

Scholarship & Award Regulations

Āheinga Equity Scholarship

Schools: 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: Āheinga Equity Scholarship

2. PURPOSE

Unitec is committed to providing an inclusive environment that celebrates diversity. One way to do this is by identifying and addressing barriers that Neurodiverse and disabled students face when engaged in tertiary study. The financial and additional support that this scholarship offers is intended to help support students with education related costs and acknowledge and address some of the unique barriers students with disabilities encounter.

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 his/her nominated bank account.
- Each payment will be up to \$500 per semester.
- Payment will usually be made in week 4 of semester of semester 1 and 2.
- Payments are subject to the Recipient 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:

- New Zealand citizen or holder of a New Zealand Permanent Resident visa
- Be currently enrolled full or part-time in a Unitec course that is at least one semester in duration at Level 3 or above or have submitted an application to Unitec to be admitted full-time or part-time into a Certificate, Diploma or Degree Level programme (Level 3-8) and meet the entry criteria for the selected programme of study

- Having a verified (provide documentation or be registered with Access4Success) disability, which for the purpose of this scholarship, includes:
 - Physical
 - Psychological
 - Mental health disorder including anxiety, depression
 - Neurological, including Specific Learning Disabilities, ADHD and Autism.
 - Long term (6 months or more) injury or long term medical illness/condition/impairment that impacts on the ability to learn.
 - Intellectual
 - Traumatic brain injury.
- Preference will be given to first-time applicants who have not received the Āheinga Equity Scholarship before.

6. RECIPIENT SELECTION CRITERIA

As demonstrated in the Scholarship application:

- Motivation to succeed in their chosen course.
- Commitment and aspiration to pursue future goals
- Willingness to engage and contribute to the disability community
- Preference may be given to students who are in their second or third year of study at Unitec.

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 Committee will be made up of at least three relevant members of the Unitec community, chaired by the Director of Student Success, or their nominee.

Offers will be authorised by the Director of Student Success.

8. ONGOING RECIPIENT ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

8.1 Academic progress:

The Recipient must maintain a pass grade across enrolled courses, per semester, unless exceptional circumstances prevail.

8.2 Unitec Enrolment:

The Recipient:

- must continue to be enrolled full time or part time as applicable in the specified programme for which the Scholarship was awarded.

8.3 Leave / Programme withdrawal:

- If the Recipient withdraws from the Unitec course after the start of the semester of award, the Scholarship will be terminated and any Scholarship payment already made for the semester in which they withdraw is to be

reimbursed to Unitec, unless withdrawal is due to the impact of disability or illness

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.
- For the duration of this equity-based Scholarship the Recipient is permitted to hold other Unitec Scholarships.
- By accepting the offer of the Scholarship, each Recipient agrees to the Regulations.
- The offer of the Scholarship is only valid for the intake defined in the Scholarship offer letter and cannot be deferred.
- 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.
- 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 his/her 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 Recipient's 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