Health Overseas Exchange Scholarship – 2027

The Health Overseas Exchange Scholarship was established in 2022 as the HECS International Exchange Scholarship. Following the establishment of the STEM and Health Divisions in 2025, separate STEM and Health scholarships were established. Funded by the Division of Health, up to ten Health scholarships are awarded each year to support undergraduate students undertaking an approved international exchange.

1. Purpose

1.1. The Scholarship encourages students in the Division of Health to participate in exchange programmes offered by the University of Waikato.

2. Eligibility Selection Criteria

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

- 2.1.1. have completed at least one year of study within an undergraduate degree programme offered by the Division of Health.
- 2.1.2. be a current full-time student within the Division of Health.
- 2.1.3. have been accepted into the University of Waikato Global Experiences Programme[1].
- 2.1.4. be eligible for domestic fees status (i.e., be a NZ Citizen, NZ Permanent Resident, NZ Resident Class Visa holder, or Australian Citizen/Permanent Resident domiciled in NZ.

2.2. **Selection is based on**:

- 2.2.1. academic performance (a minimum of A- grade point average is expected for the last two trimesters of study).
- 2.2.2. goals and aspirations, clarity of purpose underlying the desire to pursue the Waikato Global Experiences Programme.
- 2.2.3. financial hardship may be taken into account.
- 2.2.4. preference will be given to students who have applied to our partner institutions (i.e., Cardiff University and/or Newcastle University).

2.3. **To maintain eligibility recipients must:**

- 2.3.1. be confirmed to have been accepted into the partner University for the relevant trimester. Confirmation will be made by the Manager, Global Experiences.
- 2.3.2. attend the international exchange in the trimester of tenure.

[1] Students must have been selected to study at an exchange university that fits academically with their current study, and that has the support of their School and the Waikato Global Experiences Programme

3. Value and awarding

3.1. The value of the Scholarships (in NZD) is as follows and are paid in one lump sum directly to the student prior to leaving on their overseas exchange:

3.1.1. Europe **$2,500**.

3.1.2. USA, Canada, and Mexico **$2,000**.

3.1.3. Asia and Australia **$1,500**.

3.2. Upon confirmation that recipients have met the requirements of the University of Waikato Global Experiences Programme the successful applicants will be advised of the scholarship offer via their MyWaikato portal. The offer must be accepted by the prescribed date, or the offer will lapse.

3.3. In accepting the Scholarship, the recipient will be deemed to:

3.3.1. have read, understood and accepted the conditions of the Scholarship, and the Scholarships Policy.

3.3.2. agree to participate in any reasonable publicity concerning the Scholarship arranged by the University of Waikato

3.4. The tenure of the Scholarship is one trimester and must be taken up in the trimester for which it is offered.

4. Application and Scholarship Process

4.1. The closing date for online applications is **15 January** (for exchanges in B trimester of the current year) and **15 July** (for exchanges in A Trimester of the following year)**.**

4.2. As part of the online application process, each applicant must provide information on the following through the 'Scholarships' tab in MyWaikato:

4.2.1. rationale for choosing the institution / country.

4.2.2. commentary on any previous international experiences undertaken (e.g., work/travel).

4.2.3. commentary on how the exchange will benefit the applicant and their future study and/or career aspirations.

4.2.4. commentary on the applicant's personal character and how the exchange will benefit them personally.

4.3. Applications will be forwarded to the International Office to ensure applicants have been accepted into the Waikato Global Experiences Programme.

5. Selection Panel

5.1. The Selection Panel will comprise the Division of Health representative of the University's Scholarships Committee (as Chair), the Pro Vice-Chancellor of Health, and the Health Divisional Director.

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

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

6. Other Conditions

6.1. The Scholarship may be held with any other bursary, scholarship, or award, provided the regulations of the other award allow this.

6.2. 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.

6.3. If, during the tenure of the Scholarship, a recipient's circumstances change in such a manner that their continued eligibility for the Scholarship may be affected, they must inform the Scholarships Committee (via the School of Graduate Research - Scholarships) immediately (scholarships@waikato.ac.nz).

6.4. The Scholarships Committee may terminate a Scholarship at any time, and recoup any funds disbursed, if the holder is not following the approved programme of study, withdraws from the University during the tenure of the Scholarship, brings the Scholarship or University into disrepute[2], or is not otherwise complying with the regulations governing the Scholarship and/or the University of Waikato. The recipient will have the right to appeal against any decision to terminate the Scholarship.

6.5. The Scholarships Committee has the power to amend or vary these regulations provided that there is no departure from the main purpose of the Award.

[2] See Student Code of Conduct.