Welcome to Waikato

Kia orāna, mālō e lelei, tālofa lava, fakaalofa lahi atu, ni sa bula vinaka, taloha ni, halo olaketa, kia orana, ko na mauri, tālofa, aloha and warm Pacific greetings.
Welcome to the University of Waikato!

At the University of Waikato, inspiring and supporting our students is at the heart of everything we do. Our campuses in Hamilton and Tauranga are the perfect place for Pacific students to begin tertiary study while staying connected to their culture and community.

Studying at Waikato
We provide an internationally recognised education in a friendly and supportive campus environment. Our campuses have everything students need for their university journey, with lecture theatres, cafés, student support services, a gym and a library all within a 10 minute walk of each other.
We have a laid-back campus atmosphere with plenty of opportunities to make life-long friends, participate in sporting and cultural activities, join student clubs, and be fully supported along the way, with greater access to our world-leading teaching staff.
To find out more about the Pacific student experience visit waikato.ac.nz/go/pacific

Choosing your course
We offer a broad range of degrees, diplomas and certificates across more than 100 subjects. Our degree programmes are flexible, meaning you can customise your qualification to suit your strengths, interests and career plans. This ensures you graduate fully prepared for life beyond study.
We appreciate that many students have ongoing work and family commitments, and offer full- and part-time study options.
To find out more about our qualifications visit waikato.ac.nz/study or contact our Future Student Adviser (Pacific) at recruitment@waikato.ac.nz
Pacific student support

We have a dedicated Pacific Student Success Coordinator who can help with course planning, accommodation, finding Pacific student groups and more. We also offer many other student support services, including:

- **The Imua initiative**
  The Imua initiative is a success- and culture-based programme designed to help first year students successfully transition into tertiary study and to continue progressing through key stages of the university journey. Students have the opportunity to grow as scholars and leaders. All first year and new students welcome.

- **Pacific drop-in sessions**
  Pacific Support Staff are available to help you from 1pm - 2pm every Wednesday of the teaching week.

- **Pacific support in divisions**
  Programme planning and subject specific assistance.

- **Pacific study groups/sessions**
  This is provided through our Pacific Support within the divisions and also the Pacific Student Groups.

- **Pacific support staff**
  Our Pacific staff in academic and support roles are available to direct you to the help you need. Make sure you reach out with any questions or requests.

For a full list of our student support services visit [waikato.ac.nz/go/student-support](http://waikato.ac.nz/go/student-support) or contact our Pacific Student Success Coordinator at [pacificsupport@waikato.ac.nz](mailto:pacificsupport@waikato.ac.nz)

Pacific student groups

We have all sorts of sports and student clubs at our Hamilton and Tauranga campuses. These are a great way to meet new people, try something different, and familiarise yourself with the University. We offer many student groups specifically for Pacific Students, including:

- Pacific Island Parents Students Association
- Pacific Islands Management Students Association
- Pacific Law Students Association
- Papua New Guinea Students Association
- Solomon Islands Students Waikato Association
- STEM Pacific and Maori
- Tutala Niue
- Waikato Uni-Tech Tongan Students Association
- Waikato University Cook Island Students Association
- Waikato University Fijian Students Association
- Waikato University Kiribati Students Association
- Waikato University Samoan Student Association
- Waikato University Tuvalu Students Association
- Waikato University Vanuatu Students Association

To find out more about sport at Waikato visit [waikato.ac.nz/go/sport](http://waikato.ac.nz/go/sport) or for more about Pacific student clubs visit [waikato.ac.nz/go/pacific-clubs](http://waikato.ac.nz/go/pacific-clubs)

The Conch

The Conch is our dedicated Pacific student space, and is located on Level Zero of the Student Centre. This space provides a community centre that is distinctively Pacific, and is the perfect place to relax in between classes, work together on your projects, and hang out with friends and meet other Pacific students. To find out more about the conch, contact our Pacific Student Success Coordinator at [pacificsupport@waikato.ac.nz](mailto:pacificsupport@waikato.ac.nz)
Scholarships

At Waikato we know a helping hand goes a long way in turning a smart brain into a great mind. We offer several scholarships for new Pacific students:

**Edna Money Future Pacific Leaders’ Scholarship - $6000 a year for up to three years**

This scholarship aims to provide academically talented Pacific students who demonstrate significant leadership potential the opportunity to study at Waikato. The scholarship can be put towards course fees or accommodation in the Halls of Residence on the Hamilton campus.

