

Yvonne Brouwer Memorial Scholarship

Established in 2025 by the University of Otago to commemorate Yvonne Brouwer, an active and much-loved teacher educator at the College of Education who died unexpectedly in 2021. This award was created with the support of Yvonne's whānau, and made possible through funding from the College of Education. Yvonne joined the College of Education in 1991 and gave thirty years of committed service before she passed away. The health of Māori education within mainstream primary education was a particular passion for Yvonne, who had a significant positive influence on many tauira Māori (and their whānau) over the years, through her unstinting support for, and high expectations of, all her students.

In keeping with Yvonne Brouwer's work championing Māori success in initial teacher education (ITE), this award aims to provide financial support to tauira Māori in ITE experiencing financial or other personal hardship. It also aligns with the Mana Taurite (Equity) goals articulated in Te Aka Matua, the Māori Strategic Framework 2030, which seek to promote Māori student success.

To celebrate Yvonne's valuable work and legacy, and as a special mark of honour to her mother, Kiwa, also formerly a kaimahi at the College of Education, the scholarship is to be launched in 2026, on the 150th anniversary of ITE in Dunedin.

Painga (Eligibility)

Applicants for this award:

- must have whakapapa Māori, and be able to provide [verification of Māori ancestry](#)
- must be enrolled (or planning to enrol) in any year of an Initial Teacher Education degree at the University of Otago College of Education
- must be able to demonstrate academic success or achievement
 - in any previous study at the University of Otago or another tertiary institution, or
 - in their final years of secondary study if enrolling in tertiary education for the first time
- must be able to demonstrate a commitment to upholding the aspirations of hapori Māori (Māori communities)
- must be faced with financial or other personal hardship in the pursuit of their studies.

Mahi tonoa (Application Process)

Every application for the scholarship must be submitted to Student Administration (Scholarships) at the University of Otago by the specified closing date.

Every applicant must submit:

- a completed application form
- an up-to-date Curriculum Vitae
- a brief statement describing any financial hardship or other difficulty likely to affect their ability to study, and how the scholarship could make a positive difference to their circumstances
- a brief statement outlining:
 - (i) the applicant's commitment to upholding the aspirations of hapori Māori (Māori communities) through their teaching, and
 - (ii) the applicant's other personal goals and aspirations in teaching
- an academic reference letter

- a copy of their secondary school results (if enrolling in tertiary study for the first time)
- an academic transcript for any study undertaken at another tertiary institution.

Kowhiritanga (Selection Process)

The Selection Panel will consist of the following members (or their nominees):

- Associate Dean Initial Teacher Education, College of Education
- Associate Dean(s) Māori, College of Education
- Director, Development and Alumni Relations
- Manager, Postgraduate Scholarships, Prizes and Awards.

The following factors shall be considered by the Selection Panel when assessing applications:

- the applicant's academic record and potential for future academic success
- the gravity of financial or other personal hardship(s) detailed by the applicant
- the applicant's commitment to upholding the aspirations of Māori.

The Selection Panel may require an interview with short-listed applicants for the scholarship.

Tahua (Financial)

- The total value of the scholarship (per recipient) is \$3,000.
- The scholarship will be paid in two equal instalments, at the start of each semester.
- The number and value of scholarships available each year will be determined by the Selection Panel.

Whai tonu (Tenure)

- Tenure will normally be one year of full-time study, or part-time equivalent.
- The scholarship must be taken up within one year of being awarded.
- The scholarship may be held concurrently with any other University of Otago scholarship where its regulations also allow co-tenure.

Other Requirements

- Award of the scholarship is dependent on the recipient being admitted to the University of Otago.
- The University of Otago reserves the right to use the names, photographs, and details of successful applicants for advertising and publicity. The award holders must agree to be reasonably available to participate in interviews and promotional activities if requested by the University of Otago.