

Tower Insurance Climate Change Scholarship – 2023



THE UNIVERSITY OF
WAIKATO
Te Whare Wānanga o Waikato

The Tower Insurance Climate Change Scholarship was established in 2021 through the generous donation of Tower Insurance. In recent years, climate change has become an urgent issue impacting Tower's customers and their communities. To support climate action, Tower has aligned its business interests with wider community interests and taken a lead on informed dialogue about sustainability and the changing climate. Three \$5,000 scholarships will be awarded each year (2022-2024) to first- and second-year undergraduate students studying the Bachelor of Climate Change. One scholarship for a data analytics major, one for an environmental planning major and one for a strategic management major will be awarded. In 2023, one additional scholarship will be offered to a student majoring in data analytics, environmental planning, or strategic management. Tower will also offer learning opportunities for the winning students, potentially including internships, as part of the scholarship.

1. Purpose

- 1.1. The Scholarship provides financial support and learning opportunities for Bachelor of Climate Change students with majors in one of three key areas who are in the first year of their degree-programme.

2. Eligibility and Selection Criteria

2.1. To be eligible for consideration, applicants must:

- a) be enrolled full time (i.e., in 120 points) in their first or second year of study towards a Bachelor of Climate Change;
- b) be majoring in either data analytics, environmental planning, or strategic management;
- c) have either achieved NCEA Level 3 with Excellence (or the equivalent), or an A-average in any previous tertiary study; and
- d) be a New Zealand citizen, permanent resident or an international student from any South Pacific nation as defined in the [UN Coastal States of the South Pacific](#) (excluding Australia).

2.2. Selection will be based on:

- a) Academic Merit; and
- b) The applicant's reasoning and ability to articulate what they think the impacts of climate change and sustainability is and will be on the insurance industry.

- c) Preference may be given to domestic Māori and Pacific students as well as international Pacific citizens of any South Pacific nation as defined in the [UN Coastal States of the South Pacific](#) (excluding Australia).

2.3. **To maintain eligibility** throughout the tenure of the scholarship recipients must:

- a) Remain enrolled as per clause 2.1 a and b; and
- b) Achieve an A- GPA or above in A Trimester.

3. Value, Tenure and Awarding

- 3.1. The Scholarship will have a value of **\$5,000** and will be paid in two equal instalments:
 - a) \$2,500 will be paid directly to the recipient after the acceptance of the scholarship or the withdrawal date of A Trimester (whichever is later);
 - b) \$2,500 will be paid after the withdrawal date of B Trimester as long as eligibility is maintained as per Clause 2.3 above.
- 3.2. The Scholarship will have a tenure of one year.
- 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. Recipients may also be offered a learning opportunities at Tower Insurance, potentially including internships, and this will be offered directly by members of Tower Insurance.
- 3.6. Once the successful applicant has accepted the offer of the Scholarship, they may be contacted directly by Tower Insurance and/or staff from the University of Waikato Development Office.

4. Application

- 4.1. The closing date for online applications is **15 March each year**.
- 4.2. As part of the online application process, each candidate must submit:
 - a) a Personal Statement (using the prescribed template) that outlines the following:
 - o What they think the impact of climate change and sustainability is and will be on the insurance industry.
 - o The candidate's intention to use their degree in climate change upon graduation;
 - o Any financial circumstances that are relevant; and
 - o Any other information that may be of relevance to the Selection Panel.
- 4.3. As part of the application process, the candidate must also request the submission of a confidential reference from someone who can attest to their character. **This may not be an immediate member of their family.**

5. Selection Panel

- 5.1. The Selection Panel will comprise the Chair of the Scholarships Committee (or nominee) in the Chair, an academic staff member teaching in the Bachelor of Climate Change degree programme (appointed by the Chair of the Scholarships Committee), and a representative of Tower Insurance, nominated by the CEO of Tower Insurance.
- 5.2. The Selection Panel may refrain from making a decision if it finds no candidate of sufficient merit.
- 5.3. The Selection Panel's decisions 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. 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.
- 6.3. 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.
- 6.4. 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.
- 6.5. 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 disrepute¹, 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.
- 6.6. By accepting the Scholarship, the recipient agrees to participate in any publicity concerning the Scholarship arranged by the University of Waikato and/or the Donor.
- 6.7. 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.

¹ See [Code of Student Conduct](#).