

The Toi Moana Climate Change Scholarship was established in 2023 through a generous donation from the Bay of Plenty Regional Council Toi Moana. This scholarship is a tangible way for BOPRC to support the advancement of climate change understanding in the Bay of Plenty and a way of highlighting the issue and to steer students towards a course of study that is becoming increasingly important for New Zealand. Scholarships will help support the BOPRC Climate Action Plan goals and will also help build future workforce that supports the Kaupapa of climate change within the Bay of Plenty.

Funds are held in trust by the by the University of Waikato Foundation, and one Award of \$7,000 will be offered until 2028 when it is anticipated the funds will be fully depleted.

Applicants are also invited to apply for the [Toi Moana Summer Experience Programme](#) if interested.

1. Purpose

- 1.1. The Scholarship provides financial support for students who have a strong connection to the Bay of Plenty region and are enrolled in the second year or above in a Bachelor of Climate Change.

2. Eligibility and Selection Criteria

2.1. To be eligible for consideration, applicants must:

- 2.1.1. be enrolled full or part-time in their second year (or above) of study towards a Bachelor of Climate Change at the University of Waikato.
- 2.1.2. have completed their last 120-points of study in the Bachelor of Climate Change at the University of Waikato with at least a B+ grade-point-average (GPA); and
- 2.1.3. whakapapa, reside or actively maintain a demonstrable connection to the Bay of Plenty region; and
- 2.1.4. be a NZ Citizen, NZ Permanent Resident, NZ Resident Class Visa holder, or Australian Citizen/Permanent Resident domiciled in NZ.

2.2. Selection will be based on:

- 2.2.1. academic merit.
- 2.2.2. the applicant's reasoning and ability to articulate what they think the impacts of climate change are for New Zealand and how this relates to Bay of Plenty Regional Council's strategic direction or climate action plan.
- 2.2.3. preference will be given to students who:
 - a. who have a strong connection to the Bay of Plenty.
 - b. are majoring in the subjects relevant to the Bay of Plenty Regional Council strategic direction and/or climate action plan.
 - c. are studying full-time (a full-time academic year comprises 120 points).
 - d. have not previously received the award.

2.3. To maintain eligibility throughout the tenure of the scholarship recipients must:

- 2.3.1. remain enrolled in the Bachelor of Climate Change; and
- 2.3.2. achieve at least a B+ GPA or above in A Trimester of the year of tenure.

3. Value, Tenure and Awarding

- 3.1. The Scholarship will have a value of **\$7,000 for students enrolled full-time** (i.e., in 120 points of study in the year of tenure) and will be pro-rata for those enrolled in part-time study. The scholarship will be paid in two equal instalments:
 - 3.1.1. half will be paid directly to the recipient after the acceptance of the scholarship or the withdrawal date of A Trimester (whichever is later);
 - 3.1.2. half will be paid directly to the recipient after the withdrawal date of B Trimester but only if eligibility is maintained as per Clause 2.3 above.
- 3.2. The Scholarship will have a tenure of one year.
- 3.3. The successful applicant 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.
- 3.4. In accepting the Scholarship, the recipient will be deemed to have read, understood, and accepted the conditions of the Scholarship, and the [Scholarships Policy](#).
- 3.5. Recipients may be required to attend a meeting organised by members of Bay of Plenty Regional Council Toi Moana; the meeting may include a presentation opportunity.
- 3.6. Once the successful applicant has accepted the offer of the Scholarship, they may be contacted directly by Bay of Plenty Regional Council Toi Moana and/or staff from the University of Waikato Development Office.

4. Application

- 4.1. The closing date for online applications is **01 June**.
- 4.2. As part of the online application process, each applicant must provide information on the following:
 - What they think the impact of climate change will be on New Zealand.
 - What they think the impact of climate change will be in the Bay of Plenty Region
 - The applicant's connection to the Bay of Plenty Region.
 - How they think that they could use their degree to support Climate Change kaupapa in the Bay of Plenty.
 - Any other information that may be of relevance to the Selection Panel.

5. Selection Panel

- 5.1. The Selection Panel will comprise the Chair of the Scholarships Committee (or nominee) in the Chair, an academic staff member teaching in the Bachelor of Climate Change degree programme (appointed by the Chair of the Scholarships Committee), and up to two members of the Bay of Plenty Regional Council Toi Moana, nominated by the Climate Change Programme Manager/GM Integrated Catchments.
- 5.2. The Selection Panel may refrain from making a decision if it finds no applicant of sufficient merit.
- 5.3. The Selection Panel's decisions are final and no further correspondence will be entered into following the selection meeting.

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. 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.
- 6.4. Through the School of Graduate Research, the University monitors recipients' performance and reserves the right to impose further conditions where a recipient's performance is unsatisfactory.
- 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, University or Donor into disrepute¹, or is otherwise not complying with the regulations governing the Scholarship and/or 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.
- 6.6. By accepting the Scholarship, the recipient agrees to participate in any publicity concerning the Scholarship arranged by the University of Waikato and/or the Donor.
- 6.7. 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.

¹ See [Code of Student Conduct](#).