A warm welcome

At the University of Waikato, we are focused on making the transition from high school to university easy for our students.

This parents’ guide is designed to answer the many questions you may have as a parent or guardian, so you can help your child make an informed choice about university.

We understand that as a parent you are bound to have a lot of questions. We appreciate that choices around tertiary education are very important, and you will play a vital role in advising and supporting your child.

We are committed to providing a safe and inviting environment for our students and their families and whānau.

While academic success is our pillar, we understand that there is a lot more to a university experience than just an outstanding education. We offer plenty of opportunities for our students to make the most out of their university experience and to feel comfortable on our campuses and in Hamilton and Tauranga.

Find out more at waikato.ac.nz/go/parents

If you have any questions, we welcome you to contact us. You can email recruitment@waikato.ac.nz or phone 0800 WAIKATO
Why choose the University of Waikato?

There are many reasons why the University of Waikato is the best place for your child to experience the rewards and challenges of tertiary study:

**Students are more than just a number**
We are known as one of the friendliest universities in New Zealand and our students have access to a wealth of inspiring lecturers, support staff and tutors. In our down-to-earth university community, we welcome and support everyone, as it is important that each student has an enjoyable, safe and prosperous university experience.

**Students learn from the best**
Our teaching staff are world-leading, with vast knowledge and experience in their respective fields.

Our academics are known for conducting ground-breaking research and achieving world-firsts. We connected New Zealand to the internet in 1989 and have since continued to lead the way.

Among other accomplishments, we established New Zealand’s first Master of Cyber Security degree and have created the most advanced driving simulator lab in Australasia.

**We offer a unique university experience**
The moment you step onto our picturesque Hamilton campus, you know you’re in a great place. Our campus spans 65 hectares with three lakes, and has facilities including the Halls of Residence, library, lecture theatres, gym, student support, banks and cafés.

**Culturally connected & culturally diverse**
We have strategies and programmes in place to ensure all Māori and Pacific students are well-supported at University. The University offers many opportunities to develop through cultural-focused events.

**Hamilton is a value-packed city for students**
Students are one of the defining features of Hamilton’s culture. With the cheapest cost of living of all New Zealand’s main centres, one of the country’s best west coast beaches a short drive away, the best student nightlife in New Zealand, and an easy-to-navigate city, Hamilton has its students covered.

**Students receive a world-class education**
We have 12 subjects ranked in the QS Top 250 worldwide, including management studies, law, communications, and education.

The Waikato Management School has earned Triple Crown accreditation (to AACSB, EQUIS, and AMBA), placing the faculty in the top 1% of the world’s business schools.

Our Bachelor of Social Work is approved by the Social Workers Registration Board, and our environmental planning degree is New Zealand Planning Institute accredited.

We currently have five engineering programmes accredited by the Institute of Professional Engineers (IPENZ), with two more streams being introduced in 2017- civil engineering and environmental engineering.

The University of Waikato has also been placed in the top 100 universities in the world for “international outlook” (Times Higher Education, 2017).

**Undergraduate degree offerings**
The University of Waikato has seven faculties offering undergraduate degree programmes across a wide range of major and minor subjects.
The first year... what can I expect?

At Waikato we make the transition from high school to university as seamless as possible for students and parents. Everyone’s first year at university is unique, but here are a few adjustments your child can expect:

A different learning style
University students may have only about 15 hours of class time a week. Attendance at lectures is not compulsory, but a roll call will be taken during tutorials and labs. It is the student’s responsibility to direct their own study; they need to keep on top of course readings and are expected to approach teaching staff if they have questions.

A much larger student population
The student population at university will be significantly larger than at any New Zealand high school. We have about 12,000 students studying at our Hamilton and Tauranga campuses, who come from all over New Zealand and around the world.

New experiences
The friendships formed during the first few months of university often last a life-time. Many students will be getting to know a completely new city, along with fitting into the university culture and campus lifestyle.

Shifting relationships and responsibilities
With new-found independence at university, your child will begin to make their own decisions. They will become responsible for their own priorities, time and money. This is the time for them to grow and develop into young adults.

ALEXANDER TRUONG
Bachelor of Science

When I was looking at the halls on Open Day, I was looking for one where I could see myself feeling at home in a tight-knit, easy-going community. After living here as a resident for one year, and being an RA for two more years, I’ve definitely found my home-away-from-home at Bryant Hall.

