

The HECS International Exchange Scholarship was established in 2022 to increase interest and awareness in international exchange programmes that are relevant for students studying at undergraduate level in the Division of Health, Engineering, Computing and Science (HECS). Up to ten Scholarships are awarded each year by HECS providing some financial support to students approved for exchange programmes.

1. Purpose

- 1.1. The HECS International Exchange Scholarship encourages HECS students to participate in exchange programmes offered by the University of Waikato.

2. Eligibility, Selection Criteria and Scholarship Process

2.1. To be eligible for consideration, applicants must:

- 2.1.1. have completed at least one year of study within an undergraduate degree programme offered by HECS; and
- 2.1.2. be a current full-time student within HECS; and
- 2.1.3. have been accepted into the University of [Waikato Global Experiences Programme](#)¹; and
- 2.1.4. be a citizen or permanent resident of New Zealand.

2.2. Selection is based on:

- 2.2.1. academic performance (a minimum of A- grade average is expected for the last two trimesters of study); and
- 2.2.2. goals and aspirations, clarity of purpose underlying the desire to pursue the Waikato Global Experiences Programme.
- 2.2.3. In some cases, financial hardship will be taken into account.
- 2.2.4. Preference will be given to students who have applied to our partner institutions (i.e., Cardiff University and/or Newcastle University).

2.3. The Scholarship Process is as follows:

- 2.3.1. The Scholarships Office will collect applications and contact the International Office to ensure applicants have been accepted into the Waikato Global Experiences Programme.
- 2.3.2. Recipients will be selected by the Selection Panel;
- 2.3.3. The Manager, Global Experiences within the University will inform the Scholarships team that the recipient/s has/have been accepted into the partner university, for the relevant trimester.

¹ Students must have been selected to study at an exchange university that fits academically with their current study, and that has the support of their School and the Waikato Global Experiences Programme

3. Value and awarding

3.1. The value of the Scholarships (in NZD) are as follows and are paid in one lump sum directly to the student prior to leaving on their overseas exchange:

- 3.1.1. Europe **\$2,500**;
- 3.1.2. USA, Canada, and Mexico **\$2,000**; and,
- 3.1.3. Asia and Australia **\$1,500**.

3.2. Upon confirmation that recipients have met the requirements of the University of Waikato OE Programme the successful applicants will be advised of the scholarship offer via their MyWaikato portal. The offer must be accepted the prescribed date or the offer will lapse.

3.3. In accepting the Scholarship, the recipient will be deemed to have read, understood and accepted the conditions of the Scholarship, and the [Scholarships Policy](#).

3.4. The tenure of the Scholarship is one trimester and must be taken up in the trimester for which it is offered.

4. Application

4.1. Applications will normally close on **15 January** (for exchanges in B trimester of the current year) and **15 July** (for exchanges in A Trimester of the following year).

4.2. Applicants will complete the application for this scholarship through the 'Scholarships' tab in MyWaikato.

5. Selection Panel and Selection Criteria

5.1. The Selection Panel will comprise the HECS representative of the University's Scholarships Committee (as Chair), the Pro Vice-Chancellor of HECS, and HECS Divisional Director.

5.2. The Selection Panel may refrain from making a recommendation if it finds no candidate of sufficient merit.

5.3. The Selection Panel's decision is final and no further correspondence will be entered into following the selection meeting.

6. Other Conditions

6.1. The Scholarship may be held with any other bursary, scholarship, or award, provided the regulations of the other award allow this.

6.2. If a recipient is in receipt of a student allowance, another scholarship, or any type of

financial assistance, it is their responsibility to check their entitlement to other income and any tax implications.

- 6.3. If, during the tenure of the Scholarship, a recipient's circumstances change in such a manner that their continued eligibility for the Scholarship may be affected, they must inform the Scholarships Committee (via the School of Graduate Research - Scholarships) immediately (scholarships@waikato.ac.nz).
- 6.4. The Scholarships Committee may terminate a Scholarship at any time, and recoup any funds disbursed, if the holder is not following the approved programme of study, withdraws from the University during the tenure of the Scholarship, brings the Scholarship or University into disrepute², or is not otherwise complying with the regulations governing the Scholarship and/or the University of Waikato. The recipient will have the right to appeal against any decision to terminate the Scholarship.
- 6.5. By accepting a Scholarship, the recipient agrees to participate in any reasonable publicity concerning the Scholarship arranged by the University of Waikato.
- 6.6. The Scholarships Committee has the power to amend or vary these regulations provided that there is no departure from the main purpose of the Award.

² See [Student Code of Conduct](#).