

Vice-Chancellor's Scholarship

Code:	1232
Faculty:	All
Applicable study:	First year of full-time study for an undergraduate degree programme
Closing date:	By nomination
Tenure:	Up to two years
For:	Assistance with study
Number on offer:	Up to 20
Offer rate:	Annually
Value:	Up to \$30,000 in total comprising one year of catered accommodation in a Waipapa Taumata Rau, University of Auckland Hall of Residence plus \$10,000 (see Reg. 2)

Description

The Scholarship was established in 2025 and is funded by Waipapa Taumata Rau, University of Auckland.

The purpose of the Scholarship is to recognise and reward exceptional academic performance. The provision of university accommodation is designed to provide the best student experience and promote excellent academic outcomes.

Selection process

- A Selection Committee assesses candidates short-listed from eligible applications for the University of Auckland Top Achiever Scholarship
- The Scholarship is awarded by the University of Auckland Council on the recommendation of the Entry Level Review Committee

Regulations

1. The Scholarship will be known as the Vice-Chancellor's Scholarship.
2. Up to 20 scholarships will be awarded annually, each for a period of up to two years, and will be of the value of up to \$30,000 each comprising the full cost of catered accommodation in a single room in a University of Auckland Hall of Residence plus \$5,000 per annum paid in two instalments in Semester One and Two each year (see Regulation 9 and Notes II to IV). The Scholarship will be recorded on the scholar's academic transcript.
3. To be eligible for Scholarship consideration, an applicants must i) be a New Zealand Citizen or Permanent Resident (see Note V), ii) be currently enrolled in their final year at a New Zealand secondary school or kura (see Note VI), iii) be intending to enrol full-time in a degree at the Waipapa Taumata Rau, University of Auckland in the following year, and iv) have applied for a University of Auckland Top Achiever Scholarship. Applications may also be considered from students who have studied at least until the end of Year 11 at a New Zealand secondary school or kura and who, at the time of application, are studying overseas in either an NCEA, IB or CIE programme, or who have completed an NCEA, IB or CIE programme within the year of application.

4. The basis of selection will be outstanding academic ability based on results at Level 2 or higher in the National Certificate of Educational Achievement (NCEA) or an equivalent qualification. Consideration will be given to candidates with rank scores equivalent to a University of Auckland entry grade point equivalent (GPE) of 7.00 or above achieved as at the time of scholarship application, external credits and credit weighting, and results in specific subjects (see Notes VII to IX). The Review Committee may exercise discretion in the awarding of the Scholarship to ensure alignment with the strategic goals of Waipapa Taumata Rau, University of Auckland. Guided by the applicant pool, this may include balanced representation across schools, regions, and ethnic backgrounds. Where two or more candidates are assessed to be of equal academic standing, the Review Committee may award candidates whose selection would support balanced representation.
5. The Scholarship will be awarded by the University of Auckland Council on the recommendation of the Entry Level Review Committee comprising the Pro Vice-Chancellor Education (or nominee), two members of staff nominated by the Pro Vice-Chancellor Māori, the Pro Vice-Chancellor Pacific (or nominee), the Director Student and Scholarly Services (or nominee), the Associate Director Schools and Community Engagement (or nominee) and two Academic Staff representatives nominated by the Pro Vice-Chancellor Education.
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 a Waipapa Taumata Rau, University of Auckland entry GPE of at least 7.00, and ii) enrol full-time in an undergraduate degree.
8. The starting date for Scholarship funding will be either Semester One or Semester Two, in accordance with the awardee's enrolment, in the year immediately following the final year of enrolment at a secondary school or kura (see Notes X to XIII).
9. The accommodation component of the Scholarship will be paid directly to the relevant Hall of Residence and cannot be exchanged for a similar or cash value at any time. The \$5,000 per annum component will be paid in two equal instalments each year in the awardee's first two years of study, as soon as is practical after confirmation of full-time enrolment (that is, after the final date on which a student may add or delete courses without incurring a late enrolment fee) (see Note X). To remain in accommodation and to be paid the second instalment, awardees must have achieved a grade point average (GPA) of 7.00 in their first semester of enrolment (see Notes XV to XVI).
10. 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 the University of Auckland Waipapa Taumata Rau (see Notes XIV to XVIII).
11. The Scholarship may not be held concurrently with any other Scholarship funded by Waipapa Taumata Rau, University of Auckland (including faculties and Large Scale Research Institutes (LSRIs), or University Research Centres (URCs)). However, it may be held concurrently 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 approves. 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 Scholarship.
12. The University of Auckland Council is not obliged to make the full number of awards if it is determined there are no candidates that meet the criteria and/or no candidates of sufficient merit.
13. Payments under the terms of this Scholarship 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 Scholarship.
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. Notes [I]-[XVIII] below are deemed to be Regulations.

Notes

- I. *The tax-free status of this Scholarship is under current legislation. The University of Auckland cannot guarantee this tax-free outcome.*

- II. *Waipapa Taumata Rau, University of Auckland Halls of Residence are: Grafton Hall, O'Rorke Hall, University Hall - Towers, and Waipārūrū Hall.*
- III. *All awardees who accept the Scholarship will be required to accept and take up a place in a Waipapa Taumata Rau, University of Auckland Hall of Residence as a condition of holding this 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.*
- IV. *Applicants need to make a separate application for university accommodation by the relevant deadline date.*
- V. *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>.*
- VI. *The 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, and their application will be considered with applications received in the following year.*
- VII. *Applicants enrolled in NCEA will be assessed based on their total amount of Level 2 and 3 external credits gained at Year 12, weighted by Excellence, Merit and Achieved status.*
- VIII. *Applicants enrolled in CIE will be assessed by the total AS/A2 level grades gained at Year 12, and any NZQA Scholarship results achieved at Year 12.*
- IX. *Applicants enrolled in IB will be assessed on the total number of SL and HL course grades achieved or predicted, and any NZQA Scholarship results achieved at Year 12.*
- X. *A payment schedule will be available at <https://www.auckland.ac.nz/en/study/scholarships-and-awards/scholarship-types/undergraduate-scholarships/entry-level-and-first-year-scholarships/vice-chancellors-scholarship.html>.*
- 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 this scholarship but who do not take it up in the year of offer may request that their application be reconsidered in the intake of applications for the year immediately following. 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 be forfeited.*
- 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. *The awardee's GPA is based on all the courses they undertake in each semester of study. A GPA of 7.00 is equivalent to a A- average.*
- XVI. *Where an awardee does not achieve a GPA of 7.00 in their first semester of study, their eligibility to retain the Scholarship will be reviewed, taking into account their overall GPA for the semester and any exceptional circumstances beyond the student's control. This process is outlined at <https://www.auckland.ac.nz/en/study/scholarships-and-awards/scholarship-types/undergraduate-scholarships/entry-level-and-first-year-scholarships/vice-chancellors-scholarship.html>.*
- XVII. *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 normally be required to pay back the full sum of monies received.*
- 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.*

XIX. These regulations are subject to Senate and Council approval.