

University of Auckland Vaka Moana Scholarship

Code:	1080
Faculty:	All
Applicable study:	First year of an undergraduate degree programme at the University of Auckland
Closing date:	21 September at 10am
Tenure:	One year
For:	Accommodation and study related material
Number on offer:	Up to
Offer rate:	Annually
Value:	One year of catered accommodation in a University of Auckland Hall of Residence plus a University of Auckland laptop.

Description

The Scholarship was established in 2020 and is funded by the University of Auckland.

The main purpose of the Scholarship is to financially support Pacific students from low socio-economic areas in Auckland attending university for the first time having left secondary school 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. Applications will be considered by the review committee for the Pacific Academic Excellence Scholarship who will propose all final awards for endorsement by Council.
- Nominees must have applied for admission to the University of Auckland prior to their nomination.
- The Scholarship is awarded by the University of Auckland Council on the recommendation of a Review Committee.
- Applicants for 2021 study will be from all low SES in Auckland

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 cover the costs of catered accommodation in a standard room in a University of Auckland Hall of Residence, up to a value of up to \$15,500. This cost will be paid directly to the relevant Halls of Residence (see Notes I to II). The Scholarship also provides a laptop, supplied by the University of Auckland.
3. The Scholarship will be offered to Pacific students who are citizens or permanent residents of New Zealand, currently in their final year of study at a New Zealand secondary school and 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 the University of Auckland in the following year (see Note III).
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. Applicants' level of preparedness for university study will also be assessed by considering their performance to date in subjects relevant to their intended degree along with their commitment to their school as determined by their School Principal and provided in the School's endorsement.

5. To take up and be paid the Scholarship, recipients must gain admission to the 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, and enrol full-time in an undergraduate degree or the Certificate of Health Sciences, followed by an undergraduate degree, at the University of Auckland.
6. 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 Director of the Schools Partnership Office (or nominee) and an Academic staff representative nominated by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic). In addition, all awarding recommendations will be endorsed by the Entry Level Review Committee.
7. The starting date for Scholarship funding will be 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 IV to IX).
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. To continue to hold the Scholarship, recipients must achieve a passing grade in each semester of study.
10. 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 or a University of Auckland Academic Potential 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 recipient 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.
11. The University of Auckland Council is not obliged to make an award if in any year there is no candidate of sufficient merit.
12. No part of the Scholarship can be exchanged for a similar or equal cash value at any time.
13. The University of Auckland Council has the power to amend or vary these regulations provided that there is no departure from the main purpose of the Scholarship.
14. Applications close with the Scholarships Office on 21 September in the year preceding the award.
15. Notes [I]-[XI] below are deemed to be regulations.

Notes

- I. *University of Auckland Halls of Residence include: University Hall - Towers, O'Rorke Hall, Grafton Hall and Waipārūrū Hall.*
- II. *Students need to make a separate application for University accommodation. All awardees who accept the scholarship will be required to take up a place in a 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. *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, 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).*
- IV. *Students intending to commence study in Semester 2 are advised to seek academic advice from their faculty and to enrol in their proposed courses well before Semester 1 commences.*
- V. *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.

- VI. Recipients 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.*
- VII. Deferral requests must be made in writing to the Scholarships Office.*
- VIII. If a student enrolls at another tertiary institution in New Zealand or does not accept the offer within two weeks of the notification date, the Scholarship will lapse.*
- IX. Recipients who take up this Scholarship but do not complete at least four semesters of study at the University of Auckland or who withdraw their enrolment in any semester after payment has been made, will be required to pay back the full sum of monies received.*
- X. 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 to assist the awardee with living costs while studying. Failure to comply with this regulation will result in the termination of the Scholarship.*
- XI. Recipients of a University of Auckland Vaka Moana Scholarship will be required to give undertakings that they will comply with the regulations for the Scholarship and will notify the Scholarships Office of any change in their enrolment or funding status. The University of Auckland Council may, in the event that it can be established that a recipient of a University of Auckland Vaka Moana Scholarship is not complying with these regulations, terminate the Scholarship and require repayment of the funds received from the date of the breach.*
- XII. These regulations are subject to Senate and Council approval.*