



The University of Waikato Summer Research Scholarship Programme was established in 2006 to support and enhance research at the University of Waikato by providing promising students the opportunity to experience the challenges and rewards of research. Scholarships are offered in various disciplines and support up to ten-weeks of full-time research during C Trimester (November to February). The number of Scholarships offered in any one year will be determined by the availability of funding and supervision.

## 1. Purpose

- 1.1. The University of Waikato Summer Research Scholarships support students to embark on a research experience under the Summer Research Scholarship Programme. The Programme is particularly for those considering further study at the University of Waikato and is designed to assist students in the development of their research skills while providing the opportunity to experience the challenges and rewards of research.

## 2. Eligibility and Selection Criteria

### 2.1. To be eligible for consideration applicants must:

- 2.1.1. In the year of application be enrolled at a New Zealand University or other tertiary provider within New Zealand (e.g. Te Pūkenga)<sup>1</sup>; and
- 2.1.2. have not yet undertaken postgraduate research (i.e., have not begun Masters by Research or a doctorate programme). Applicants concurrently enrolled in taught papers and a thesis (593 or 594) may apply providing they have not yet commenced their master's thesis.

### 2.2. Selection of applicants by academic supervisors is based on:

- 2.2.1. Expertise in at least one of the specific areas in which the research is being offered in a given year;
- 2.2.2. Academic merit. The Grade Point Average (GPA) will be calculated on the candidate's most recent 240 points of study (i.e. the equivalent of two years' full-time enrolment); and
- 2.2.3. Other considerations as outlined in the project advertisements (e.g., willingness to be based at the location of research).
- 2.2.4. Preference may be given to applicants who have discussed the project with the supervisor before applying and who intend to continue with postgraduate study at the University of Waikato.

### 2.3. To maintain eligibility recipients must:

- 2.3.1. Enrol at the University of Waikato over C Trimester as per clause 3.1.2.

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<sup>1</sup> Applications from students studying at other tertiary providers (e.g. Te Pūkenga) will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

2.3.2. Meet the expectations outlined in the [Summer Research Scholarship Agreement](#).

### 3. Value, Awarding and Tenure

3.1. The scholarship includes the following:

3.1.1. an **\$8,000 stipend** paid in four cash instalments as follows:

- a. \$2000 on commencement of the project;
- b. \$2,000 four weeks through the term of the scholarship;
- c. \$2,000 eight weeks through the term of the scholarship (conditional on a positive interim report from the supervisor); and
- d. \$2,000 on submission of the final research poster, which must be received by the poster due date outlined in Moodle (see also Clause 6).

3.1.2. Students who enrol in the Summer Research Scholarship Project paper associated with the project over C Trimester will also have the tuition fees and Student Services Fee credit paid by the University. However, if a student enrolls in a different paper code, the student will need to pay the associated tuition fees and Student Services Fee.

3.2. Successful applicants will be advised of the offer of a Summer Research Scholarship through their MyWaikato portal and must accept by the date stipulated in the offer or the offer will lapse.

3.3. In accepting the Scholarship, the recipient will:

3.3.1. be deemed to have read, understood, and accepted the conditions of the Scholarship, as well as the associated Summer Research Scholarship Agreement and the [Scholarships Policy](#).

3.3.2. agrees to participate in any publicity concerning the Scholarship arranged by the University of Waikato or the external sponsor/collaborators. The scholarship tenure is for C Trimester only.

3.4. All recipients who submit the final research poster are automatically eligible for consideration in the annual Summer Research Scholarship Poster Awards (see clause 6) with a prize value up to \$1,000.

### 4. Applications

4.1. Applications for Scholarships close **13 July 2026**.

4.2. Applicants must describe in their online application:

- a) relevant background, skills and experience in the research area(s) outlined in the project(s):
- b) justification for interest in the research area(s) outlined in the project(s):
- c) future career and/or research aspirations and how the project(s) contribute to these:
- d) any circumstances that may have affected otherwise strong grades:
- e) The name and email address of one referee who can provide an academic reference (the reference may not be from the academic(s) who will supervise the project(s) that the student is applying for); and

- f) where previous tertiary study has not been completed at the University of Waikato applicants must also provide copies of academic transcripts.

4.3. Students may apply for up to two research projects.

## 5. Nomination and Selection

- 5.1. The Academic Supervisor and any co-supervisor/s or external funders (if applicable) listed on the project abstract will be invited to nominate their preferred (and reserve) applicant. They may choose to refrain from making a recommendation if they deem there are no suitable candidates.
- 5.2. The nominations will be forwarded to the Chair of the Scholarships Committee (or nominee) for consideration and endorsement.
- 5.3. The decision of the Academic Supervisor and Chair of the Scholarships Committee is final and no correspondence will be entered into following selection.
- 5.4. There is no scholarship offer until a formal offer of a scholarship is made through MyWaikato.

## 6. Research Poster

- 6.1. Recipients of a Summer Research Scholarship must submit a research poster by the required date to receive their final payment and be considered for the Summer Research Scholarship Poster Awards.
  - 6.1.1. All posters will be reviewed and ranked by the relevant Divisional/Faculty representatives of the Research Committee, with the top three student posters from each Division//Faculty/School sent to the Scholarships Committee for final consideration.
  - 6.1.2. Awards are announced at the Programme Closing Function, with the student awarded the best poster receiving \$1,000, up to two runner-ups receiving \$500 each, and a possible highly commended receiving \$250.

## 10. Other Conditions

- 10.1. The Scholarships Committee may terminate a scholarship at any time and recoup any funds disbursed if the holder withdraws from the University, brings the University into disrepute<sup>2</sup>, or is otherwise not complying with the regulations 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.
- 10.2. 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.
- 10.3. 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.

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

10.4. International scholars must comply with the conditions of their Immigration New Zealand (INZ) Student Visa.