

# TECT Tauranga Campus Returning Student Scholarship - 2026



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**WAIKATO**  
*Te Whare Wānanga o Waikato*

The TECT Tauranga Campus Returning Student Scholarship (the Tauranga Campus Returning Student Scholarship till 2022) was established in 2018 to enable students to continue their university



education at the University of Waikato in Tauranga. These scholarships (originally funded by the Tauranga Energy Consumer Trust, Tauranga City Council, and Bay of Plenty Regional Council) were in 2022 generously supported for an additional three years (till 2026) by TECT Community Trust. The funds are held in trust by the University of Waikato Foundation and up to 10 scholarships are available each year. The University of Waikato motto 'Ko Te Tangata' (For the People) is a core value and underpins the purpose of these scholarships.

## 1. Purpose

- 1.1. The Scholarship aims to provide financial support to students currently studying at the University of Waikato Tauranga Campus and returning to study full-time at the University of Waikato in Tauranga in the following year.

## 2. Eligibility and Selection Criteria

- 2.1. **To be eligible**, applicants must meet all following criteria:

- 2.1.1. in the year of application, be enrolled full-time (a full-time academic year comprises of 120-points) in an undergraduate degree with at least 75% of papers undertaken at the Tauranga campus (see also clause 2.2).
- 2.1.2. have completed at least one year of full-time study (120-points) at the University of Waikato (see also clause 2.2).
- 2.1.3. be intending to enrol full-time in an undergraduate degree programme at the University of Waikato Tauranga Campus in the year of tenure.
- 2.1.4. not be eligible for Fees-Free under the NZ Government's Fees-Free Tertiary Education Policy during the year of tenure of this Scholarship.
- 2.1.5. 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. Students undertaking a pathway degree at Toi Ohomai Institute of Technology **and** who will be enrolled full-time at the University of Waikato in the year of tenure may also apply.

2.3. Previous recipients of the scholarship (i.e., those who held the award in previous years) may apply again if all other eligibility criteria are met.

**2.4. Selection is primarily based on:**

2.4.1. future aspirations and motivation to succeed at university.

2.4.2. commitment to succeed at university study.

2.4.3. combined grades from all previous years of tertiary study.

2.4.4. Preference may be given to:

a. applicants with an affiliation with the Western Bay of Plenty region; and/or.

b. applicants who will be enrolled in their second year of study in the year following application.

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

2.5.1. enrol full-time (a full-time academic year comprises 120-points) in an undergraduate degree programme at the University of Waikato; and

2.5.2. be undertaking at least 75% of papers at the Tauranga Campus.

### **3. Value, Tenure and Awarding**

3.1. The Scholarship value is **\$3,500** and will be credited towards the recipient's University of Waikato tuition fees only.

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

3.3. 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, and the scholarship offered to the next reserve applicant.

3.4. In accepting the Scholarship, the recipient will:

3.4.1. be deemed to have read, understood, and accepted the conditions of the Scholarship and the [Scholarships Policy](#).

3.4.2. 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 **1 November annually**.

4.2. As part of the online application process, each applicant must provide information on all the following:

4.2.1. Future aspirations and motivation to succeed at university.

4.2.2. Why the course of study and, in particular, study at the University of Waikato Tauranga Campus will enhance their lifetime opportunities.

4.3. Each candidate must request the submission of a character reference. The character reference may not be provided by an immediate family member.

4.4. For students on an academic pathway from Toi Ohomai only they must also include their

most recent academic transcript.

## **5. Selection Panel**

- 5.1. The Selection Panel will comprise of the Chair of the Scholarships Committee (or nominee) in the Chair, a representative of the TECT Community Trust nominated by the Chair of the Trust and one academic staff member based at Tauranga Campus appointed by the Chair of the Scholarships Committee (or nominee).
- 5.2. The Selection Panel may refrain from making a recommendation if it finds no applicant(s) of sufficient merit.
- 5.3. The Selection Panel's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into following the selection meeting.

## **6. Other Conditions**

- 6.1. The Scholarship may be held with any other scholarship, award or prize, unless the conditions of the other award preclude this. Where more than one tuition fees scholarship is held, and the total value of the combined scholarships exceed the tuition fees, the remainder of the scholarship will be forfeit (i.e., no cash disbursements will be provided).
- 6.2. 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.
- 6.3. Recipients should seek independent financial advice about any tax implications of their Scholarship.
- 6.4. 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<sup>1</sup>, 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 will have the right to appeal to the Scholarships Executive against any decision to terminate the award.
- 6.5. The Scholarships Committee has the power to amend or vary these regulations, in consultation with the Donor, provided that there is no departure from the main purpose of the Scholarship.

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<sup>1</sup> See [Student Code of Conduct](#)