The Te Pūtea Tautoko award was established in 2016 to support completions of qualifications by Māori students at all levels of study. It provides support to Māori students at the University of Waikato who may be experiencing considerable financial hardship. The award is funded by the Māori Equity fund and as such the number of awards offered in any year will vary.

1. **Purpose**

1.1. Te Pūtea Tautoko will be awarded to applicants of Māori ethnicity, who have proven academic potential but whose financial circumstances are severely constrained, or for whom there are other special circumstances, which would make such an award a significant means of enhancing their academic success.

2. **Eligibility**

2.1. To be eligible, applicants must:

2.1.1. be enrolled part- or full-time and be completing the final year (A and B Semester) of an undergraduate, graduate, or postgraduate degree at the University of Waikato; and,

2.1.2. be a New Zealand citizen or permanent resident of New Zealand of Māori ethnicity.

3. **Value**

3.1. The value of the Award will be up to $3,000.

3.2. The Award will be paid to the successful recipient after the withdrawal date for B Semester in the year of tenure.

4. **Application**

4.1. The closing date for applications is 15 August 2018.

4.2. In addition to completing the prescribed online application form, each applicant must:

4.2.1. Complete and upload the prescribed one-page Personal Statement explaining:

   a) your suitability for the Award;

   b) how the award will assist with studies in the academic year; and,

4.2.2. Request the submission of a reference letter directly from a member of academic staff in your Faculty; this letter should confirm that this award would assist you in completing your qualification.

5. **Selection Criteria**

5.1. Applications will be assessed on the information provided in clause 4.2.

5.2. Preference may be given to applicants enrolled at postgraduate level and/or from areas of study where Māori students are underrepresented.
6. **Selection Panel**

6.1. The Selection Panel will comprise of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Māori) as Chair, the Chairperson of the Scholarships Committee, a senior Māori academic nominated by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Māori), and the Māori Student Achievement Manager (or their nominees).

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

7. **Awarding and Retention**

7.1. The Award is conditional on the recipient being enrolled part- or full-time in their final year of an undergraduate, graduate, or postgraduate degree at the University of Waikato in the year of tenure.

7.2. The offer of an Award must be accepted by the date indicated in the letter of offer.

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

7.4. The Scholarships Executive may terminate an Award at any time and recoup any funds awarded if the holder withdraws from the University, brings the scholarship programme or the University into disrepute\(^1\), or is otherwise not complying with the conditions governing the Award and/or the regulations of the University of Waikato. The holder of an Award shall have the right to appeal to the Research Committee against any decision to terminate the Scholarship.

8. **Other Conditions**

8.1. By accepting an Award the recipient agrees to make early contact with the Māori Mentor Coordinator of their faculty and to follow any prescribed programme of support recommended to them.

8.2. The Award may be held together with other awards, unless the conditions of the other preclude this. Recipients who have received funding from other Equity Grant awards may be limited to an overall total of funding from any/all Equity Grant funded awards.

8.3. Awards are expected to defray course related expenses i.e. study materials, living costs and conference and workshop attendance.

8.4. In signing and returning the acceptance form, the candidate will be deemed to have read, understood, and accepted conditions for the Award.

8.5. By accepting an Award, the recipient agrees to participate in any publicity concerning the scholarship arranged by the University of Waikato.

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\(^1\) See [Student Code of Conduct](#).