1. Purpose

1.1. Established in 2002, the Gemini Trust Disability Scholarship is awarded annually to support students with physical disabilities who are studying towards an undergraduate qualification at the University of Waikato.

2. Eligibility

2.1. To be eligible, candidates must:
   a) be able to provide evidence of a disability\(^1\);  
   b) have completed a minimum of 30 points of study at the University of Waikato, and be enrolled or intending to enrol (full or part-time) at the University of Waikato in the year of tenure;  
   c) reside in the Waikato, King Country or Coromandel regions; and,  
   d) be a New Zealand citizen or permanent resident.

3. Value

3.1. The Scholarship will have a value of up to $10,000 and will be paid in one lump sum to the successful candidate(s).  
   3.1.1. If the Selection Panel finds one or more candidates’ of sufficient merit they may choose to divide the scholarship.

4. Application

4.1. The closing date for applications is 1 August 2019.  

4.2. Along with the prescribed application form, each candidate must submit:  
   a) a CV (maximum four A4 pages in length);  
   b) a personal statement (maximum 200 words) indicating how they would benefit from the scholarship; and  
   c) evidence of their disability by way of a certificate or letter from a medical practitioner or a disability service provider (please do not provide full medical records).

5. Selection Criteria

5.1. The Scholarship will be offered on the basis of academic merit and individual physical disability needs.  

5.2. Assessment of academic merit will focus primarily on the candidate’s most recent study, up to 240 points.

\(^1\) "any self-perceived limitation in activity resulting from a long-term condition or health problem; lasting longer or expected to last longer than six months or more and not completely eliminated by an assistive device". (Statistics NZ).
6. **Selection Panel**

6.1. The selection panel will consist of a representative of the University’s Scholarships Committee (in the Chair), a University Disability Support Advisor and a Gemini Trust member.

6.2. The Selection Panel will make a recommendation to the Gemini Trust Board and may refrain from making a recommendation if it finds no candidate of sufficient merit.

6.3. The Gemini Trust Board will finalise the decision and no correspondence will be entered into following the decision.

7. **Awarding**

7.1. The successful candidate will be offered the Scholarship on the condition that they enrol part- or full-time at the University of Waikato in the year of tenure and have provided all the necessary documentation to support their application.

7.2. The offer of a Scholarship must be accepted by the date indicated in the letter of offer. If any candidate declines a Scholarship, or does not take it up, the Selection Panel may offer the Scholarship to another person.

7.3. The Scholarship will have a maximum tenure of one year and must be taken up in the year for which it is offered.

8. **Other Conditions**

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

8.2. By accepting the Scholarship, the recipient agrees to participate in any publicity concerning the Scholarship arranged by the University of Waikato. The recipient may be asked to attend a presentation ceremony.

8.3. 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 or the University into disrepute, or is otherwise not complying with the conditions 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 Scholarship.

8.4. With the consent of The Gemini Trust, or at their request, the University may from time to time vary these regulations.

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2 See [Code of Student Conduct](#).