

# Scholarships - Guidelines

## What Scholarships Cover

Unless stated otherwise, scholarships are payment-based and/or fees-based. This means that the successful applicant can decide how they would like to receive this scholarship. For example, the scholarship can be paid as a regular direct credit payment ('stipend') to a bank account nominated by the learner, or the learner can choose to use the scholarship to go towards the payment of programme fees.

If you have any questions about scholarships, including what they cover and your eligibility, please [contact us](#).

## Eligibility

Some Ara scholarships are available to New Zealand citizens and permanent residents only, while others are also open to non-citizens and temporary visitors (i.e., 'international' students). Please refer to the specific eligibility criteria noted for each scholarship type.

All scholarships are available for learners entering into any year of study at Ara, unless stated otherwise in eligibility criteria.

All scholarships are available to learners at any Ara campus, providing the associated programme is offered there.

Scholarships are for full-time and part-time learners unless stated otherwise in eligibility criteria.

Learners eligible for the Government's fees-free scheme or Trades Training and Apprenticeship Funding (TTAF) are also eligible for a scholarship during the time of their fees-free study. In these instances, the successful applicant will receive the scholarship as a regular direct credit payment ('stipend') into their nominated bank account.

Learners must be studying directly with Ara, unless stated otherwise in eligibility criteria. Programmes offered through partnerships and subcontracting arrangements are not eligible.

These include:

- TANZ eCampus
- SIGNAL
- Road Transport programmes
- Bachelor of Nursing (Articulated with University of Canterbury Master of Health Science)

For the purpose of scholarships, 'of Pacific descent' refers to citizens or permanent residents of New Zealand who are of indigenous Pacific descent from any of the following islands: Samoa, American Samoa, Tonga, Cook Islands, Niue, Tokelau, Fiji, Rotuma, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, New Caledonia, Papua New Guinea, Kiribati, Tuvalu, Palau, Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Wallis and Futuna, Hawaii, French Polynesia, Nauru and Rapanui (Easter Island).

Ara renews its portfolio of scholarship provision on an annual basis. Ara reserves the right to withdraw scholarship provision (in year).

As a scholarship applicant, you may be required to attend an interview.

A maximum of one Ara scholarship per applicant can be awarded per scholarship 'year' (i.e., a 12-month period). However, Ara does not place a limit on the value of additional external scholarships available to applicants in any given year, unless otherwise stated in eligibility criteria.

Decisions made by the Scholarships Approval Panel are final.

### Scholarships Offered

#### **Māori and Pacific Scholarship (\$4,000 per equivalent full-time student enrolment):**

The purpose of this scholarship is to support Māori and Pacific learners to access and succeed in tertiary study at Ara. This scholarship is provisioned via stipend payments or fees discount. This scholarship is available to prospective and current Ara learners intending to enrol either full-time or part-time in any Level 3 and above programme of study offered by Ara. This scholarship is available to learners of Māori or Pacific descent only.

**Equity Scholarship (\$4,000 per equivalent full-time student enrolment):** The purpose of this scholarship is to support the equitable inclusion of diverse learner groups to access and succeed in tertiary study at Ara. This includes learners facing disadvantage (e.g., financial, disability or other challenges) and/or inequitable

access to tertiary education which would otherwise represent a barrier to access tertiary study at Ara. This scholarship is provisioned via stipend payments or fees discount. This scholarship is available to prospective and current Ara learners intending to enrol either full-time or part-time in any Level 3 and above programme of study offered by Ara. This scholarship is available to New Zealand citizens, permanent residents, and international learners.

**Leadership Scholarship (\$4,000 per equivalent full-time student enrolment):** The purpose of this scholarship is to support learners who exhibit leadership potential to access and succeed in tertiary study at Ara. This includes learners involved in activities at school, at a tertiary education institution, in the community, and/or in sport and cultural pursuits in which leadership has been demonstrated. This scholarship is provisioned via stipend payments or fees discount. This scholarship is available to prospective and current Ara learners intending to enrol either full-time or part-time in any Level 3 and above programme of study offered by Ara. This scholarship is available to New Zealand citizens, permanent residents, and international learners.

**Excellence Scholarship (\$4,000 per equivalent full-time student enrolment):** The purpose of this scholarship is to support high-achieving learners who exhibit all-round ability and academic excellence to access and succeed in tertiary study at Ara. This includes those learners best placed to make a positive impact on society in their future career. This scholarship is provisioned via stipend payments or fees discount. This scholarship is available to prospective and current Ara learners intending to enrol either full-time or part-time in any Level 3 and above programme of study offered by Ara study area offered by Ara. This scholarship is available to New Zealand citizens, permanent residents, and international learners.

## Tips for Applicants

### Writing Your Personal Statement

Think of your personal statement like a job application; you need to put your best foot forward and convince us that you are the best candidate for this scholarship.

- Start by introducing yourself; tell us about your background, where you've studied and/or worked and what your interests are.
- Tell us why you want to study this programme.
- Describe any experience you have in this area (paid or volunteer work, study etc).

- Explain what your intentions and career aspirations are once you complete your studies.
- Tell us why you believe you are a good candidate for this particular scholarship (be sure to read the entry criteria thoroughly and give examples of how you meet the criteria).
- Describe how this scholarship will help you to achieve your goals.

#### Selecting Your Referees

As part of your application, you will be required to provide the names and contact details of two people to be your referees. Your referees will also need to fill out a referee report (see application form).

The best referees are:

- teachers, tutors, trainers or lecturers
- employers or work experience supervisors
- sports coaches
- volunteer work organisers
- community leaders or religious leaders
- people you've worked closely with from other agencies

Referees must not be immediate family, friends or flatmates.

Ensure your referees are aware of the scholarship you are applying for so they can include comments on how you meet the criteria for that particular scholarship.

#### Responsibilities of Successful Applicants

We encourage all scholarship recipients to attend the awards ceremony to celebrate your achievement with your friends and family.

You may be asked to allow your name and photo to be used in the promotion of scholarships.

If you choose to change from full-time to part-time study (or vice versa) during the year, Ara reserves the right to adjust the scholarship arrangement as appropriate. This will be decided on a case-by-case basis.

If you withdraw from your programme of study, Ara reserves the right to end the scholarship arrangement.

If you switch to a different Ara campus after your programme of study has commenced, the scholarship will remain with you.

You may be required to pass the courses you undertake in order to continue to receive scholarship funding.