

# University of Auckland Vaka Moana Scholarship

<b>Code:</b>	1080
<b>Faculty:</b>	All
<b>Applicable study:</b>	First year of an undergraduate degree programme at Waipapa Taumata Rau   University of Auckland
<b>Closing date:</b>	23 August 2023
<b>Tenure:</b>	One year
<b>For:</b>	Accommodation and study related material
<b>Number on offer:</b>	Varies
<b>Offer rate:</b>	Annually
<b>Value:</b>	Up to \$20,000 comprising one year of catered accommodation in a Waipapa Taumata Rau   University of Auckland Hall of Residence plus a laptop

## Description

The Scholarship was established in 2020 and is funded by Waipapa Taumata Rau | University of Auckland.

The main purpose of the Scholarship is to financially support Pacific students attending university for the first time having left secondary school or kura in the previous year. This reflects the University's strategic recruitment goal to encourage greater participation of Pacific students into tertiary education.

## Selection process

- Candidates apply for the scholarship and seek an endorsement from their School principal
- A Review Committee assesses the application
- The Scholarship is awarded by the University of Auckland Council on the recommendation of a Review Committee

## Regulations

1. The Scholarship will be known as the University of Auckland Vaka Moana Scholarship.
2. The Scholarship will be awarded for the first year of the scholar's undergraduate degree and will be of the value of up to \$20,000, comprising one year of catered accommodation in a single room in a Waipapa Taumata Rau | University of Auckland Hall of Residence (see Notes I to III), plus a laptop, supplied by Waipapa Taumata Rau | University of Auckland. Subject to Regulation 10 and Note XV, the laptop will be the property of the awardee. The Scholarship will be recorded on the scholar's academic transcript.
3. To be eligible for Scholarship consideration, an applicant must be i) a Pacific student (see Note IV), ii) a New Zealand Citizen or Permanent Resident, iii) currently enrolled in their final year of study at a New Zealand secondary school or kura in the Auckland area (see Note V) and iv) intending to enrol full-time in an undergraduate degree, or a Tertiary Foundation Certificate or Certificate in Health Sciences followed by an undergraduate degree at Waipapa Taumata Rau | University of Auckland in the following year.
4. The basis of selection will be the quality of endorsement from the applicant's school and academic ability based on

results of their previous year's study at Level 2 or higher in the National Certificate of Educational Achievement (NCEA) or an equivalent qualification. The following criteria may also inform selection: participation in Māori performing arts, cultural participation in Pacific contexts, demonstrated leadership potential, achievement in academic, sports or arts competitions, participation in visual and performing arts, and recognition within the community. The personal circumstances of applicants will also be taken into consideration including financial need, the decile or Equity Index number of the most recent secondary school attended, if the applicant is the first in their family to attend university, if the applicant comes from a refugee background, if the student has a disability, if the student has care responsibilities for whānau, or if the applicant lives, or attends a secondary school or kura, in a rural area (see Notes VI to X).

5. The Scholarship will be awarded by the University of Auckland Council on the recommendation of a Review Committee comprising the Pro Vice-Chancellor Equity (or nominee), the Pro Vice-Chancellor Māori (or nominee), the Pro Vice-Chancellor Pacific (or nominee), the Associate Director – Schools and Community Engagement (or nominee), and an Academic Staff representative nominated by the Pro Vice-Chancellor Education. In addition, all awarding recommendations will be endorsed by the Entry Level Review Committee.
6. Applicants who have been offered a Scholarship must accept their offer by the date prescribed in the letter of award, otherwise the Scholarship offer will be forfeited.
7. To be paid the Scholarship, awardees must i) achieve admission to Waipapa Taumata Rau | University of Auckland with an NCEA rank score of at least 160, a CIE rank score of at least 160 or an IB score of at least 25, which are all equivalent to a Waipapa Taumata Rau | University of Auckland grade point equivalent (GPE) of 2.40), and ii) enrol full-time in an undergraduate degree or the Certificate of Health Sciences, followed by an undergraduate degree, at Waipapa Taumata Rau | University of Auckland (see Notes XI to XIII).
8. Awardees who are directed by the University to enrol in a Tertiary Foundation Certificate or a Certificate in Health Sciences prior to enrolling in an undergraduate degree may be eligible for consideration to hold the Scholarship. Consideration will be on a case-by-case basis at the time of uptake.
9. The starting date for Scholarship funding will be either Semester One or Semester Two, in accordance with the recipient's enrolment, in the year immediately following the final year of secondary study (see Notes XI to XIII).
10. The accommodation component of the Scholarship will be paid directly to the relevant Hall of Residence. The laptop will be provided to awardees at the start of their first semester of enrolment. No part of the Scholarship can be exchanged for a similar or equal cash value at any time. To remain in accommodation in Semester Two, awardees must achieve a passing grade in all courses in Semester One (see XV).
11. As a condition of tenure, awardees will be required to enrol full-time for at least four semesters of study in an undergraduate degree at Waipapa Taumata Rau | University of Auckland, or the Tertiary Foundation Certificate or Certificate in Health Sciences followed by degree level study (see Notes XII to XVI).
12. A University of Auckland Vaka Moana Scholarship may not be held concurrently with a University of Auckland Top Achiever Scholarship, a University of Auckland Māori Academic Excellence Scholarship, a University of Auckland Pacific Academic Excellence Scholarship, a University of Auckland Academic Potential Scholarship, or a University of Auckland Waka Moana Scholarship. However, it may be held concurrently with any other scholarship or grant as long as the regulations for that scholarship or grant permit and the University of Auckland Council is informed and approves. It is the responsibility of the awardee to declare to the Scholarships Office of all other scholarships, awards or grant funding received and for which the awardee receives payment while also in payment for this Scholarship.
13. The University of Auckland Council is not obliged to make an award if it is determined there are no candidates that meet the criteria and/or no candidates of sufficient merit.
14. The University of Auckland Council can amend or vary these regulations provided that there is no departure from the main purpose of the Scholarship.
15. Applications close with the Scholarships Office on 23 August in the year preceding the award.
16. Notes [I]-[XVIII] below are deemed to be regulations.