One of the things that really struck me about the halls is the diversity of the people – residents come from so many different backgrounds and parts of the world it can be quite a culture shock during the first couple weeks. But once you’ve settled in and met new friends, you’ll never look back.

There’s heaps of support on offer, and we really encourage everyone to get involved in the many different activities and events we hold throughout the year. As an RA, nothing makes me happier than seeing residents come out of their shells during the year, making friends for life and having an awesome time.
We’re committed to making sure students get the most out of their education. In 2018, we’re launching new degree programmes. These have been designed to ensure they are future-focused to fully prepare students for their chosen careers.

Our new degrees give students more opportunities to develop key skills and gain the experience needed to successfully contribute in the workplace and the community. To ensure students achieve this, the following have been included in all new degrees:

**Disciplinary foundations**: Fundamental academic skills needed to be successful at university, including an introduction to the discipline, academic integrity and professional ethics.

**Cultural perspectives**: Developing intercultural understanding and being confident with different cultures and languages.

**Industry, employer and community engagement**: Opportunities to apply knowledge and skills in community and workplace settings.
Our qualifications

We offer numerous undergraduate (bachelors) degrees, diplomas and certificates across more than 100 subjects. These qualifications are offered through our faculties. A student will enrol with the faculty they will be studying with, which will be their home throughout their qualification.

Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences
- Bachelor of Arts
- Bachelor of Environmental Planning
- Bachelor of Music
- Bachelor of Social Sciences
- Bachelor of Social Work

Faculty of Computing & Mathematical Science
- Bachelor of Computer Graphic Design
- Bachelor of Computing and Mathematical Sciences (Honours)
- Bachelor of Science
- Bachelor of Engineering (Honours)

Te Kura Toi Tangata Faculty of Education
- Bachelor of Social Sciences
- Bachelor of Sport, Health and Human Performance
- Bachelor of Teaching*

*You can choose from Early Childhood Education, Primary Education or Secondary Education

Te Piringa – Faculty of Law
- Bachelor of Laws

Te Pua Wānanga ki te Ao - Faculty of Māori and Indigenous Studies
- Bachelor of Arts
- Bachelor of Social Sciences

Faculty of Science & Engineering
- Bachelor of Engineering (Honours)
- Bachelor of Science
- Bachelor of Science (Technology)

Waikato Management School
- Bachelor of Business
- Bachelor of Business Analysis
- Bachelor of Communication Studies
- Bachelor of Management Studies (Honours)

Our degree programmes are flexible, meaning students can study a broad range of subjects. This enables students to uniquely shape their qualifications to their interests and career plans, emerging as graduates with a detailed knowledge of a variety of disciplines.
Accommodation

A room in one of our Halls of Residence is so much more than simply a place to live; it comes with a built-in social life, full support and endless opportunities.

We have three Halls of Residence offering standard single share rooms accommodation for first year students. The rooms are all comfortably furnished with a bed, power, internet and access to shared facilities including a lounge, kitchen and bathroom. Included in the residential fees are three meals per day and each hall has its own security access systems and residential assistants who live on site.

Payment

To secure a place in the halls, a deposit and admin fee is required at the time of room acceptance along with accepting the halls contract online. In January, an invoice for the full year’s accommodation will be received along with a payment agreement and payment for accommodation can be made in full, monthly instalments or weekly instalments. Prior to moving in to the halls, four weeks rent, an activity fee and any optional extras i.e. linen service, car parking, will need to be paid.

Applying for accommodation

Applications open on 1 August of each year, with the first offers sent out at the beginning of October so we recommend that your son or daughter applies for accommodation as early as possible prior to the first offers being sent out.

Those who do not receive a first offer of place will be waitlisted until further offers can be made. If your child has accessibility needs, it is important that they speak with the accommodation team so they can advise the most suitable options for your child. Once your child is offered a place in one of our Halls of Residence, they will receive a notification of offer via email with the required response due date outlined in the email, along with instructions on how to accept the offer and pay the deposit online.

Settling in

We understand that moving away from home for the first time can be daunting but our Residential Life Managers along with the Residential Assistants help to make you feel at home and help you settle in to university life.

