The Waikato Management School Emerging Leaders Entrance Scholarship 2027 – Round 1

THE UNIVERSITY OF WAIKATO
Te Whare Wānanga o Waikato

The Waikato Management School Emerging Leaders Entrance Scholarship[1] is a Master of Business Administration (MBA) entrance scholarship that recognises emerging leaders from the business, public community and iwi sectors. The scholarship is funded by Waikato Management School and is intended to support one emerging leader each year to undertake a Master of Business Administration (MBA) at the University of Waikato Hamilton campus.

1. Purpose

1.1 The Scholarship supports emerging leaders to undertake a Master of Business Administration (MBA) at the University of Waikato, recognising that financial hardship or extraordinary personal circumstances can be a barrier to leadership development.

2. Eligibility and Selection Criteria:

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

- 2.1.1 be an emerging leader within their sector.
- 2.1.2 be a new applicant to the MBA in the year of application and have been accepted into the programme.
- 2.1.3 not have been a previous recipient of any Waikato Management School (WMS) University of Waikato Scholarship or Award for the MBA.
- 2.1.4 not be eligible for the University of Waikato's staff fees concession scheme for their MBA programme.
- 2.1.5 be enrolling at the Hamilton campus in the year of application.
- 2.1.6 be a New Zealand citizen, NZ Permanent Resident, NZ Resident Class Visa holder or Australian Citizen/Permanent Resident domiciled in NZ.

2.2 **Selection of recipients** is based on all the following criteria:

- 2.2.1 leadership contribution to 'for profit' and 'for purpose' communities.
- 2.2.2 the impact the MBA qualification will have on the applicant's sector.
- 2.2.3 consideration of barriers to studying the MBA, including financial hardship or extraordinary personal circumstances, and how this scholarship will be used to support the applicant's ability to undertake the MBA.
- 2.2.4 Priority will be given to those with financial hardship or extraordinary personal circumstances

2.3 **To maintain eligibility, recipients must** enrol at least in 75 points in the MBA Programme in the year of tenure and remain enrolled for the entire programme of study.

[1] Formerly the Chamber of Commerce Tauranga Business Scholarship (2005 to 2015); Tauranga Chamber of Commerce Business Scholarship (2016 to 2018): Executive Education Emerging Leader Award (2019 – 2020); Waikato Management School Emerging Leaders Award (2021 – 2024).

3. Value, Tenure and Scholarship

3.1 A scholarship of **up to $10,000** will be offered each year. The Scholarship will be paid towards the applicant's MBA programme tuition fees in the year of tenure.

3.2 The Scholarship has 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 may be offered to a reserve candidate.

3.4 In accepting the Scholarship, the recipient will be deemed to have:

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

3.4.2 agreed to participate in any events or publicity concerning the scholarship arranged by staff at the University of Waikato.

4. Application

4.1 The closing date for applications is **31 January each year**.

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

4.2.1 Leadership contribution to business and the community in their region.

4.2.2 The impact of an MBA on their business or organisation and how it adds value to their region's economy or communities.

4.2.3 Any barriers to study, including financial hardship or extraordinary personal circumstances, and how this scholarship will be used to support the applicant's ability to undertake the MBA.

4.3 Each applicant must also request the submission of two confidential referees, and one must be from the applicant's employer (or business associate if self-employed). References previously provided for the MBA application can be submitted but must be no more than six months old and must have the approval from the referee to be submitted for the scholarship.

5. Selection Panel

5.1 The Selection Panel will comprise the Associate Dean Regional Engagement and Development (WMS) or nominee, the MBA Programme Director (WMS), or nominee, MBA Programme Specialist and the Division of Management (WMS) representative on the Scholarships Committee (in the Chair).

5.2 The Selection Panel may refrain from making a recommendation if it finds no candidates 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 disrepute[2], 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 in consultation with the funder provided that there is no departure from the main purpose of the Scholarship.

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[2] See Code of Student Conduct