The Gemini Trust Disability Scholarship was established in 2002 to support undergraduate students with disabilities while studying at the University of Waikato. Gemini Trust is a charitable trust that was set up to provide financial assistance to and for the promotion of the activities of CCS Waikato in the Waikato region. Up to $20,000 is available each year, split between multiple recipients.

1. **Purpose**

   1.1. The Scholarship provides financial support to undergraduate students with disabilities while studying at the University of Waikato.

2. **Eligibility and Selection Criteria**

   2.1. **To be eligible**, candidates must:

      2.1.1. be registered with the University of Waikato Accessibility Services¹;

      2.1.2. be able to provide evidence of a disability²;

      2.1.3. have completed a minimum of 30-points of study at the University of Waikato;

      2.1.4. be enrolled or intending to enrol (full or part-time) at the University of Waikato in the year of tenure;

      2.1.5. reside in the Waikato, King Country or Coromandel regions;

      2.1.6. be a New Zealand citizen or permanent resident; and

      2.1.7. provide all the necessary documentation to support their application.

   2.2. Past recipients are not eligible to apply.

   2.3. Selection is based on:

      2.3.1 individual disability needs;

      2.3.2 academic merit may also be taken into consideration, but is not the primary criteria.

   2.4. **To maintain eligibility**, candidates must:

      2.3.3 enrol part- or full-time at the University of Waikato in the year of tenure.

3. **Value, Tenure and Awarding**

   3.1. Each scholarship will have a value of **up to $5,000** and will be paid directly into the recipient(s) bank account in one lump sum as soon as practicable after acceptance.

   3.2. The successful applicant(s) will be advised of the offer of a Scholarship and must accept the offer by the prescribed date or the offer will lapse. If a candidate declines a

---

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).
Scholarship, or does not take it up, the Selection Panel may offer the Scholarship to another applicant.

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

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

4. Application

4.1. The closing date for online applications is 1 August each year.

4.2. As part of the online application process, each candidate must submit:

4.2.1. a personal statement (using the prescribed form) that outlines the following:
   - how they would benefit from the scholarship and how it would help remove any barriers to learning;
   - future study/career plans

4.2.2. a CV (maximum of four A4 pages in length);

4.2.3. 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 Panel

5.1. The selection panel will consist of a nominee of the Chair of the University’s Scholarships Committee (in the Chair), a University of Waikato Disability Support Advisor nominated by the Director of Student Services, and a Gemini Trust member (nominated by the Gemini Trust).

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 ratify the decision and no correspondence will be entered into following the decision.

6. Other Conditions

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

6.2. Recipients should seek independent financial advice about any tax implications of their Scholarship.

6.3. 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 disrepute³, 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.

6.4. 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.

³ See Code of Student Conduct.
6.5. 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.