Advisers organise lots of activities to help students get to know each other and settle in during their first few weeks. Most new students make friends quickly but for those that take a little longer to settle in, there is plenty of support available. We recommend students to reach out to their residential assistants (RA’s) in the first instance to discuss any issues or concerns.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Rooms</th>
<th>Cost per week</th>
<th>Cost for 36 weeks</th>
<th>Deposit and admin fee</th>
<th>Meals per week</th>
<th>Parking</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>College Hall</td>
<td>267</td>
<td>$350</td>
<td>$12,600</td>
<td>$400</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>Paid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bryant Hall</td>
<td>178</td>
<td>$310</td>
<td>$11,160</td>
<td>$400</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>Reserved (paid)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Village</td>
<td>252</td>
<td>$310</td>
<td>$11,160</td>
<td>$400</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>Reserved (paid)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Fees and costs

Fees are calculated individually so that students pay a fee that reflects the papers they choose. Each paper offered by the university has a separate tuition fee and fees are adjusted annually.

Treat the fees noted below as a guide, as they are indicative only. For the most up-to-date information on fees visit waikato.ac.nz/study/costs

Fees at the University of Waikato consist of:
- Tuition fees (what each paper costs)
- Admission Application Fee (if applicable)
- Student Services Levy (for student health and support services)
- Other charges

Our three payment options for course and accommodation fees are:

- **Student loans and allowances**
  Student loans and allowances are administered through StudyLink. It is important that your child makes contact well in advance to beginning study as it can take some time to organise. Students need to apply for their student loan and allowances each year. For more information visit studylink.govt.nz

- **Pay in-full**
  All students have the option to pay their fees in full at the beginning of each academic year.

- **Direct debit (for accommodation only)**
  Each Hall of Residence allows students to pay their accommodation costs weekly or monthly by direct debit. Payments are made every Thursday for weekly instalments, and on the 2nd of each month for monthly instalments.

For more information about our course fees and payment options visit waikato.ac.nz/go/parents

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**Financial planning**

Students are often faced with many new expenses during their first year of study. Students are encouraged to get a part-time job while they study to make up any shortfall and get work experience. Students can apply for part-time jobs through Student Job Search, visit sjs.co.nz

A typical budget for a first-year student is outlined in the table (see right). Your child will also have access to our free financial advisory service during their studies. If they need advice or assistance managing and planning a budget, our advisers can help.

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**Income**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weekly</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Student Loan Living Costs (full entitlement) OR Student Allowance (full entitlement)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wages (15 hours per week, $15 per hour)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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**Expenses**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weekly</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accommodation (Halls of Residence*)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transport (petrol or bus fares)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gym membership (UniRec)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Food (in addition to meals at the Halls of Residence)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Entertainment/leisure</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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</table>

**Difference**

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<tr>
<td><strong>-$64.87 to -$98.14</strong></td>
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</table>

* The weekly payment can be reduced if a school leaver scholarship is put towards accommodation.

Note: These figures are approximate and are subject to change.
Scholarships

We offer a generous range of school leaver, sports, arts and leadership scholarships to financially assist students with their studies. Scholarships can offer more than just financial benefits, they can also offer mentoring, support and work opportunities.

Te Paewai o te Rangi Scholarship – up to $25,000 over three years
This scholarship is awarded to outstanding students who demonstrate academic excellence, leadership potential and community involvement. To be eligible, students must be intending to enrol full time in an undergraduate degree. Applications close 31 August.

Sir Edmund Hillary Scholarship – up to $10,000 per year
The Sir Edmund Hillary Scholarship Programme educates future leaders at the University of Waikato. Professional development opportunities and fees support are provided to students who excel in academia, leadership, sport, or creative and performing arts. Applications close 31 August.

Edna Money Future Pacific Leaders’ Scholarship - $6,000 a year for up to three years
This scholarship was established to provide academically talented Pacific students who demonstrate significant leadership potential an opportunity to study at the University of Waikato. Students must be New Zealand citizens, of Pacific Island descent, and enrolling at the University of Waikato for the first time. Applications close 31 August.

D.V. Bryant Trust University of Waikato Residential Scholarship – up to $7,000
These scholarships are designed to assist school leavers who have proven academic potential, whose financial circumstances are severely constrained and for whom accommodation in one of our Halls of Residence will be hugely beneficial to their success at Waikato. Applications close 1 October and 1 March.