**Pacific Excellence Scholarships - Up to $10,000**

This scholarship is for domestic students of Pacific Island descent who are currently studying at NCEA Level 3 towards University Entrance and who intend to enrol full-time in an undergraduate degree at Waikato in 2019. The Scholarships will be awarded on the basis of meritorious achievement and connection to the Pacific community.

**TAPA (Tertiary Achievement in Pacific Ako) Awards - Up to $2,000**

For students who are New Zealand citizens or permanent residents and are of Pacific Island descent to pursue tertiary studies at the University of Waikato for a full academic year.

To find out more about our Pacific student scholarships, and the many other scholarships on offer visit [waikato.ac.nz/scholarships](http://waikato.ac.nz/scholarships)

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**Sangata Kaufononga**

PhD majoring in Chemistry (Analytical and Organic)

My name is Sangata Kaufononga. Wife to a lovely Tongan husband, David and a mother of four beautiful children. I am the first Tongan to graduate from the University of Waikato with a PhD majoring in Chemistry (Analytical and Organic) and the seventh Tongan PhD student to have graduated from the University of Waikato.

My journey began with my BSc (Chemistry and Mathematics) from the University of the South Pacific, Fiji in 2004 before my family and I migrated to Hamilton in 2010 and started at the University of Waikato in 2011. At the time our youngest son was three months old and our eldest daughter was five years old. It was a challenging journey and yes, I nailed it and graduated with a Graduate Certificate (2011), Master of Science (2014), and PhD majoring in Chemistry (2019). During my time at the University of Waikato, I was also the president of the WUTTSA (Waikato Uni-Tech Tongan Student Association) from 2015–2016 and have been involved in various Pacific at Waikato activities.

I was also honoured as the recipient of the TAPA Awards from 2012–2018 resulting in my PhD study being fully funded by AgResearch Ltd.

“I would love to see more Pacific students excel and be successful in their academic journey, because if I can do it, they can do it!”

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Living in Hamilton

Our main campus is located in Hamilton, a vibrant and multicultural city with a population of about 160,000. It’s a great place to live and study, with the city centre only a 10 minute drive from campus. The cost of living in Hamilton is relatively cheap, there's good public transport, plenty of shopping centres, and many parks and gardens.

Hamilton is close to many New Zealand tourist attractions, including Raglan surf beach, Mount Ruapehu ski fields, Waitomo Glowworm Caves and Hobbiton. Hamilton also hosts many regional, national and international events during the year, including Balloons over Waikato, the Boon Street Art Festival, Hamilton Fringe Festival, Soundsplash Festival, and other arts and sports events.

Accommodation

We have three fully catered Halls of Residence in Hamilton: Bryant Hall, College Hall and Student Village, as well as one self-catered hall in Hamilton: Orchard Park. There is also a Pacific floor in Bryant Hall where Pacific students can take their journey through university as a family. Students in the halls also receive ongoing academic and cultural support throughout the year.

To find out more about the Halls of Residence visit waikato.ac.nz/go/accommodation

There are also plenty of affordable off-campus accommodation options available, such as flats or private boarding. Our accommodation team can help you find the perfect place to live. Contact them at accom@waikato.ac.nz or call 0800 WAIKATO

Get in touch

You are welcome to contact us with any questions you have about coming to university, including course planning, accommodation, student life, entry requirements, or to book a campus tour.

Contact our Future Student Advisers on recruitment@waikato.ac.nz or call 0800 WAIKATO

Find us on Facebook @PacificatWaikato

We look forward to welcoming you to the University of Waikato

Meitaki, Fa‘afetai, Malo ‘aupito, Oue tulou, Vinaka vaka levu, Namaste, Fakafetai, Tank iu, Ko rabwa