## Notes

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- I. *Waipapa Taumata Rau | University of Auckland Halls of Residence are: Grafton Hall, O'Rorke Hall, University Hall - Towers, and Waipārūrū Hall.*
- II. *All awardees who accept the scholarship will be required to take up a place in a Waipapa Taumata Rau | University of Auckland Hall of Residence as a condition of holding a University of Auckland Vaka Moana Scholarship. Exceptions to the requirement to take up the accommodation component will be considered only under exceptional circumstances and on a case-by-case basis.*
- III. *Applicants need to make a separate application for university accommodation by the relevant deadline date.*
- IV. *Pacific candidates are defined as citizens or permanent residents of New Zealand who are of indigenous Pacific descent from any of the following islands: Samoa, American Samoa, Tonga, Cook Islands, Niue, Tokelau, Fiji (iTaukei), Rotuma, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, New Caledonia, Papua New Guinea, Kiribati, Tuvalu, Palau, Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Wallis and Futuna, Hawaii, French Polynesia, Rapanui (Easter Island), Pitcairn Islands, Nauru, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands.*
- V. *A University of Auckland Vaka Moana Scholarship must be applied for in the final year of study at a New Zealand secondary school or kura. Students who intend to take a gap year or who do not intend to enrol at university directly after completing their final year are required to apply for this Scholarship while they are in their final year of secondary study.*
- VI. *Financial need will be determined by eligibility for a StudyLink Student Allowance.*
- VII. *For the purposes of this Scholarship, 'first in family' means that no member of the applicant's immediate family, including parents and siblings, has completed a university qualification prior to the applicant's first year of study. Adoptive and step parents and siblings are considered part of the nuclear family where they have lived with the applicant for the previous five or more years.*
- VIII. *Waipapa Taumata Rau | University of Auckland defines disability as any physical, psychological, cognitive or sensory impairment which may, in interaction with social and systemic barriers, limit a person's full and effective participation in university life on an equal basis with others.*
- IX. *Care responsibilities for whānau/family is defined as providing care for someone close to them who needs help with everyday living because of a health condition or disability to support them to live with dignity and participate more fully in society. Care responsibilities could include looking after relatives in the applicant's immediate family who live in the same household, including children, siblings, parents or grandparents.*
- X. *For the purposes of this scholarship rural area is defined as an area outside the local authority boundaries of city councils in Auckland, Hamilton, Tauranga, Wellington, Porirua.*
- XI. *Students intending to commence study in Semester Two are advised to seek academic advice from their faculty and to enrol in their proposed courses well before Semester One commences.*
- XII. *Except in cases where there are compelling medical reasons or adverse personal circumstances beyond a student's control, the uptake of scholarships cannot be deferred. Students who are offered a University of Auckland Vaka Moana Scholarship but do not take it up in the year of offer may request that their offer be reconsidered in the intake of applications for the year immediately following, providing they meet all other requirements. Deferral requests must be made in writing to the Scholarships Office. The decision of the Scholarships Office is final.*
- XIII. *If a student enrolls at another tertiary institution in New Zealand or overseas, the Scholarship will lapse.*
- XIV. *Awardees must be enrolled continuously in their programme of study. Deferrals for students who have already commenced their degree will not usually be approved unless there are compelling medical or adverse personal circumstances beyond the student's control. Deferral requests must be made in writing to the Scholarships Office. The decision of the Scholarships Office is final.*
- XV. *A passing grade is a C-.*
- XVI. *Awardees who take up this Scholarship but do not complete at least four semesters of study at Waipapa Taumata Rau | University of Auckland or who withdraw their enrolment in any semester after payment has been made, will be required to pay back the full cost of accommodation and return the laptop.*
- XVII. *Payments under the terms of this Scholarship remain tax-free as long as they are used directly for the payment of costs associated with an awardee's programme of study and/or to assist the awardee with living costs while*

*studying. Failure to comply with this regulation will result in the termination of the Scholarship.*

*XVIII. Awardees will be required to comply with the regulations for the Scholarship 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 Scholarship and require repayment of the funds received from the date of the breach.*