

# Te Pua Wānanga ki te Ao Faculty of Māori and Indigenous Studies Postgraduate Excellence Awards - 2025



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

Te Pua Wānanga ki te Ao - Faculty of Māori and Indigenous Studies Postgraduate Excellence Awards were established in 2001 to support postgraduate students studying within the Faculty, who achieve well academically and demonstrate good character, particularly through their cultural/academic and community involvement. The Awards are funded by the Faculty and the number on offer each year is determined by available funding.

## 1. Eligibility and Selection Criteria

### 1.1. To be eligible, applicants must:

- 1.1.1. be enrolled part- or full-time in a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Te Pua Wānanga ki te Ao - Faculty of Māori and Indigenous Studies at the University of Waikato in the year of application; and
- 1.1.2. be a New Zealand citizen, permanent resident or international student.

### 1.2. Past recipients may apply.

### 1.3. Selection is based on:

- 1.3.1. academic excellence;
- 1.3.2. commitment to completion of the programme of study;
- 1.3.3. the applicant's programme of study having demonstrable relevance to the priorities of Te Pua Wānanga ki te Ao - Faculty of Māori and Indigenous Studies; and,
- 1.3.4. the applicant's contribution to academic, cultural and community life of the University of Waikato.

### 1.4. Financial need may also be taken into consideration.

### 1.5. Preference will be given to applicants who have gained **confirmed enrolment status** (i.e. have completed the conditional enrolment period).<sup>1</sup>

### 1.6. To maintain eligibility, recipients must:

- 1.6.1. Remain enrolled during the tenure of the award, preferably full-time.

## 2. Value and Awarding

### 2.1. Each award is **up to \$8,000** and will be paid directly into the recipient's bank account in two equal instalments.

#### 2.1.1. **Instalment 1:** Half the award value will be paid as soon as practicable after awarding.

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<sup>1</sup> More information about conditional and confirmed enrolment can be found on the University of Waikato website <https://www.waikato.ac.nz/study/options/postgraduate/phd-doctoral/>.

- 2.1.2. **Instalment 2:** half the award value will be paid six months after the initial payment, provided the recipient maintains all eligibility requirements in Clause 1.6.
- 2.1.3. Should a recipient be awarded the Award for part-time study, or be approved to study part-time during the tenure of the Award, their Award value will be adjusted to a pro-rata value according to the point enrolled.
- 2.2. Successful applicants will be advised of the offer of their Award via their MyWaikato portal and must accept the offer by the prescribed date or the offer will lapse.
- 2.3. In accepting the Award, the recipient will be deemed to have read, understood, and accepted the conditions of the Award and the [Scholarships Policy](#).
- 2.4. The Award will have a maximum tenure of one year and must be taken up in the year for which it is offered.
- 2.5. The recipient may be asked to attend a presentation ceremony.

### 3. Application

- 3.1. The closing date for applications is **15 July each year**.
- 3.2. As part of the online application process, applicants must provide information on the following:
  - 3.2.1. previous academic achievements;
  - 3.2.2. study/career plans;
  - 3.2.3. timeline of this year's enrolment;
  - 3.2.4. suitability for the Award (focusing on the Award's criteria, including contribution to the academic, cultural and community life of the University of Waikato);
  - 3.2.5. outline of financial circumstances
  - 3.2.6. Each candidate must also request the submission of two references:
    - An Academic reference;
    - A character reference who must not be a member of the immediate applicant's family.

### 4. Selection Panel

- 4.1. The Selection Panel will comprise the University's Scholarships Committee representative for the Faculty (in the Chair), Te Pua Wānanga ki te Ao - Faculty of Māori and Indigenous Studies Dean (or nominee), the Associate Dean (Postgraduate) (or nominee), and a nominee of the Faculty Operations Manager.

- 4.2. The Selection Panel may refrain from making a recommendation if it finds no candidate of sufficient merit.
- 4.3. The Selection Panel's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into following the selection meeting.

## **5. Other Conditions**

- 5.1. The Award may not be held concurrently with any other scholarships or awards funded by Te Pua Wānanga ki te Ao - Faculty of Māori and Indigenous Studies.
- 5.2. The Award may be held together with any other scholarships or awards unless the conditions of the other award preclude this.
- 5.3. The Scholarships Committee may terminate this Award at any time, and recoup any funds disbursed, if the holder withdraws from the University of Waikato during the tenure of the Award, brings the University into disrepute<sup>2</sup>, or is otherwise not complying with the regulations governing the Award. The holder of an Award will have the right to appeal to the Scholarships Executive against any decision to terminate the Award.
- 5.4. If a recipient is in receipt of a student allowance, another scholarship or award, or any type of financial assistance, it is their responsibility to check their entitlement to other income and any tax implications.
- 5.5. 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.
- 5.6. By accepting an Award, the recipient agrees to participate in any publicity concerning the Award arranged by the University of Waikato.

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<sup>2</sup> See [Code of Student Conduct](#).