

Scholarship & Award Regulations

Unitec Pacific Academic Excellence Scholarships – Semester 1, 2022

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

1. SCHOLARSHIP NAME: Unitec Pacific Academic Excellence Scholarship (“**Scholarship**”)

2. PURPOSE OF THE SCHOLARSHIP

2.1 The purpose of the Scholarship is to provide financial support to high achieving Pacific learners in undergraduate degree programmes who are motivated to 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 provides both financial support and mentoring opportunities.

2.3 Pacific Learners who can demonstrate academic excellence and a commitment to applying the essence of Ako – where everyone teaches and everyone learns ¹ are encouraged to apply.

3. SCHOLARSHIP FINANCIAL VALUE

3.1 The value of the scholarship is \$2,000.00 for a full year of full-time study.

3.2 The scholarship is provided to learners to cover education related costs and is paid:

- in two equal payments of \$1,000.00 each semester; or
- where the student only has one semester left to complete the degree, by one payment of \$1,000.00.

3.3 A pro-rata value will also be considered for learners who are already permitted to study part-time because they are either disabled learners or they 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 Director.

3.5 Once awarded for a particular programme and School, the Scholarship is not transferrable to another Unitec programme or School.

4. DURATION

4.1 The scholarship is awarded for one year i.e., two semesters of consecutive study. Where a student is awarded the scholarship for a programme they only have one semester of study left to complete, then the duration of the scholarship is one semester only.

5. WHO IS ELIGIBLE

5.1 To apply, you must:

- be a domestic student, i.e., a New Zealand citizen or Permanent Resident;
- be enrolled as a Pacific student;
- have completed and passed a minimum of 60 credits within your current undergraduate degree (level 7 programme) at Unitec;

¹ <https://thenest.unitec.ac.nz/TheNestWP/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/Student-Charter-2019.pdf>

- be continuing in your current programme of study as a full-time (or pre-approved part-time) student;
- have at least one semester of study left to complete your current programme; and
- have a GPA of 6.0 (which equates to a B⁺ average) or above in your most recent semester of study for graded courses, or all PASS grades for Pass/Fail courses

6. HOW TO APPLY

6.1 Apply online using the form provided: [Unitec Pacific Academic Excellence Scholarship Application Form](#). You can complete the form to apply or use it to provide your details and opt to complete your application by video submission.

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

- what are you studying and what motivates you to succeed in your studies?
- in what ways do you think your study enables you to make a positive difference in society immediately and long-term?
- how will this scholarship help support you with your studies?

7. SELECTION

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

- completed the online application and/or video submission;
- maintained enrolment in an undergraduate degree (Level 7) programme, at Unitec;
- have a minimum of one semester left to complete their degree;
- enrolled as a Pacific student; and
- enrolled as a New Zealand citizen or Permanent Resident

7.2 The Team will add the learners’ GPA scores from their most recent semester of Unitec study to all eligible applications. They then send the applications out to relevant Scholarship Selection Committees 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 learners and communities. Our strategic vision includes parity goals for Māori, Pacific, and under 25 learners, and goals to enhance the success of disabled and neurodiverse learners. We also want to manaaki the success of first in family to pursue tertiary education, sole parents, and carers.

8.2 Preference may be given to learners who demonstrate that financial support will have an impact on their ability to continue their studies.

9. SELECTION COMMITTEES

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

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

- GPA scores;
- responses to the scholarship application questions; and

- the preference criteria stipulated at 8.2.

9.2 Committee award decisions are authorised by the Director, Student Success.

9.3 Unitec has complete discretion in assessing applications for the scholarship. Unitec's decision is final and binding. Learners 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

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

- let students 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 students in week eight of semester 1
- manage ongoing eligibility checks, mentoring opportunities, and second payments

11. ONGOING ELIGIBILITY

11.1 Academic progress: Learners who are awarded the scholarship are expected to continue to do well in their studies. You must maintain a B plus average (minimum GPA 6.0) or a Pass grade for all courses that are Pass/Fail only.

11.2 Learners 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 committees. The committee will decide whether to terminate or maintain the scholarship, and will also provide academic assistance, wherever possible, to support the learner.

11.4 Unitec Enrolment: Learners 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.

11.5 Programme withdrawal: If you withdraw from the Unitec course/programme after the start of the course/programme, the Scholarship will be terminated and Unitec may require you to reimburse any payment(s) already made for the semester in which you withdraw.

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 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.

13. 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 these 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 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 Unitec.
- The Scholarship is not transferrable or exchangeable.