Te Ara ki Angitū Scholarship – up to $5,000
Te Ara ki Angitū, meaning ‘Pathways to Excellence’, aims to make university more accessible for young people across many Waikato secondary schools.

This scholarship focuses on creating a pathway to realise success and excellence at the University of Waikato, and is awarded based on financial need, leadership and community roles and academic ability.

If you are attending secondary school in the Coromandel, Whitianga, Whangamata, Matamata-Piako, North Waikato, Piopio, Te Kuiti, Otorohanga, Thames-Hauraki or Tokoroa-Putaruru regions, you may be eligible for this scholarship. Applications close 31 August.

School leaver scholarships – up to $7,000
We have unlimited scholarships on offer for school leavers. If you pass NCEA Level 2 with Merit or Excellence (or equivalent for CIE or IB) you’ll automatically receive a scholarship – no application required.

The value of these scholarships will vary depending on whether you achieve Merit or Excellence, or a combination of both, at NCEA Levels 2 and 3 (or equivalent for CIE or IB).

These scholarships can be put towards either tuition fees or accommodation in our Halls of Residence.

If you’ve taken a gap year between school and university, you may still be eligible for a school leaver scholarship but you will need to apply.

Visit waikato.ac.nz/go/school-leaver for full details on eligibility.

For more information about scholarships visit: waikato.ac.nz/scholarships
Student support

Our students tell us we are one of the friendliest and most supportive universities in New Zealand. We are enthusiastic about helping students get the advice, support and services they need to make sure their time at the University of Waikato is successful.

Academic advice
Prospective students and their parents can make an appointment with one of our Future Student Advisers before they enrol to discuss any questions. We can talk over the phone, via Skype or Adobe Connect, or we can meet and talk on campus. We can also arrange campus and Halls of Residence tours if you would like to see what’s on offer. Email our Future Student Advisers at recruitment@waikato.ac.nz or call 0800 WAIKATO

Learning support
We offer learning support for assignment preparation and writing. Our tutors can also assist with the development of specific skills such as time management, essay writing, note-taking or exam preparation. Students can join a workshop, make use of interactive resources, be tutored online, or have an individual face-to-face consultation. To find out more visit waikato.ac.nz/students/student-learning

Disability support
We actively work to remove any barriers to learning for students with disabilities to ensure all our students’ learning requirements are being met. Students with disabilities have increased access to physical and emotional support, and specialised learning equipment.

Clubs, sports and social events
Joining a club is a great way for your son or daughter to get involved and to meet new people. It can be something they love doing or something they have never tried before. Students can also represent their faculty in different events and can get involved with social sports teams on campus.

Student health services
The Student Health Centre is a purpose-built facility providing full medical services for all students, including GP consultations and counselling services for fully enrolled students. We also have a pharmacy on campus for students to fill prescriptions and purchase other medical or personal items. For more information visit waikato.ac.nz/sasd/health

Support for Māori and Pacific students
Supporting Māori and Pacific students throughout their studies is a top priority at Waikato. Our services include a diverse network of specialist Māori and Pacific support staff, with mentoring units being based in each faculty. For Māori student support visit waikato.ac.nz/tautoko and for Pacific student support visit waikato.ac.nz/go/pacific

Career Development Services
Career Development Services is free to all students and alumni. The careers team assists with employment skills, job opportunities and job interview skills. Students can get help with their CVs and cover-letter writing and can also attend free career skills workshops throughout the year. A wide range of potential employers, including Fonterra, ANZ Bank and Deloitte, also conduct presentations on campus during the year as part of their graduate recruitment activities. For more information visit waikato.ac.nz/sasd/careers
How to enrol

Enrolling with us is simple and can be completed in three steps;

- To apply to enrol at Waikato, students simply need to visit our website and select ‘apply now’.
- Halls of Residence applications open on 1 August, with first round offers sent out in early October.
- Applications to StudyLink should be completed before December so they are processed quickly. Visit [studylink.govt.nz](http://studylink.govt.nz)

- Receive and accept an offer of place in a programme – every student at Waikato receives an Enrolment Agreement in January or February which confirms their study programme for that year. First-year students will also receive their student ID cards and those who have successfully been awarded a school leaver scholarship will also be notified around this time.
- Students need to select their papers. Check out the paper catalogue at [papers.waikato.ac.nz](http://papers.waikato.ac.nz)
- Your child will receive their timetable via email before classes begin so they have time to familiarise themselves with where their lectures will be held.

