

The Te Piringa – Faculty of Law School Leaver Scholarship (formerly known as Te Piringa – Faculty of Law Entrance Scholarship and Te Piringa – Faculty of Law Endeavour Scholarship) was renamed in 2020. It is intended to assist school leaver students embarking on their law degree who have excellent academic performance, or who face difficult circumstances that affect their ability to attain academic success. These scholarships are funded by Te Piringa - Faculty of Law and the number of scholarships awarded varies from year to year. In 2026 five awards will be made.

1. Purpose

- 1.1. The purpose of these Scholarships is to provide financial support to academically excellent and/or financially constrained first-year school leaver students studying at Te Piringa – Faculty of Law.

2. Eligibility and Selection Criteria

- 2.1. **To be eligible**, applicants must:
 - 2.1.1. be studying at NCEA Level 3 (or equivalent) towards University Entrance in the year of application; and
 - 2.1.2. be intending to enroll full-time (a full-time academic year comprises 120-points) in the first year of a Bachelor of Laws (LLB), Diploma of Law or a conjoint degree¹ with Te Piringa - Faculty of Law at the University of Waikato; and
 - 2.1.3. have performed at a high standard, with a minimum endorsement of Merit, in the National Certificate in Educational Achievement (NCEA) Level 2 and/or the NZ Scholarships assessments, or equivalent, in the year of application; and
 - 2.1.4. be a New Zealand citizen, NZ Permanent Resident, NZ Resident Class Visa holder or Australian citizen/Permanent Resident domiciled in NZ.
- 2.2. Applicants who are taking a 'gap-year' in the year of application may also be considered, provided they meet all other eligibility criteria outlined above.
- 2.3. **Selection is based on:**
 - 2.3.1. academic excellence;
 - 2.3.2. compelling rationale for studying law;
 - 2.3.3. evidence of academic / work-life background experience;
 - 2.3.4. community involvement
 - 2.3.5. Financial need, or other circumstances, that have constrained the applicant's ability to succeed academically will also be taken into consideration.
- 2.4. **To maintain eligibility**, students offered the Scholarship must:
 - 2.4.1. gain University Entrance;

¹ Students enrolling in a conjoint degree must undertake the full first-year Law programme (LEGAL103, LEGAL104 and LEGAL106).

- 2.4.2. be accepted into the first year of a Bachelor of Laws (LLB), Diploma of Law or a conjoint degree with Te Piringa – Faculty of Law at the University of Waikato;
- 2.4.3. enrol full-time as outlined in Clause 2.1.2

3. Value, Tenure and Awarding

- 3.1. The value of each Scholarship will be **\$2,000** and will be paid directly into the recipient's bank account in a lump sum after the withdrawal date for A 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 and the scholarship offered to the next reserve candidate.
- 3.3. In accepting the Scholarship, the recipient will be deemed to have read, understood, and accepted the conditions of the Scholarship and the [Scholarships Policy](#).
- 3.4. The Scholarship will have a maximum tenure of one year and must be taken up in the year for which it is offered.

4. Application

- 4.1. The closing date for online application is **31 August annually**.
- 4.2. As part of the online application process, each applicant must provide information on the following:
 - a. A brief outline of why you want to study your chosen programme;
 - b. Briefly describe your character traits and personal qualities;
 - c. Briefly describe how your academic and / or work / life experience has helped you prepare for study;
 - d. Extracurricular activities and community involvement; and
 - e. An financial / family constraints and / or personal circumstances
- 4.2.1. Upload a CV (no more than two A4 pages in length).
- 4.3. An online Academic Assessment will be requested from the applicant's Secondary School. The school will be contacted directly by the University to obtain the assessment. Applicants are encouraged to speak with their school's career advisor (or equivalent) about their report.

5. Selection Panel

- 5.1. The Selection Panel will comprise of the Scholarships Committee representative from the Division of Arts, Law, Psychology and Social Sciences (in Chair), the Dean of Law (or nominee), and at least two academic members of staff nominated by the Dean of Law
- 5.2. The Selection Panel may refrain from making a recommendation if it finds no applicants 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 together with any other scholarship, award, prize or student allowance, unless the conditions of the other award preclude this.
- 6.2. Recipients should seek independent financial advice about any tax implications of their Scholarship.

- 6.3. 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 disrepute², 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.
- 6.4. 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.
- 6.5. By accepting the Scholarship, the recipient agrees to participate in any publicity concerning the Scholarship arranged by the University of Waikato.

² See [Code of Student Conduct](#)