The Waitaha-A-Hei / University of Waikato Scholarship was established in 2018 as a dollar-for-dollar co-partnership between Waitaha Charitable Trust and the University of Waikato. The Scholarship was designed to increase the participation and success of Waitaha students while studying at undergraduate level. Up to two scholarships will be offered each year.

For more information on student accommodation at the University of Waikato click [here](https://www.feesfree.govt.nz/)

1. **Purpose**

   1.1. The Scholarship was designed to provide a supportive student environment that fosters the mind (opportunity to study at University), body (healthy lifestyle) and soul (a supportive community environment in the Hall of Residence environment), all of which are demonstrably beneficial to academic and life-long progress.

2. **Eligibility**

   2.1. To be eligible, applicants must:

   a) be a registered beneficiary with Te Kapu o Waitaha;

   b) be studying at NCEA Level 3 towards University Entrance at a secondary school in the year prior to tenure;

   c) qualify for Fees-Free Tertiary Education in the year of tenure (https://www.feesfree.govt.nz/);

   d) be intending to enrol full-time in an undergraduate degree (a full-time academic year comprises 120-points) at the University of Waikato for the first time in the year of tenure, and commencing study in the first semester that year (Semester A).

3. **Value**

   3.1. Scholarships will have a total value **up to $14,500** and will consist of:

   a) An accommodation credit in a fully-catered Halls of Residence (Bryant Hall or Student Village) up to $13,500.

   b) A membership to UniRec valued up to $500 for one (1) year;
4. **Application Criteria**

4.1. The closing date for applications is **31 August each year** and includes completion of an online application form available through the scholarships finder.

4.2. As part of the online application process, each candidate must provide the following on the template provided:

   a) Commitment to succeed at University;
   b) A character reference (may not be an immediate family member);
   c) A brief 2 page CV;
   d) Evidence of registration with Te Kapu o Waitaha;
   e) School attendance record for the last 12 months sourced from the relevant high school administration, for the previous 12 months prior to the submission date; and
   f) Other relevant supporting information up to 1 page.

5. **Selection Panel**

5.1. The Selection Panel will comprise of up to two representatives from the Waitaha Charitable Trust, and a representative of the University Scholarship Committee (appointed annually by the Chair of the Scholarships Committee).

5.2. The Selection Panel's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into following the selection meeting.

6. **Awarding**

6.1. The offer of a Scholarship must be accepted by the date indicated in the letter of offer or the offer will lapse.

6.2. To maintain eligibility, students offered the scholarship must:

   a) Gain University Entrance;
   b) Be accepted into their programme of study;
   c) Remain enrolled full-time for the period of tenure, and
d) Attend a Waitaha Scholarship Wananga organised by Waitaha Charitable Trust. At the Wananga, the Scholarship will be formally awarded.

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

6.4 The Scholarship will be paid towards accommodation credit in two lump sums each year, with the second payment being conditional upon the student passing all first semester papers.

6.5 The Scholarship will be paid towards accommodation fees and UniRec directly by the University of Waikato. Any course-related costs awarded by the scholarship will be provided as cash via cheque.

7.0 Other Conditions

7.1 Academic (or other) progress will be observed by Waitaha Charitable Trust. Successful applicants will be required to complete one online accountability form (provided by Waitaha Charitable Trust) and submit two mid-semester self-assessment reports during the year of tenure.

7.2 The Scholarships Committee, after consultation and agreement with Waitaha Charitable Trust, 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 Scholarship programme or the University into disrepute, or is otherwise not complying with the conditions governing the Scholarship. The holder of a Scholarship will have the right to appeal to the Scholarships Executive against any decision to terminate the award.

7.3 Recipients must remain enrolled full-time for the period of tenure. Should a recipient withdraw from any papers, without adding sufficient papers to maintain an overall full-time enrolment, the University and Waitaha Charitable Trust may ask for the Scholarship to be repaid.

7.4 In signing and returning the Scholarship Acceptance form, the recipient will be deemed to have read, understood and accepted the conditions of the Scholarship.

7.5 The Scholarship is not refundable to the recipient under any circumstances. The School of Graduate Research - Scholarships may liaise directly with the Residential Managers of the Halls of Residence to gain access to any relevant documents provided in support of a Scholarship applicant’s application to enter a hall of residence.
7.6 The Scholarship may not be held in conjunction with any other University of Waikato scholarship that contains a tuition fees or accommodation credit component.

7.7 The Scholarship may be held together with any other scholarships unless the conditions of the other awards preclude this.

7.8 By accepting the Scholarship, the recipient agrees to participate in any reasonable publicity concerning the Scholarship arranged by Waitaha Charitable Trust and/or University of Waikato.