

# Koha Refugee Award

<b>Code:</b>	1136
<b>Faculty:</b>	All
<b>Applicable study:</b>	Any year of an undergraduate programme
<b>Closing date:</b>	13 March 2025
<b>Tenure:</b>	Up to three years
<b>For:</b>	Assistance with study
<b>Number on offer:</b>	One
<b>Offer rate:</b>	One-off
<b>Value:</b>	Up to \$10,000 pa (see Reg. 2)

## Description

The Award was established in 2021 and is funded by alumni and former staff of Waipapa Taumata Rau, University of Auckland.

The main purpose of the Award is to mitigate the financial barriers faced by students from refugee backgrounds undertaking their first undergraduate programme or undertaking retraining or recertifying to resume a previous career.

## Selection process

- Application is made to the Scholarships Office
- A Selection Committee assesses the applications
- The Award is made by the University of Auckland Council on the recommendation of the Selection Committee

## Regulations

1. The Award will be known as the Koha Refugee Award.
2. One Award will be awarded for a period of up to three years and will be of the value of up to \$10,000 per annum, comprised of an annual contribution towards compulsory tuition fees of \$5,000, and lump sum payments of up to \$5,000 per annum (see Regulation 7).
3. To be eligible for Award consideration, an applicant must i) be a New Zealand Citizen or Permanent Resident (see Note III), ii) come from a refugee background (see Note IV), and iii) be enrolled, or enrolling, full-time in any year of an undergraduate diploma, or undergraduate degree or conjoint degree at Waipapa Taumata Rau, University of Auckland.
4. The basis of selection will be demonstrated financial need and the applicant's study and/or career plans as assessed by a personal statement and the criteria at Note V, and academic achievement (see Note VI).
5. The Award will be made by the University of Auckland Council on the recommendation of a Selection Committee comprising the Chair of Scholarships Committee (or nominee), the Student Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Manager (or nominee), and a representative of the donors.
6. To be paid the Award, the awardee must be enrolled full-time in any year of an undergraduate diploma,

undergraduate degree or conjoint degree.

7. The compulsory tuition fees component will be paid as a tuition fees credit in each semester of enrolment (see Note II). If the awardee's fees have already been covered by any fee-paying scheme, scholarship or award, the tuition fees component may be paid directly to the student to assist the awardee with living costs. The lump sum payments will be made in two equal instalments in Semester One and Two in each year of tenure, as soon as is practical after confirmation of enrolment (that is, after the final date on which a student may add or delete courses without incurring a late enrolment fee).
8. The Award may be held with any other scholarship, award or grant as long as the regulations for that scholarship, award or grant permit and the University of Auckland Council is informed and approved. It is the responsibility of the awardee to declare to the Scholarships Office all other scholarships, awards or grant funding received and for which the awardee receives payment while also in payment for this Award.
9. The University of Auckland Council, in consultation with the donor, has the power to terminate or suspend an award if it receives a report of unsatisfactory progress by a Scholar from the relevant Head of School or Department.
10. The University of Auckland Council is not obliged to make an award if it is determined there is no candidate that meets the criteria and/or no candidate of sufficient merit.
11. Payments under the terms of this Award remain tax-free as long as they are used for the payment of costs associated with an awardee's programme of study and/or to assist the awardee with living costs while studying (see Note I). Failure to comply with this regulation will result in the termination of the Award.
12. The University of Auckland Council, in consultation with the donor, can amend or vary these regulations provided that there is no departure from the main purpose of the Award.
13. Applications close with the Scholarships Office on 13 March in the year of the award.
14. Notes [I]-[VII] below are deemed to be Regulations.

## Notes

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- I. *The tax-free status of this Award is under current legislation. The University of Auckland cannot guarantee this tax-free outcome*
- II. *Tuition/Compulsory fees are only related to the relevant programme of study, plus Student Services Fee.*
- III. *New Zealand Permanent Residents have been granted a Permanent Resident Visa by Immigration New Zealand. For more information visit <https://www.immigration.govt.nz/new-zealand-visas/already-have-a-visa/becoming-a-permanent-resident>.*
- IV. *Refugee background refers to students who have themselves or whose parents/primary guardian(s) have been granted refuge in New Zealand.*
- V. *Financial need will be determined by a range of factors including eligibility for a StudyLink Student Allowance, and personal and financial circumstances.*
- VI. *For the purpose of this Award, academic achievement for students entering the first year of an undergraduate degree is based on results at level two or higher in the National Certificate of Educational Achievement (NCEA) or an equivalent qualification. For students entering the second year of an undergraduate degree, academic achievement is assessed as a Scholarships grade point average (GPA) or grade point equivalent (GPE) obtained over the applicant's first year of full-time graded study. For students entering the third or subsequent year of an undergraduate degree, or an undergraduate diploma, academic achievement is assessed as a Scholarships GPA or GPE obtained over the applicant's most recent two years of full-time graded study.*
- VII. *Awardees will be required to comply with the regulations for the Award and must notify the Scholarships Office of any change in their enrolment or funding status. Waipapa Taumata Rau, University of Auckland may, in the event that it can be established that an awardee is not complying with these regulations, terminate the Award and require repayment of the funds received from the date of the breach.*