

The Edna Money Future Pacific Leaders' Scholarship was established in 2015 to provide academically talented Pacific students who demonstrate significant leadership potential an opportunity to study at the University of Waikato. [Edna Money](#) was a Morrinsville farmer and accountant who bequeathed \$1 million to the University of Waikato to benefit Pacific students. The Scholarship supports one new recipient each year.

1. Purpose

- 1.1. The purpose of the Edna Money Future Pacific Leaders' Scholarship is to support students of Pacific Island descent to achieve academically in an undergraduate degree programme at the University of Waikato.

2. Eligibility and Selection Criteria

- 2.1. **To be eligible**, applicants must meet all the following:
 - 2.1.1. have achieved NCEA Level 2 with at least Merit (or the equivalent through examinations such as the Cambridge International Examinations (CIE) or the International Baccalaureate (IB) examination).
 - 2.1.2. be of Pacific Island descent.
 - 2.1.3. demonstrate involvement in, and commitment to, the Pacific community.
 - 2.1.4. be studying at NCEA Level 3 (or equivalent) towards University Entrance in the year of application.
 - 2.1.5. be intending to enrol full-time (a full-time academic year comprises [120 points](#)) in an undergraduate degree programme¹ at the University of Waikato for the first time² in the year of tenure.
 - 2.1.6. 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. **Gap year** - Applicants who are taking one 'gap year' in the year of application may also be considered, but must:
 - 2.2.1. not have done any degree-level study at another tertiary institution on their gap year.
 - 2.2.2. have achieved a minimum of Merit (or equivalent) at both NCEA Level 2 and 3.
 - 2.2.3. have adequately explained the reason for their gap year.
- 2.3. **Selection is based on:**
 - 2.3.1. academic ability.
 - 2.3.2. contribution to and/or positive engagement with the Pacific community.
 - 2.3.3. commitment to succeed in university study.

¹ This does not include diplomas, certificates, etc., except for the Te Tohu Paetahi. Recipients whose degree structure requires them to enrol in an alternative programme of study in the year of tenure can request special consideration by submitting a Variation Request here <https://www.waikato.ac.nz/study/scholarships/scholarship-variation-request-form/>

² Applicants who have undertaken **Unistart** papers at the University of Waikato are **not** excluded by this clause.

- 2.4. **To ensure ongoing eligibility and scholarship maintenance**, recipients must:
- 2.4.1. by the withdrawal deadline of A Trimester in the year following application be accepted into an undergraduate degree programme at the University of Waikato;
 - 2.4.2. in Year One, recipients must participate fully in the [Imua Programme](#), which will be monitored by the Pacific Student Success Coordinator).
 - 2.4.3. in each year of tenure, enrol full-time as outlined in Clause 2.1.5 **and** achieve at least a B grade-point-average (GPA) across all papers.

3. Value, Awarding and Tenure

- 3.1. The value the Scholarship will be **up to \$18,000** spread over a maximum tenure of three years. See clause 2.4 for ongoing requirements that could result in a lesser amount being awarded. **In each year of tenure:**
- 3.1.1. \$6,000 will be paid directly to the recipient in two equal instalments.
 - 3.1.2. The first instalment will be processed after the withdrawal date for A trimester and the second instalment after the withdrawal date for B trimester.
- 3.2. 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.
- 3.3. 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. agreed to participate in any publicity concerning the Scholarship arranged by the University of Waikato

4. Application

- 4.1. The closing date for online applications is **31 August each year**.
- 4.2. As part of the online application process, each applicant must include information on the following:
- 4.2.1. Academic achievements.
 - 4.2.2. Future aspirations and motivation to succeed at university.
 - 4.2.3. Community engagement and commitment to the Pacific community.
 - 4.2.4. Leadership roles/positions within and outside of school.
 - 4.2.5. Gap year activities during the year of application (if applicable).
 - 4.2.6. Any other information of relevance to the Selection Panel.
- 3.3 Each applicant must also request the submission of two references:
- 4.2.7. An online Academic Assessment which is to be completed by the candidate's Secondary School (The school will be contacted directly by the University to obtain the assessment. However, the applicant must also make their school aware of this impending request) and
 - 4.2.8. A reference attesting to the applicant's activities and roles (especially those with a Pacific focus) in the wider community. The referee must not be a member of the immediate applicant's family.

5. Selection Panel

- 5.1. The Selection Panel will comprise the Chair of the Scholarships Committee (or nominee) in the Chair, the Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Pacific) or nominee, the Pacific Engagement Manager – the Dau Ni Talitali, the Future Student Advisor – Pacific, and a Pacific staff member appointed by the Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Pacific).
- 5.2. The Selection Panel will consider the applications and may contact referees on a confidential basis for further relevant information.
- 5.3. The Selection Panel's decisions are final and no correspondence will be entered into following the selection meeting.
- 5.4. The Selection Panel may refrain from making a recommendation if it finds no applicants of sufficient merit.

6. Other Conditions

- 6.1. The Scholarship may be held in conjunction with any other scholarship, award or prize, unless the conditions of the other award preclude 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. Recipients who take up this Scholarship are expected to complete at least four trimesters of study at the University of Waikato (i.e., 240 points). Those who withdraw their enrolment before the end of this period will normally be required to pay back the full sum of monies received.
- 6.4. 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.
- 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 or the University into disrepute³, 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.
- 6.6. The Scholarships Committee has the power to amend or vary these regulations, provided that there is no departure from the main purpose of the Scholarship.

³ See [Code of Student Conduct](#).