Sir William and Lady Judi Gallagher Foundation Scholarship – 2026

THE UNIVERSITY OF WAIKATO
Te Whare Wānanga o Waikato

The Sir William and Lady Judi Gallagher Foundation Scholarship was established in 2021 through the generous donation of Hamilton philanthropists Sir William and Lady Judi Gallagher. Up to eight scholarships of $10,000 will be awarded each year to students who are enrolled in an undergraduate degree programme with a major or minor in management, engineering, computer science, or who are studying opera within the Bachelor of Music.

The funds are held in trust with the University of Waikato Foundation and will be offered each year until 2027 when it is expected that the funds will be depleted.

1. Purpose

1.1. The Scholarship provides financial support for promising students who have attended secondary school in the Waikato or Bay of Plenty regions and are studying an undergraduate degree programme with a major or minor in management, engineering and/or computer science, or who are studying opera within the Bachelor of Music.

2. Eligibility and Selection Criteria

2.1. **To be eligible for consideration**, candidates must:

2.1.1 have attended a secondary school in the Waikato or Bay of Plenty regions.

2.1.2 be enrolled full time (i.e., in 120 points) and have been enrolled for at least one year in any undergraduate degree programme (i.e., be a second- or third-year student) at the University of Waikato with a major or minor in management, engineering or computer science. Candidates within the Bachelor of Music will have a major or minor in opera.

2.1.3 have achieved at least a 'B' grade average in their most recent 120 points of study,

2.1.4 be willing to be part of a university-led visit to their secondary school, or another secondary school in the region, to highlight the importance of university study,

2.1.5 be able to demonstrate commitment to their community.

2.1.6 be eligible for domestic fees status (i.e., be a New Zealand citizen, permanent resident, New Zealand Resident Class visa holder, or Australian Citizen/Permanent Resident domiciled in New Zealand).

2.2. **Selection is based on:**

2.2.1 Academic excellence.

2.2.2 Commitment to the wider community.

2.2.3 Advocacy and engagement potential and qualities.

2.2.4 Preference will be given to students in hardship and/or who do not already have a scholarship (unless that scholarship is particularly for hardship).

2.3. **To maintain eligibility,** recipients must, during the year of tenure**:**

2.3.1 remain enrolled full-time (i.e., 120 points) in their undergraduate degree programme with a major or minor in management, engineering and/or computer science, or opera within the Bachelor of Music; and

2.3.2 attend a university-led visit to their high school, or another high school in Waikato/BOP, to highlight the importance of university study.

2.3.3 maintain a 'B' grade average in A Trimester.

3. Value, Awarding and Tenure

3.1. Up to two scholarships will be awarded in each of the four academic areas outlined in clause 2.1.2, with each award having a value of **$10,000**, as follows:

3.1.1 **$5,000** will be applied directly to the recipient's tuition fees.

3.1.2 **$2,500** will be paid directly to the recipient as soon as practicable after acceptance of the scholarship, or after the withdrawal date of A Trimester (whichever is latest).

3.1.3 **$2,500** will be paid directly to the recipient after the withdrawal date of B Trimester and is conditional on the student maintaining a 'B' grade average in A Trimester.

3.2. If fewer than two scholarships are awarded in an academic area, then the Selection Panel may award an additional scholarship in one of the other academic areas.

3.3. If there are no suitable applicants, the Selection Panel may refrain from making a recommendation.

3.4. The successful applicants 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.

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

3.6. Once the successful applicant has accepted their offer of the Scholarship, they may be contacted directly by staff in the University's Development Office and/or Future Students Team to arrange publicity and/or a school visit.

3.7. The Scholarship will have a tenure of one year.

4. Application

4.1. The closing date for online applications is **01 March each year.**

4.2. As part of the online application process for the Scholarship, each applicant must include details in the personal statement fields outlining the following:

4.2.1. Why the candidate believes university study is important.

4.2.2. Details on their commitment to the wider community.

4.2.3. How the candidate sees themselves being an advocate for the University in their school and community.

4.2.4. Any financial circumstances that are relevant, especially if the candidate doesn't already hold another scholarship.

4.2.5. Any other information that may be of relevance to the Selection Panel.

5. Selection Panel

5.1. The Selection Panel will comprise the Chair of the Scholarships Committee (in the Chair), a member of the Development Office nominated by the Chair of the Scholarships Committee, and the Deputy Director Strategic Engagement.

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

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

6. Other Conditions

6.1. 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.

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

6.3. If a recipient is in receipt of a student allowance, another scholarship, or any type of financial assistance, it is their responsibility to check their entitlement to other income and any tax implications.

6.4. Should a recipient withdraw from any papers, without adding sufficient papers to maintain an overall full-time enrolment for the academic year, the University may ask for the Scholarship to be repaid.

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[1], 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.

[1] See Code of Student Conduct.