- Every year before the start of A Semester, the University holds a one-week Academic Orientation. This is a great opportunity for all students to find out about assignment and test guidelines, how to read their timetable, and more. Students will also learn about the University’s student support services, and who to contact if they need help.

For more information on application and enrolment visit [waikato.ac.nz/go/parents](http://waikato.ac.nz/go/parents)
If you have any questions or need any advice, please contact us. We’re more than happy to help.

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<td>Faculty of Arts &amp; Social Sciences</td>
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<td>Faculty of Computing &amp; Mathematical Sciences</td>
<td>cms.waikato.ac.nz</td>
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<td>Te Kura Toi Tangata Faculty of Education</td>
<td>education.waikato.ac.nz</td>
<td><a href="mailto:teach@waikato.ac.nz">teach@waikato.ac.nz</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Faculty of Science &amp; Engineering</td>
<td>sci.waikato.ac.nz</td>
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<tr>
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<td><a href="mailto:info@waikato.ac.nz">info@waikato.ac.nz</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>StudyLink</td>
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<td>Te Piringa – Faculty of Law</td>
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</table>
Tips for parents

- **Prepare** your child to be financially responsible so they understand the stresses and strains of living on a limited budget. Teaching your child how to budget effectively will help enormously.

- **Support** your child to do the very best they can in their studies. Provide guidance where necessary while letting them take responsibility to know what is expected of them.

- **Encourage** your child to make the most of their time at University. There are plenty of extracurricular activities that students can get involved with to complement their overall university experience. Students can sign up to clubs and connect with student groups and societies.

- **Motivate** your child to look after their health while at University. As a parent, you can encourage them to adopt good physical activity habits and make healthy food choices. Creating healthy habits early will bring lifelong benefits.

- **Familiarise** yourself with the support resources available at University. If a problem arises you can then recommend the appropriate University services and encourage your child to reach out. They will appreciate the support you give them.
What can I do to help?

As a parent, there are plenty of things you can do to support your child through the transition to tertiary study. We’ve prepared a checklist for you to ensure you are prepared.

**School subject selection**

Read the entry requirements of the various degree programmes that your child may be considering. Keep an eye out for specific prerequisites to University papers and degrees, and note down any NCEA subjects that will be important for being accepted into a particular course. There are online tools available to assist with programme selection such as [careers.govt.nz](http://careers.govt.nz).

**Attend an Open Day or Information Session**

Open Day and information sessions are a great opportunity to familiarise yourself with our campuses, university atmosphere and to ask any questions about the University of Waikato, or study in general. Check out [waikato.ac.nz/go/parents](http://waikato.ac.nz/go/parents) for more information.

**Financial advice**

Financial pressure can affect students’ success throughout their studies. Make sure your child is comfortable with budgeting and understands how their income and expenses can be managed.

**Skills and attitudes**

Fostering independent learning, self-motivation, teamwork, problem solving, critical thinking and strong communication skills early on will greatly benefit your child throughout their time at university. Talk to them about what they can expect from university life, and remind them that you will always support them.

**Identifying scholarships and other funding options**

A scholarship will open up a world of opportunities for your child, no matter what level of study they are at. Whether you’re looking for support with study, fees, accommodation, research or leadership opportunities, we’ve got lots of options available. To find out more visit our scholarships finder at [waikato.ac.nz/scholarships](http://waikato.ac.nz/scholarships).

**Be available if your child needs help with application or enrolment**

Once your child has begun the enrolment process they may have questions or need help. Make sure that you are familiar with their chosen degree structure, their accommodation plans, whether or not they will be applying for scholarships, and encourage them to get their StudyLink application in early.

**Part-time employment**

Encourage your child to look for part-time employment while they are studying, particularly once they have settled into their new home. Part-time employment not only increases their income, it also teaches them valuable life-skills that will help them as a graduate.
WHERE THE WORLD IS GOING
TE AHUNGA O TE AO