts and sporting codes currently supported, please refer to the Hillary Scholarship website (www.waikato.ac.nz/about/hillary/partners.shtml).
3. Application

3.1. Applications must be received on the prescribed online form by 31 August in the year preceding the intended year of tenure.

3.2. Applicants must include in their application:

3.2.1. a curriculum vitae (maximum two A4 pages, including details of any awards and/or media coverage);

3.2.2. a personal statement (maximum two A4 pages) outlining how their achievements demonstrate alignment with the values of Sir Edmund Hillary in terms of:

3.2.2.1. excellence in a sport or creative or performing art and future performance goals (where the applicant has more than one area of excellence ensure these are clearly identified; no more than two areas of excellence may be listed);

3.2.2.2. taking on leadership roles and actively participating in groups, organisations and/or communities; and

3.2.2.3. striving to succeed academically;

3.2.3. a link to a three-minute video of the applicant describing why they should be considered to be a Sir Edmund Hillary Scholar and what it would mean for them to be on the programme;

3.2.4. a reference from a person or agency relevant to the sporting code(s) or creative or performing art(s) concerned, attesting to the applicant’s abilities in that sport or art, potential to further excel, and leadership qualities and potential;

3.2.5. a completed Principal’s assessment form; and

3.2.6. an up-to-date copy of their NZQA School Results Summary.

3.2.7. Creative and performing art applicants only. All dance, graphic design, Māori creative & performing arts, music, screen and media, and theatre studies applicants are required to provide accessible links to copies of creative works or recordings of performances in support of their application. Other arts applicants may choose to do so if they feel such material would be helpful to the Selection Panel.

3.2.8. ‘Gap year’ applicants only are required to provide an additional statement (no more than one page) outlining what they accomplished in the year between secondary and tertiary study.

3.3. Incomplete applications will not be considered.
4. Academic Criteria

4.1. Applicants must, by the withdrawal deadline of A Semester in the year of tenure, have:

4.1.1. achieved a minimum of NCEA Level 3 with a Merit endorsement; and
4.1.2. achieved University Entrance AND admission to their programme of study; OR
4.1.3. achieved by other means, such as the Cambridge International Examinations or the International Baccalaureate examination, a standard of academic achievement deemed by the University to be equivalent to 4.1.1 and 4.1.2 above.

5. Selection Process and Selection Panel

5.1. The partners will:

5.1.1. consider and rank the applications and may contact referees on a confidential basis for further relevant information;
5.1.2. may consult with representatives of relevant sporting or creative agencies to assess the standing of any achievements listed in the applicant’s portfolio; and
5.1.3. may, at its discretion, require the applicant to undertake an interview or audition.

5.2. The Selection Panel will comprise the Chair of the Scholarships Committee (in the Chair), the Deputy Vice-Chancellor Māori, the Scholarships Manager, an academic representative for sport (appointed by the Chair), an academic representative for creative performance (appointed by the Chair), and the High Performance Student Scholarship Manager.

5.3. The Selection Panel will:

5.3.1. consider the applications and rankings provided by the appropriate partners; and
5.3.2. determine the awards and report its decisions to the Scholarships Committee.

5.4. The Selection Panel’s decisions are final and no correspondence will be entered into following the selection meeting.

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4 For a list of the creative/performing arts and sporting codes currently supported, please refer to the Hillary Scholarship website (www.waikato.ac.nz/about/hillary/partners.shtml).
6. **Awarding**

6.1. All applicants will be advised of the outcome of their application electronically.

6.2. Successful applicants must advise the School of Graduate Research of their acceptance of the Scholarship offer by the prescribed date or the offer will lapse.

6.3. Acceptance of the offer carries with it a commitment by the student to participate in a leadership and personal development programme provided by the University to assist the student to maximise performance in their sporting or artistic endeavour, and develop leadership skills, while maintaining academic standards.

7. **Tenure and Retention of the Scholarship**

7.1. The Scholarship is awarded initially for one year and must be taken up in the year for which it is awarded.

7.2. The continued annual tenure of the Scholarship for the consecutive period(s) of enrolment required to complete the relevant qualification will be conditional on the recipient:

7.2.1. achieving at least a B+ grade average across all papers taken each year; and

7.2.2. sustaining a level of performance in their sporting code or creative or performing art, to the satisfaction of the Sir Edmund Hillary Scholarship Programme Executive; and

7.2.3. fulfilling the leadership and personal development aspects of the programme, to the satisfaction of the Sir Edmund Hillary Scholarship Programme Executive.

