1. Purpose

1.1. The WSU Sole Parent / Caregiver Award was established in 2007 to encourage and celebrate the efforts, achievements and contributions of students who are sole parents or caregivers.

2. Eligibility

2.1. To be eligible, candidates must:
   a) be a sole primary caregiver,
   b) be enrolled part- or full-time at the University of Waikato in the year of tenure, and
   c) have completed at least 120points of study at the University of Waikato.

2.2. Current members of the Waikato Students’ Union Executive, or employees of the Waikato Students’ Union who hold a fixed-term or continuing contract, are not eligible to apply for this Award.

3. Value

3.1. Two Awards of up to $1,000 each will be awarded annually and will be paid in one lump sum to the successful applicants.

4. Application

4.1. The closing date for applications is 30 May.

4.2. Applications must include the following information:
   a) a one-page personal statement commenting on:
      • role as a caregiver
      • financial situation, and
      • community contribution
   b) an academic reference
   c) a character reference of support outlining the criteria in 4.2a

5. Selection Criteria

5.1. In selecting the recipients for these Awards, the Selection Panel will take into consideration the candidates’ financial situation, academic merit and community contribution, and statements of support.
6. Selection Panel

6.1. The Selection Panel will comprise the President of the Waikato Students' Union (in the Chair), the Vice President of the Waikato Students' Union, one Director of the Waikato Students' Union as nominated by the President, and a representative of the University of Waikato Scholarships Committee (as nominated by the Chair of the Scholarships Committee).

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

7. Awarding

7.1. The Award will have a maximum tenure of one year.

7.2. Applicants may receive this Scholarship on one occasion only.

7.3. All candidates will be notified of the outcome of their application as soon as practicable following the selection meeting.

8. Other Conditions

8.1. The Award may be held together with any bursary, prize or student allowance, unless the conditions of the other award preclude this.

8.2. The Scholarships Executive may terminate an Award at any time, and recoup any funds awarded, if it is not satisfied that the recipient is following the required programme or is not otherwise complying with the conditions governing the Award and/or the regulations of the University of Waikato. The recipient of an Award shall have the right to appeal to the appropriate University Committee¹ against any decision to terminate the Award.

8.3. By accepting an Award, the recipient agrees to participate in any publicity concerning the Award arranged by the Waikato Students' Union or the University of Waikato.

¹ Student appeals for University of Waikato Awards granted for undergraduate or completely taught postgraduate level study should be made to the Education Committee; student appeals for research level study (e.g. Masters) should be made to the Research Committee.