The Frances Skeet Charitable Trust Scholarship for Returning Students was established in 2019 through the generous donation of the Skeet family. The Scholarship will be awarded to students who have completed at least one year of study towards an undergraduate degree offered by the University of Waikato and who show academic excellence and potential to be leaders in their discipline. Up to two Scholarships will be awarded annually, providing up to $5,000 credit towards fees.

1. Purpose
   1.1. To assist current University of Waikato students studying full-time towards an undergraduate degree offered by the University and who are in their second year of study or above.

2. Eligibility
   2.1. To be eligible for consideration, candidates must:
       a) be intending to enrol full-time (a full-time academic year comprises 120-points) in the second year or above of an undergraduate degree at the University of Waikato in the year of tenure;
       b) have gained at least a A-average in their previous year(s) of study; and
       c) be a New Zealand citizen or permanent resident;
       d) previous recipients may apply, but will need to have gained a A- average or above in all papers during the year they were supported by the Scholarship.

3. Value and Tenure
   3.1. Each Scholarship will have a value of up to $5,000 that will be credited to the recipients’ University of Waikato tuition fees in the year of tenure. The amount offered is at the discretion of the Selection Panel and will be based on criteria such as, but not limited to, total available funding, period of enrolment, grades, financial need, number of credits enrolled, number of applicants.
   3.2. Recipients may study at either the Hamilton or Tauranga campus (or both).

4. Application
   4.1. The closing date for online applications is 3 February 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 Details on your leadership aspirations;
          o Details on how you came to choose this area of study and your future ambition in this field;
          o Any other information of relevance to the Selection Panel (e.g., Financial need).
5. Selection Panel and Criteria

5.1. The Scholarship Selection Panel will comprise of the Chair of the Scholarships Committee (or nominee) as Chairperson, and two other members of the Scholarships Committee appointed by the Chairperson.

5.2. In awarding the Scholarship the Selection Panel will take into consideration academic excellence, leadership aspirations and personal/financial circumstances.

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. Successful applicants will be advised of the offer of a Scholarship and must accept the offer by the prescribed date or the offer will lapse.

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

6.3. Through the School of Graduate Research, 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. The Scholarship may not be held in conjunction with any other University of Waikato scholarship that contains a tuition fees component, except those specifically for financial hardship. It may be held in conjunction with any other scholarship, award or prize unless the conditions of the other award preclude this.

7.2. 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.

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, University or Sponsor into disrepute \(^1\), 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. The Scholarships Committee, in consultation with the sponsor, has the power to amend or vary these regulations, provided that there is no departure from the main purpose of the Scholarship.

7.6. By accepting the Scholarship, the recipient agrees to participate in any publicity concerning the Scholarship arranged by the University of Waikato.

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\(^1\) See Code of Student Conduct