



Āwhina Scholarship

Established in 2023 by the University of Otago through a generous donation from a general practitioner, Dr Penny Kagan, who wishes to give back to Otago Medical School by offering assistance and encouragement to students on their career journeys. This scholarship offers financial support to one female Māori or Pacific undergraduate medical student each year.

Painga (Eligibility)

Applicants must:

- be a New Zealand citizen or New Zealand Residence Class Visa Holder;
- be a female Māori or Pacific student enrolled in the Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MB ChB) undergraduate medical programme at the University of Otago;
- hold or be able to obtain either Māori or Indigenous Pacific ancestry verification.
<https://www.otago.ac.nz/study/otago666451.html>

Mahi Tono (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;
- a statement demonstrating the applicant's involvement in, and commitment to, their Māori or Pacific community; and
- an academic reference letter.

Kōwhiritanga (Selection Process)

The Selection Panel shall consist of (i) the Dean of Otago Medical School as chair, (ii) one Associate Dean (Māori) and one Associate Dean (Pacific) nominated by the Dean, (iii) Māori and Pacific clinical and academic staff nominated by the Dean, and (iv) the Director of Development and Alumni Relations (or their nominees).

In addition to the University of Otago Māori Strategic Framework and the University of Otago Pacific Strategic Framework 2022–2030, the following factors shall be considered in selecting the scholarship recipient:

- The applicant's involvement in and commitment to Māori or Pacific communities.
- The applicant's academic ability and potential.

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

Ahumoni (Financial)

- The scholarship is valued at \$5,000, and may be awarded only once to each recipient.
- One scholarship will be available each year.

Wā Roanga (Tenure)

- The scholarship must be held with full-time tenure.
- 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.

Herenga Atu (Other Requirements)

- Award of this scholarship is dependent on the recipient being enrolled at the University of Otago at the time of application.
- 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.