Online study in B trimester 2020
FAQs for new international students studying offshore

What is the tuition fee discount?
The University is giving a 20% discount to all new international students who start their qualification studying online outside New Zealand in 2020. The discount will apply to all papers that are studied online in 2020.

How do I apply for the discount?
There is no need to apply – it will be applied to the tuition fees you are required to pay when you choose the papers (units/modules) that you will enrol in with us.

How much is the discount?
The actual amount will depend on the number of papers (units/modules) you enrol in for Trimester B 2020. It will equate to 20% off the full tuition fee for the papers that you enrol into for trimester B 2020.

How many papers do I need to enrol into to get the discount?
International students who enrol online do not need a student visa while they undertake their studies online, so you can enrol in as many or as few papers as you feel comfortable with.

If you wish to study full time, we suggest doing no more than four papers (60 points) in a trimester.

How do I receive the discount?
We will make you an offer for a qualification based on the indicative tuition fees but in the offer letter we will include information on the discount. Once you accept your offer in our application system, the University will advise you of the papers (units/modules) we think you should take in your first trimester studying with us. There may be some limitations regarding the choice of papers you can take online but every paper you take will count towards your qualification.

You can take one paper, or four papers, that choice is yours so you can reduce the number of papers to suit your needs.

When you agree to these papers in our system, we will calculate your fees with the discount added. When we have received your payment, we will work with you to complete your enrolment online.

Do I receive the discount if I study on campus?
The discount only applies to students who study online overseas. Once you transfer to our campus, your tuition fees will revert to our published on campus tuition fees.

Will I receive any benefits when I transfer to study face-to-face in New Zealand?
The University will award you a one-off grant of NZD$2,000 when you transfer to one of our two campuses in New Zealand (Hamilton or Tauranga). This travel and accommodation grant is to help you with any additional costs you may incur as a result of travelling and associated with your accommodation in New Zealand.

Are there any other costs?
All students of the University are required to pay a Student Services Levy while they are studying. You will be charged a reduced fee due to the fact that you are conducting your study online. This levy covers the cost of accessing some of our services online, including library services, international student support, counselling.

**Do I need medical insurance?**

While studying offshore, there is no requirement to hold medical insurance. When you come to New Zealand to resume your studies face-to-face, a fee for medical and travel insurance will be added to your tuition invoice. This is a requirement for your international student visa.

**What programmes are available online in B Trimester?**

We have a wide range of programmes available for study in trimester B. To see the most upto-date list of programmes that are available, please visit our website [https://www.waikato.ac.nz/campaigns/international/trimester-b](https://www.waikato.ac.nz/campaigns/international/trimester-b)

It is important to understand that not all these programmes are available to be completed online. We have noted which programmes can be completed fully online on our website.

**What programmes are available online in C Trimester?**

The University is working hard to identify which programmes will be available in C trimester. As soon as we have confirmed which programmes are available online, we will add this information to our website.

**Does the discount apply to onshore students who are studying online?**

No. This discount is only available to new and returning international students who are undertaking their study online and offshore (meaning outside of New Zealand).

**Will students who are progressing from Waikato Pathways College programmes be eligible for the discount?**

Yes, if you have completed a programme through Waikato Pathways College and are progressing to another qualification at the University you will be eligible for this discount, provided that you are studying online and are offshore.

**I want to get a Post Study Work Visa. How do I ensure that I am still eligible for this visa if I start my studies online?** *This statement has been provided by INZ:*

With regards to eligibility for post study work rights, Immigration New Zealand (INZ) have advised that students who commence their studies online from overseas and then transfer to study on campus in New Zealand at a later date are eligible to apply for post study work rights, but they must still complete 30 weeks of full time study in New Zealand. This applies for students who may have a student visa already, or those who do not hold a visa when they commence offshore.

The key policy requirement for post study work rights is that you have spent at least 30 weeks in New Zealand studying full time, so if you have started offshore online you will need to be in New Zealand studying for at least 30 weeks in order to be eligible for a post study work visa. That means that you will need a student visa to allow you to study in New Zealand, if you don’t already hold one.

Commencing your study offshore online does not guarantee that you be granted a student visa. You must still meet the normal immigration requirements of a student visa application (such as funds, health and character requirements). Please note that your ability to transfer
to New Zealand to continue your study on campus depends on New Zealand border restrictions.

When should I apply for a Student Visa to travel to New Zealand?

At this point in time, all INZ offices outside New Zealand are closed due to COVID-19 so they are not processing student visas at the moment. The university or your agent will let all you know when you can apply for a student visa.

What happens if I start online, and then when it comes time to join classes in person in New Zealand, my visa is declined?

Your tuition fees (excluding the Student Services Levy) will be refunded if your visa has been declined and you can provide evidence of this, and as a result, you are not able to continue your studies onshore in New Zealand and can provide the appropriate documentation from INZ.

An international fee refund will not be provided if your visa is declined on the basis of fraudulent documentation; your medical check reveals a pre-existing condition; or where INZ have deemed that you have insufficient funds to fund your studies.

No additional costs associated with online study will be refunded, such as computer hardware or software expenses, the purchase of materials, printing, internet usage etc.

No transcript, certificate or qualification will be issued or awarded to you if you choose to apply for a tuition fees refund.

I am planning to study a qualification worth 120 points. I will do 30 points online in July so will only have 90 points to complete when I come to New Zealand. Will I still be eligible for a student visa?

Yes. You are eligible for a student visa if you study at least 90 points over two semesters.

Will I still be eligible for a post student visa if I only study 90 points onshore?

The Immigration New Zealand post study work visa policy requires you to study full-time in New Zealand for 30 weeks. If you complete the 90 points over two semesters in New Zealand and you hold a single student visa for this study, you will meet this requirement.

Will I still be eligible to work during my studies if I only study 90 points onshore?

Yes, if you are studying a programme that’s at least 120 points in total and you studying for 8 months or more (over two semesters), you will be eligible to work 20 hours a week during term time and fulltime during the school holidays.

My offer letter for semester B states that the end date of my course is in June 2021 but I will not have finished my course by then. What should I do?

Our online offer letter reflects the normal duration of your programme. Offer letters are what we provide to new students, for them to use to obtain a student visa. As you will be a returning student in 2021, you will use your Enrolment Agreement to apply for your student visa, not an offer letter. This document is what Immigration New Zealand refer to as a ‘confirmation of enrolment’.
This document will be generated once you have chosen your papers for 2021 and have paid your fees. Your enrolment agreement will show the fees you have paid, the location of your study, your study mode and the duration of study based on the number of papers you have chosen. You will be eligible for a full year student visa if you are enrolled in and have paid for at least 90 points over semester A and B. If you only enrol in and pay for papers in A trimester then you will only obtain a visa for six months. In order to be eligible to apply for post study work rights, students must be studying in New Zealand on a single student visa so students need to enrol (choose their papers and pay) for the entire year.

For students applying for an Approval in Principle (AIP) with Immigration New Zealand, once the University has added and approved your 2021 papers, you will receive an Enrolment Agreement which will show the tuition fees for 2021. You can pay the required amount after you receive your AIP to complete your enrolment. Note that in order to be eligible to apply for post study work rights, students must be enrolled for a full year and single student visa.

This confirmation of enrolment should be submitted to Immigration New Zealand to support your visa application. The University has consulted with Immigration New Zealand and they have advised that this document is what is required.

The relevant information can be found on the INZ website at: https://www.immigration.govt.nz/new-zealand-visas/apply-for-a-visa/visa-factsheet/fullfee-paying-student-visa#criteria