

The Waikato Management School Emerging Leaders Entrance Scholarship 2025



THE UNIVERSITY OF
WAIKATO
Te Whare Wānanga o Waikato

The Waikato Management School Emerging Leaders Entrance Scholarship¹ (formerly the Waikato Management School Emerging Leaders Award) is a Master of Business Administration (MBA) entrance scholarship that recognises emerging leaders from the business, public community and iwi sectors. The scholarship is funded by Waikato Management School and is intended to support up to two emerging leaders each year to undertake a Master of Business Administration (MBA) at the University of Waikato. The scholarship recognises that financial hardship or extraordinary personal circumstances can be a barrier to leadership development.

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The Scholarship supports emerging leaders to undertake a Master of Business Administration (MBA) at the University of Waikato.
- 1.2 Priority is given to those with financial hardship or extraordinary personal circumstances.

2. Eligibility and Selection Criteria:

2.1 To be eligible for consideration, applicants must:

- 2.1.1 be an emerging leader within their sector.
- 2.1.2 be a new applicant to the MBA in 2025 and have been accepted into the programme.
- 2.1.3 not have been a previous recipient of any Waikato Management School (WMS) University of Waikato Scholarship or Award for the MBA.
- 2.1.4 not be eligible for the University of Waikato's staff fees concession scheme for their MBA programme.
- 2.1.5 be a New Zealand citizen, NZ Permanent Resident, NZ Resident Class Visa holder or Australian Citizen/Permanent Resident domiciled in NZ.

2.2 Selection of recipients is based on:

- 2.2.1 leadership contribution to for profit and for purpose communities.
- 2.2.2 the impact the MBA qualification will have on the applicant's sector.
- 2.2.3 consideration of barriers to studying the MBA, including financial hardship or extraordinary personal circumstances, and how this scholarship will be used to support the applicant's ability to undertake the MBA.

3. Value, Tenure and Scholarship

- 3.1. Up to two scholarships of up to **\$10,000** each will be offered each year. The Scholarship will be paid towards the applicant's MBA programme tuition fees in the year of tenure.

¹ Formerly the Chamber of Commerce Tauranga Business Scholarship (2005 to 2015) and Tauranga Chamber of Commerce Business Scholarship (2016 to 2018) and Executive Education Emerging Leader Award (2019 – 2020) and Waikato Management School Emerging Leaders Award (2021 – 2024).

- 3.2. The Scholarship has a tenure of one year.
- 3.3. The successful applicant will be advised of the offer of a Scholarship and must accept the offer by the prescribed date, or the offer will lapse.
- 3.4. In accepting the Scholarship, the recipient will be deemed to have read, understood, and accepted the conditions of the Scholarship and the Scholarships Policy.
- 3.5. If a successful applicant declines the Scholarship or does not take it up in the year of offer, the Selection Panel reserves the right to offer the Scholarship to another candidate.

4. Application

- 4.1. The closing date for applications is **31 January 2025**.
- 4.2. As part of the online application process, each applicant must provide a personal statement addressing the following:
 - 4.2.1. Leadership contribution to business and the community in your region.
 - 4.2.2. The impact of an MBA on their business or organisation and how it adds value to their region's economy or communities.
 - 4.2.3. Any barriers to study, including financial hardship or extraordinary personal circumstances, and how this scholarship will be used to support the applicant's ability to undertake the MBA.
 - 4.2.4. Each applicant must request references from two referees; one must be from the applicant's employer (or business associate if self-employed). References previously provided for the MBA application, can be submitted but must be no more than six months old and have the approval from the referee to be submitted for the scholarship.

5. Selection Panel

- 5.1. The Selection Panel will comprise the PVC – Division of Management (WMS) or nominee, the Head of School of Management and Marketing (WMS) or nominee, the MBA Programme Director – Division of Management (WMS), or nominee; and the Division of Management (WMS) representative on the University of Waikato Scholarships Committee (in the Chair).
- 5.2. The Selection Panel may refrain from making a recommendation if it finds no candidates of sufficient merit.
- 5.3. The Selection Panel's decision is final, and no correspondence will be entered into following the selection meeting.

² See [Code of Student Conduct](#)

6. Other Conditions

- 6.1. The successful candidates are expected to complete the MBA programme within three (3) years of acceptance into the programme.
- 6.2. Recipients should seek independent financial advice about any tax implications of their Scholarship
- 6.3. The Scholarships Committee may terminate this Scholarship at any time, and recoup any funds disbursed, if the holder withdraws from the University of Waikato, brings the Scholarship, University or Sponsor into disrepute², or is otherwise not complying with the conditions governing the Scholarship and/or the regulations of the University of Waikato. The holder of a Scholarship shall have the right to appeal to the Scholarships Executive against any decision to terminate the Scholarship.
- 6.4. The Scholarships Committee has the power to amend or vary these regulations provided that there is no departure from the main purpose of the Scholarship.
- 6.5. By accepting the Scholarship, the recipient agrees to participate in any events or publicity concerning the scholarship arranged by the University of Waikato.