The TOMRA Fresh Food Scholarship for Women in STEM was established in 2021 through the generous donation of BBC Technologies. TOMRA Fresh Food aims to positively impact women studying STEM subjects and working in industry by helping to create future leaders in the technology industry, particularly food technology.

Two $7,500 scholarships with the potential for a work placement opportunity at TOMRA Fresh Food will be awarded each year (2022-2024). The work placement will be paid directly by TOMRA Fresh Food.

1. **Purpose**
   1.1. The Scholarship provides financial support and work experience opportunities for promising female undergraduate students studying in the STEM subjects who are, or could, influence and impact women in their chosen subject and who plan to pursue a career in the equivalent field in the Waikato or Bay of Plenty region.

2. **Eligibility and Selection Criteria**
   2.1. To be eligible for consideration, candidates must:
       a) Identify as female in the personal details listed in the applicant’s MyWaikato Portal; and
       b) In the year of application be enrolled full-time (i.e., 120-points) in either:
          i. the first year of an undergraduate degree programme in STEM subjects at the University of Waikato having achieved at least a B+ average in A Trimester; or
          ii. the second year of an undergraduate degree programme in a STEM subject at the University of Waikato having achieved at least a B+ average in their first 120 points of study;
       c) be intending to enrol full-time (i.e. 120-points) in the year of tenure in their second or third year of an undergraduate degree programme in a STEM subject at the University of Waikato in the following year; and
       d) have made, or show strong potential to make, an impact on women in the STEM industries; and
       e) be a New Zealand citizen or permanent resident.
   2.2. Preference may be given to applicants studying Artificial Intelligence (AI) and/or food technology areas and who plan to stay and work in the Waikato or Bay of Plenty region after graduation.
   2.3. Previous recipients of the scholarship (i.e., those who held it in their second year of study) may apply again.
3. **Value, Tenure and Awarding**

3.1. Two Scholarships will be awarded each year:

a) One Scholarship will be awarded to a student who will be studying in their second year of an undergraduate degree programme in a STEM subject in the year of tenure.

b) One Scholarship will be awarded to a student who will be studying in their third year of an undergraduate degree programme in a STEM subject in the year of tenure.

3.2. Each Scholarship will have a value of **$7,500**, of which:

a) $5,500 will be paid as a fees credit;

b) $1,000 will be paid directly to the recipient after the withdrawal date of A Trimester

c) Conditional payment of $1,000 will be paid directly to the recipient after the withdrawal date of B Trimester; the payment is conditional on the recipient passing all papers in A Trimester.

3.3. Potential for a work placement opportunity, subject to availability, which will be paid directly by TOMRA Fresh Food.

3.4. The Scholarship will have a tenure of one year and this is the year after application

3.5. The successful applicant will be advised of the offer of a Scholarship via their MyWaikato portal and must accept the offer by the prescribed date or the offer will lapse.

3.6. Once the successful applicant has accepted their offer of the Scholarship, they may be contacted directly by TOMRA Fresh Food.

4. **Application**

4.1. The closing date for online applications is **15 November each year**.

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

a) a Personal Statement (using the prescribed template) that outlines the following:
   o Why completing their degree is important to the candidate and their future ambitions;
   o Any impact, or intention to make impact, on women in the technology industry;
   o The candidate’s intention to work in technology in the Waikato or Bay of Plenty region upon graduation;
   o Any other information that may be of relevance to the Selection Panel.

b) As part of the application process, the candidate must also request the submission of a confidential reference from someone who can attest to their character. This may not be an immediate member of their family.

5. **Selection Panel**

5.1. The Selection Panel will comprise of the Chair of the Scholarships Committee (or nominee) in the Chair, the PVC of the Division of Health, Engineering, Computing and Science (or nominee), the Vice-President Head of People and Organisation TOMRA Fresh Food, and the People & Organisation Business Partner for BBC Technologies Ltd.
5.2. The Selection Panel may request a meeting with candidates as part of the selection process.

5.3. The Selection Panel may refrain from making a decision if it finds no candidate of sufficient merit.

5.4. The Selection Panel’s decisions are final and no further correspondence will be entered into following the selection meeting.

6. Other Conditions

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

6.2. Should a recipient withdraw from any papers, without adding sufficient papers to maintain an overall enrolment in a minimum of 120-points for the academic year, the University may ask for the Scholarship to be repaid.

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

6.4. Through the School of Graduate Research, the University monitors recipients’ performance and reserves the right to impose further conditions where a recipient’s performance is unsatisfactory.

6.5. 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, University or Donor into disrepute, or is otherwise not complying with the regulations governing the Scholarship and/or the University of Waikato. The holder of a Scholarship will have the right to appeal to the Scholarships Executive against any decision to terminate the award.

6.6. By accepting the Scholarship, the recipient agrees to participate in any publicity concerning the Scholarship arranged by the University of Waikato and/or the Donor.

6.7. The Scholarships Committee may, from time to time, vary these regulations.

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1 See Code of Student Conduct.