

Scholarship & Award Regulations

Head Start Tertiary Scholarships for International Students

School(s) and Unit(s): All

This document sets out the regulations for the scholarship ('Scholarship') or award ('Award') named below, as well as the obligations of recipients ('Recipient') and Unitec in regards to this Scholarship. The administrative processes to support awarding this Scholarship will be managed by Unitec having regard to any applicable Unitec policies and Unitec's commitment to Te Noho Kotahitanga.

1. SCHOLARSHIP NAME: Head Start Tertiary Scholarships for International Students

2. PURPOSE

The Head Start Tertiary Scholarships for International Students were established in 2021 to assist new international students commencing study at Unitec to help cover education related costs and provide an opportunity to connect to various induction opportunities.

3. VALUE AND DURATION

3.1 Number of Recipients: Approximately ten (10) scholarships will be awarded each year – contingent on funding.

3.2 Benefit(s) to Recipient: Each recipient will receive a maximum of \$1,000 to assist in covering education related costs.

3.3 Payment of benefit(s):

- Each Recipient will receive two payments by cheque or electronic funds transfer to their nominated bank account.
- Each payment will be up to \$500 per semester.
- Payments will usually be made during week four of the semester 1 and 2.
- Payments are subject to the Recipient successfully satisfying ongoing eligibility criteria as defined in clause 8 below.

4. DURATION: The duration of the Scholarship is up to one year, dependent on programme length.

5. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To be eligible for the Scholarship, an applicant must meet all of the following criteria:

- Be an international student and hold a valid student visa.
- Have not completed any prior study at Unitec

- Have submitted an application to Unitec to be admitted full-time (minimum 45 credits per semester) into a Certificate, Diploma or Degree level programme (Level 3-8)

6. RECIPIENT SELECTION CRITERIA

- Motivation to succeed in their chosen course, as demonstrated in the Scholarship application.
- Community Engagement: commitment to benefiting or giving back to their local and/or Unitec communities, as demonstrated in the scholarship application
- In addition to the above selection criteria, preference will be given to applicants who meet one or more of the following criteria:

7. SELECTION

Eligible candidates will be presented to a Scholarship Selection Committee, which will undertake the selection of Recipients based on the selection criteria stipulated in clause 6.

The Scholarships Selection Committee will be made up of at least three relevant members of Unitec, and will include a representative from Unitec's International Student and Business Support team. The Scholarships Selection Committee will be chaired by the Director – Student Success, or their nominee. Offers will be authorised by the Director, Student Success.

8. ONGOING RECIPIENT ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

8.1 Academic progress:

- The Recipient must maintain a minimum B minus average (minimum GPA 3.5) per semester, unless exceptional circumstances¹ prevail. For those who do not receive letter grades, a Pass grade must be maintained across all enrolled courses.

8.2 Unitec Enrolment:

The Recipient:

- Must continue to be enrolled full time (minimum of 45 credits) per semester in a Unitec certificate, diploma, degree or postgraduate diploma level programme.

8.3 Leave / Deferral / Programme withdrawal:

- If the Recipient defers the Unitec offer or withdraws from the Unitec course/programme after the start of their programme, the Scholarship will be terminated and any payment already made for the semester in which they withdraw may be required to be reimbursed to Unitec.

¹ & ²: Exceptional circumstances include ongoing disability, illness, carer's responsibilities and other educational barriers and are considered case-by-case

8.4 Other obligations and conditions:

- The offer of the Scholarship is made subject to all information provided by the Recipient being true and accurate.
- By accepting the offer of the Scholarship, each Recipient agrees to the Regulations.
- For the duration of the scholarship the recipient is not permitted to hold other Unitec scholarships, unless an equity-based scholarship is approved by exception.
- The offer of the Scholarship is only valid for the intake defined in the Scholarship letter of offer and cannot be deferred.
- 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.
- The Recipient will be invited to consent to allowing their name, photograph and a short article to be used for the promotion of Unitec.

9. TERMINATION OF RECIPIENT'S SCHOLARSHIP

The Scholarship will terminate:

- If the Recipient ceases to meet the eligibility criteria; or
- If the Recipient breaches any regulations of the Scholarship; or
- If Unitec determines that the student is guilty of misconduct and after consultation with the Director Student Success (or their nominee), deems that it is not appropriate for the Recipient to continue to hold the Scholarship.
- If Unitec terminates the Recipients Scholarship for any of the above reasons, after the start of the Semester 1 or 2, any Scholarship payment already made may be asked to be reimbursed to Unitec