

Scholarship & Award Regulations

Okareka Charitable Trust Scholarship - 2025

The following regulations relate to a scholarship offered by Okareka Charitable Trust (**Sponsor**) and Te Pūkenga trading as Unitec (**Unitec**). By applying for the scholarship, you agree to be bound by these regulations.

1. SCHOLARSHIP NAME: Okareka Charitable Trust Scholarship (“Scholarship”)

2. PURPOSE OF THE SCHOLARSHIP

2.1 The purpose of the Scholarship is to provide tuition fee support to an ākonga (student) in the final year of their programme who is motivated to pursue a career in their chosen industry and make a positive difference in society.

2.2 Unitec recognises that financial support is an important consideration for our ākonga in managing their study goals. The scholarship assists with tuition fees and provides career mentoring and guidance opportunities.

2.3 Ākonga who can demonstrate a commitment to learning and pursuing a career in their chosen industry and show initiative in their personal life and/or study are encouraged to apply.

3. SCHOLARSHIP FINANCIAL VALUE

3.1 The value of the scholarship is \$5,000 for a full year of full-time study; or pro-rata for one semester full-time programmes.

3.2 The scholarship is provided to ākonga to assist with tuition fees and is paid:

- In week six of each semester directly to ākonga StudyLink or Unitec fees accounts
- If the ākonga is eligible for any Fees Free government initiative funding, their fees will be covered first and foremost by Fees Free with the scholarship assisting with any further tuition fee requirements.

3.4 A pro-rata value will also be considered for ākonga who are already permitted to study part-time because they are either disabled ākonga or they have carers responsibilities as either sole parents or whānau/fanau members.

3.5 Once awarded the scholarship may not be deferred or suspended without the prior written permission of the awarding Director and Sponsor.

3.6 Once awarded for a particular programme and School, the Scholarship is not transferrable to another Unitec programme or School, or to any other subsidiary or business division of Te Pūkenga.

4. DURATION

4.1 The scholarship is awarded for one year i.e., two semesters of consecutive study. Where an ākonga is awarded the scholarship for a programme that lasts for one semester, then the duration of the scholarship is one semester only. Scholarship duration will be outlined in successful recipient offer letters.

5. WHO IS ELIGIBLE

5.1 To apply, you must:

- be a domestic ākonga, for example, a New Zealand citizen or Permanent Resident
- be completing the final semester or year of one of the below programmes:
 - Healthcare
 - Bachelor of Health Science (Medical Imaging)
 - Bachelor of Nursing
 - Engineering
 - NZ Diploma in Engineering (Electrical)
 - Bachelor of Engineering Technology (Electrical)
 - Automotive Engineering
 - Bachelor of Applied Technology – Transport Management
 - Land Surveying
 - NZ Diploma in Surveying
 - Environmental and Animal Sciences
 - Bachelor of Veterinary Nursing
 - NZ Diploma in Veterinary Nursing
 - NZ Certificate in Animal Technology (Veterinary Nursing Assistant)
 - Construction
 - Bachelor of Construction (Construction Management)
 - Computing
 - Graduate Diploma in Computing
 - Business
 - Bachelor of Accounting
- have a GPA of 4.0 or above in your most recent semester of study, and passed all previous papers in your programme of study
- be facing financial challenges or difficult circumstances

6. HOW TO APPLY

6.1 Apply online using the form.

6.2 As part of your application you will need to respond to the following questions:

- tell us a little about yourself, especially around your goals and achievements, community involvement and personal strengths (Examples of community involvement include church, sports, or interest group networks. Personal strengths can include anything that helps you reach goals, for example - hardworking, achiever).
- what are you studying at Unitec and what are your employment and career aspirations beyond that?
- what motivates you to succeed in your study?
- do you have a potential job or type of company you would like to work for and why?
- please detail the financial challenges and/or difficult circumstances you believe would support this application, and how this scholarship help support you with your studies?

6.3 If you are a disabled ākonga, sole parent, or a ākonga with other carer responsibilities, who is applying to study part-time, you will also be asked “how does being able to study part-time remove barriers and help you to succeed in your goals?”

7. SELECTION

7.1 Once scholarship applications close, the Scholarships & Mentoring Team (“**Team**”) check that the applicants have:

- completed the online application
- applied to, or are currently enrolled in the final year of a relevant Unitec programme; and
- enrolled as a domestic ākonga.

7.2 The Team sends all eligible applications to the Scholarship Selection Committee for review.

8. COMMITTEE PREFERENCING

8.1 It is important to Unitec to manaaki the success of our ākonga and communities. Our strategic vision includes parity goals for Māori, Pacific, and goals to enhance the success of disabled and neurodiverse ākonga. We also want to manaaki the success of first in family to pursue tertiary education, sole parents, and ākonga with low prior achievement.

