

Scholarship & Award Regulations

Unitec Vocational Pathway Scholarships – 2025

The following regulations relate to a scholarship offered by Unitec*(Unitec). By applying for the scholarship, you agree to be bound by these regulations.

*Unitec is a business division of its parent entity, Te Pūkenga – New Zealand Institute of Skills and Technology (Te Pūkenga). Any references to Unitec refer to Te Pūkenga trading as Unitec, a business division of Te Pūkenga.

1. SCHOLARSHIP NAME: Unitec School Leaver Scholarships (“Scholarship”)

2. PURPOSE OF THE SCHOLARSHIP

2.1 The Vocational Pathway Scholarships were established in 2019 to assist school leavers who complete at least one vocational pathway programme at Unitec and then choose to commence study at Unitec in a certificate, diploma or degree level programme.

2.2 Unitec recognises that financial support is an important consideration for ākonga considering study. The scholarship provides both financial support and mentoring opportunities in the first year of study.

3. SCHOLARSHIP FINANCIAL VALUE

3.1 The value of the scholarship is \$2,000.00 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 cover education related costs and is paid:

- in two equal payments of \$1,000.00 each semester; or
- where the programme of the ākonga is only one semester long by one payment of \$1,000.00.

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

3.4 You may not defer or suspend the scholarship without the prior written permission of the awarding School or Director.

3.5 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 a ākonga is awarded the scholarship for a programme that lasts for one semester, then the duration of the scholarship is one semester only.

5. WHO'S ELIGIBLE

5.1 To apply, you must:

- be a domestic ākonga, i.e. a New Zealand citizen or Permanent Resident
- Exited secondary school or kura within the last 24 months
- Completed at least one vocational pathway programme through the Unitec Pathways College during secondary school or kura

- be starting in a programme from Level 3 to 8 (certificate, diploma, undergraduate degree, postgraduate certificate or diploma) that takes at least one semester of full-time study to complete.

6. HOW TO APPLY

6.1 Complete the online application form. Support is available for ākonga through our Scholarship Advisor. Please book an appointment early and prior to the application deadline if you would like to discuss or seek support with your application: <https://guides.unitec.ac.nz/scholarships>

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

- tell us a little about yourself, especially around your goals and achievements, community involvement and personal strengths. It would be great to see examples of how you have helped communities you belong to or identify with, such as your hāpori, marae, hapū, iwi, church, cultural or other community
- What will you be studying at Unitec in 2025 and what are your career aspirations after you complete your study?
- What motivates you to succeed in your studies?
- How will this scholarship help support you with your studies?
- In what ways do you think your study enables you to make a positive difference in society now (immediately) and in the future (long-term)?
- During the year we have Unitec events for ākonga. These include Māori and Pacific Orientations, Whānau/Fanau evenings, Te Wiki o te Reo & Pacific Island language weeks, events for Disabled and Neurodiverse ākonga, Ally Network and Under 25 ākonga. Please describe how you can contribute to events that connect to your identity.

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 applicants have:

- completed the online application; and
- applied to study a relevant course at Unitec; and
- enrolled as a New Zealand citizen or Permanent Resident; and
- exited school or kura within the last 24 months and completed at least one vocational pathway programme through the Unitec Pathways College

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

7.3 The number of scholarships awarded varies and is dependent on available funding.

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 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 Unitec Scholarships for any new students are also an opportunity to foster diversity and inclusion in our student cohorts. Factors such as educational disadvantage, gender, refugee or migrant status may all contribute to positive outcomes of your application.

8.3 Preference may be given to ākonga who:

- reside in Tamaki Makaurau.
- demonstrate that financial support will have an impact on their ability to begin their tertiary studies at Unitec.

9. SELECTION COMMITTEES

9.1 Selection committees (“**Committee**”) are made up of at least three relevant members of Unitec.

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

- responses to the scholarship application questions;
- the preference criteria stipulated in clause 8.1 through 8.3 above

9.3 Unitec has complete discretion in assessing applications for the scholarship. Unitec’s decision is final and binding. Ākonga are welcome to contact the Scholarships & Mentoring Team at scholarships@unitec.ac.nz for feedback on their scholarship application outcome.

10. WHAT HAPPENS AFTER SELECTION

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 first payments – to be made to ākonga in week six of semester 1
- manage ongoing eligibility checks, mentoring opportunities, and second payments

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. The Committee will decide whether to terminate or maintain the scholarship, and will also provide academic assistance, wherever possible, to support the ākonga.

11.4 Unitec Enrolment: ākonga are expected to maintain their enrolment status, i.e. be enrolled full-time (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 terminates 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 eligibility requirements and don’t successfully appeal; or
- Unitec determines that you are guilty of misconduct and after consultation, deems that it is not appropriate for you to continue to hold the Scholarship.

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

13. Other obligations and conditions:

- The offer of the Scholarship is made subject to all information provided by the scholarship recipient (“**Recipient**”) being true and accurate.
- By accepting the offer of the Scholarship, each Recipient agrees to the 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 Selection Committee. Ākonga are limited to accessing a maximum of \$5,000 of Unitec scholarship funding per academic year.
- The Recipient is responsible for advising the Scholarships Manager of any changes in circumstances that would make him/her 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.
- The Recipient will be invited to consent to allowing their name, photograph and a short article to be used for the promotion of Te Pūkenga and/or Unitec.
- The Scholarship is not transferrable or exchangeable.