



The University of Waikato eSports Scholarship for School-Leavers was developed in 2018 to support talented students in the arena of eSports. The Scholarship acknowledges the massive global following for eSports. The Scholarship is funded via the University of Waikato Sport and Wellbeing group in the Student Services Division.

1. Purpose

- 1.1. To recognise the University of Waikato's strong commitment to supporting excellence and the unique skills of talented students, in this case those strong in eSports.

2. Eligibility

- 2.1. To be eligible for consideration, candidates must:
 - a) be a New Zealand citizen or permanent resident; and
 - b) be able to demonstrate excellence in eSports including leadership experience/potential and values in relation to health and wellbeing; and
 - c) have received at least a Merit endorsement at NCEA Level 2, or equivalent; and
 - d) be studying NCEA Level 3, or equivalent, at secondary school in the year prior to the year of tenure; and
 - e) be intending to enrol in an undergraduate degree at the University of Waikato for the first time¹ in the year of tenure; and
 - f) be studying at the Hamilton Campus.
- 2.2. Students who have finished secondary school and taken only **one** 'gap year' may also apply for the Scholarship, provided they meet the rest of the eligibility criteria.

3. Value and Tenure

- 3.1. One Scholarship of **up to \$5,000** will be offered each year.
- 3.2. The Scholarship will be paid directly to the recipient in two equal sums after the withdrawal period for each semester. Payment of the second instalment is conditional on the recipient passing all examined work in A Semester papers and their continued enrolment at the University of Waikato.
- 3.3. The Scholarship will have a tenure of one year, even if a recipient's Fees-Free status spreads the processing of the Scholarship over more than one year.
- 3.4. Recipients will be offered a tailored coaching and mentoring support programme in the field of eSports.

¹ Candidates who have undertaken **Unistart** papers at the University of Waikato are **not** excluded by this clause.

4. Application

- 4.1. The closing date for online applications is **28 January 2019**. (For future application rounds, the closing date will be 31 August in the year prior to the year of tenure.)
- 4.2. As part of the online application process, each candidate must:
 - a) Complete and upload (without exceeding two A4 pages in length) the prescribed Personal Statement form that outlines the candidate's:
 - eSports performance, including tournament history (proof required such as tournament brackets) and national and international standing (if relevant);
 - A description of the student's leadership experience/potential and values in relation to health and wellbeing; and
 - Any other information of relevance to the Selection Panel (e.g. first in family to attend university, description of financial need and/or personal circumstances, etc.)
 - b) Upload their NCEA School Results Summary, or equivalent;
 - c) Request the submission of a completed Principal's Assessment form (on the prescribed form), as stipulated in the application form; and
 - d) Request the submission of a character reference, which should not be from an immediate family member.

5. Selection Panel and Criteria

- 5.1. The Scholarship will be awarded by a Selection Panel comprising: The Chair of the Scholarships Committee (as Chairperson); The Director of Student Services; The Director of Information Technology (or nominees); and, an academic member of staff nominated by the Chair of the Scholarships Committee.
- 5.2. In awarding the Scholarship, the Selection Panel will take into consideration all or some of the following: academic readiness (based on NCEA Level 2 results), potential to be a leader in eSports, and the health and wellbeing values of the student.
- 5.3. The Selection Panel's decisions are final and no further 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 or the offer will lapse.
- 6.2. To maintain eligibility, students offered the Scholarship must:
 - a) Gain at least a Merit endorsement at NCEA Level 3, or equivalent; and
 - b) Be accepted into an undergraduate programme of study at the University of Waikato; and
 - c) Remain enrolled at the University of Waikato during the period of tenure.

6.3. Through the School of Graduate Research and the Student Services Division, the University monitors students' performance and reserves the right to impose further conditions where a student's conduct is unsatisfactory.

7. Other Conditions

- 7.1. Recipients are required to attend eSports events and be a member of a nominated eSport club as requested by the University of Waikato.
- 7.2. The Scholarship may be held in conjunction with any other scholarship or award unless the conditions of the other award preclude this.
- 7.3. 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 disrepute², 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.
- 7.4. The Scholarship is not refundable to the student under any circumstances, although (in the case of fees payment) a student who withdraws from the University may (under the provisions of the Fees Regulations) apply for a refund of tuition fees paid that were not covered by the Scholarship.
- 7.5. By accepting the Scholarship, the recipient agrees to participate in any publicity concerning the Scholarship arranged by the University of Waikato.
- 7.6. In signing and returning the Scholarship Acceptance form, the recipient will be deemed to have read, understood, and accepted the conditions of the Scholarship.
- 7.7. The Scholarships Committee may, from time to time, vary these regulations.

² See [Code of Student Conduct](#).