8.2 Preference may be given to ākonga who:

- demonstrate that financial support will have an impact on their ability to continue their studies.
- demonstrate academic success in previous study completed at Unitec, if applicable
- are recent school leavers (i.e. left/completed school in the past 5 years)

9. SELECTION COMMITTEES

9.1 Selection committees (“**Committee**”) are made up of at least three relevant members of Unitec, including the Director Student Success (or their delegate) as Committee Chair (“**Chair**”).

9.2 The Sponsor will be invited to participate in the selection committee review or may request to review a shortlist advised by the Committee.

9.3 The committee review all applications received and will make award recommendations based on a combination of:

- responses to the scholarship application questions
- Unitec priority group goals and Committee and Sponsor preferences outlined in 8.1 and 8.2 above

9.4 Committee award decisions are authorised by the Director, Student Success, upon confirmation from Okareka Charitable Trust who will formalise final Recipient selection.

10. WHAT HAPPENS AFTER SELECTION

10.1 The Scholarships & Mentoring team are the kaitiakitanga of the scholarships process. They will:

- let ākonga know scholarship application outcomes
- check enrolments at week three of the semester as the final eligibility check
- set up the tuition fee payments – to be made in week six of semester 1 and 2
- manage ongoing eligibility checks, mentoring opportunities, and future payments
- report back to Okareka Charitable Trust on the academic progress of the successful applicants each semester

11. ONGOING ELIGIBILITY

11.1 **Academic progress:** Ākonga who are awarded the scholarship are expected to achieve Pass grades for all courses unless exceptional circumstances prevail.

11.2 Ākonga who fail one or more courses will be assisted by the Scholarships & Mentoring team to explain their circumstances via a breach appeals process.

11.3 Appeals are considered by the awarding scholarship selection committee Chair. The chair will decide whether to terminate or maintain the scholarship and will also provide referrals to academic or pastoral assistance, wherever possible, to support ākonga.

11.4 Unitec Enrolment: Ākonga are expected to maintain their enrolment status, i.e., be enrolled full-time (typically a minimum of 60 credits) per semester, or part-time as stipulated when their scholarship was awarded.

12. TERMINATION OF A SCHOLARSHIP

12.1 Your scholarship will be ended/terminated by Unitec if:

- you withdraw from the Unitec course/programme after the start of the programme
- you cease to meet the eligibility criteria
- you breach the academic and enrolment ongoing eligibility requirements and don't successfully appeal; or
- Unitec determines that you are guilty of misconduct and after consultation with the Director Student Success (or their nominee), deems that it is not appropriate for you to continue to hold the Scholarship.

12.2 If Unitec terminates the Recipients Scholarship for any of the above reasons, after the start of Semester 1 or 2, Unitec may require any Scholarship payment(s) already made be reimbursed to Unitec and/or the Sponsor.

13. OTHER OBLIGATIONS AND CONDITIONS:

- The offer of the Scholarship is made subject to all information provided by the Recipient ("**Recipient**") being true and accurate.
- By accepting the offer of the Scholarship, the Recipient agrees to these Regulations.
- For the duration of this scholarship ākonga are not allowed to hold other Unitec funded scholarships, unless a priority group or equity-based scholarship is approved by the relevant Director and/or Head of School. Ākonga are limited to accessing a maximum of \$5,000 of Unitec scholarship funding per academic year.
- Towards the end of their programme of study, the Recipient will be invited to attend two career counselling and mentoring sessions with Unitec Career Development Consultants.
- The Recipient is responsible for advising the Scholarships Manager of any changes in circumstances that would make them ineligible for continuation of the Scholarship, e.g., reducing study load to part time, taking leave of absence or deferring study.
- Any change in the Recipient's circumstances not addressed by these Regulations will be considered by the Scholarships Manager and/or the Scholarship Selection Committee case-by-case.
- Unitec is committed to The Education (Pastoral Care of Tertiary and International Learners) Code of Practice and ensuring the wellbeing of our ākonga. The scholarships team will track and monitor recipients and check in throughout the duration of the scholarship.
- By accepting the offer of the Scholarship, the Recipient agrees to allow for their personal information to be provided to Okareka Charitable Trust (Sponsor) and authorises Unitec and/or Te Pūkenga and Okareka Charitable Trust to use that information (acting reasonably) (names, photos and images) for marketing and promotional purposes without further compensation.
- The Scholarship is not transferrable or exchangeable.