7.3. Through the School of Graduate Research, the University regularly monitors the student’s performance, and reserves the right to impose further conditions where the student’s progress, conduct or participation is unsatisfactory.

7.4. The Scholarships Committee may terminate a 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 University or the Sir Edmund Hillary Scholarship Programme into disrepute, or is otherwise not complying with the regulations governing the Scholarship. The recipient of a Scholarship will have the right to appeal to the Scholarships Executive against any decision to terminate the award.

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5 See Code of Student Conduct.
8. Other Conditions

8.1. The Scholarship may not be held in conjunction with any other University of Waikato funded scholarship that contains a tuition fees or accommodation credit component, except those specifically for personal hardship (e.g., the D.V. Bryant Trust University of Waikato Residential Scholarship).

8.1.1. The Scholarship may be held in conjunction with any other Scholarship unless the conditions of the other award preclude this.

8.1.2. Where fees are fully covered by another scholarship, recipients will be eligible to receive up to $5,000 in cash (pro-rata as outlined in Appendix 1) from the Sir Edmund Hillary Scholarship.

8.2. If, during the tenure of the Scholarship, a student withdraws from any paper(s) after the University’s withdrawal deadline, they will be liable for the relevant fees.

8.2.1. In special circumstances (such as unavoidable withdrawal from study due to commitments directly associated with the student’s sporting, creative or performing art endeavours consistent with the intent of the Scholarship), the Sir Edmund Hillary Scholarship Programme Executive may offer an exemption or waiver in respect of the provisions of these regulations if an appeal for withdrawal on compassionate grounds is unsuccessful.

8.3. Scholarship recipients in the sports of basketball, cricket, football, hockey, netball, rowing and rugby will play for the respective Waikato University Club, being University of Waikato Basketball Club, Hamilton Star University Cricket Club, Waikato Unicol Association Football Club, University of Waikato Hockey Club, University of Waikato Netball Club, University of Waikato Rowing Club, and University of Waikato Rugby Football Club. Under exceptional circumstances, exemptions may be granted after consultation with the relevant sports partner and the Sir Edmund Hillary Scholarship Programme Executive.

8.4. With regard to representative competition, it is preferred that Scholarship recipients represent their sport in the region in which they are studying; Waikato for students at the Hamilton campus or the Bay of Plenty for students studying at the Tauranga campus. However, a Hillary Scholar may, by agreement of the Sir Edmund Hillary Scholarship Programme Executive, continue to represent their ‘home’ (or existing) region if it is within the University’s primary recruitment area, refer to Appendix 2, and if;

8.4.1. the Scholar is in receipt of a Prime Minister’s Scholarship; and/or

8.4.2. the existing support structures available to the Scholar are such that it would be a disadvantage for the Scholar to change representative status.
8.5. Where approval is given for a Hillary Scholar to represent their ‘home’ (or existing) region, a condition of this approval will be that the Scholar will be asked to support the sport in the area in which they are studying. This will be discussed as part of the Leadership and Personal Development Programme.

8.6. The Scholarships Committee may, from time to time, vary these regulations.
Appendix 1: Total value of a Sir Edmund Hillary Scholarship per annum as calculated based on enrolled points.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points Enrolled</th>
<th>Scholarship Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0 – 15 points</td>
<td>$1,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 – 30 points</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31 – 45 points</td>
<td>$3,750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46 – 60 points</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61 – 75 points</td>
<td>$6,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>76 – 90 points</td>
<td>$7,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>91 – 105 points</td>
<td>$8,750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>106 – 120 points (or more)</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Primary Recruitment Area

- Kaitaia
- Whangarei
- Dargaville
- Wellsford
- Warkworth
- Orewa
- Whitianga
- Thames
- Te Kauwhata
- Rotorua
- Taupo
- Waitara
- New Plymouth
- Taumarunui
- Ruapehu District
- Whakatane
- Gisborne
- Waipoua

Website: www.waikato.ac.nz
Call: 0800 WAIKATO