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 registered with the UoW Accessibility Services
   b) be able to provide evidence of a disability; 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.

2.2 Past recipients of this scholarship are not eligible to apply.

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 between multiple recipients.

3.1.2. The amount offered is at the discretion of the Selection Panel and will be based on criteria such as, but not limited to, total available funding, period of enrolment, grades, financial need, number of credits enrolled, number of applicants.

4. **Application**

4.1. The closing date for applications is 1 August 2021.

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).

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1 The UoW Accessibility Service provides information and services to assist students with impairments to reach their goals and achieve their full academic potential. Please visit [https://www.waikato.ac.nz/students/accessibility-services/registration](https://www.waikato.ac.nz/students/accessibility-services/registration) to register.

2 “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).
5. Selection Panel and Criteria

5.1. 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.

5.2. 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.

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

6. Awarding and Criteria

6.1. The Scholarship will be offered on the basis of individual physical disability needs. Academic merit may be taken into consideration but is not the primary criteria for selection.

6.2. 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.

6.3. The successful applicant will be advised of the offer of a Scholarship and must accept the Scholarship offer by the prescribed date or the offer will lapse. If a candidate declines a Scholarship, or does not take it up, the Selection Panel may offer the Scholarship to another applicant.

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

7. Other Conditions

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

7.2. In accepting the Scholarship, the recipient will be deemed to have read, understood, and accepted the conditions of the Scholarship and the Scholarships Policy.

7.3. The Scholarships Committee, in consultation with the sponsor, has the power to amend or vary these regulations provided that there is no departure from the main purpose of the scholarship.

7.4. 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.

7.5. 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 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.

See Code of Student Conduct.