

The background is a vibrant yellow with a repeating geometric pattern of white lines forming squares and triangles. In the center, a white circle contains the text. Surrounding the circle are two stylized illustrations: a fish at the top right and a eel at the bottom left, both rendered in dark blue and white. The fish has a spotted pattern on its back and a white belly. The eel has a white body with dark blue stripes and a dark blue head.

# WAI MĀORI SCHOLARSHIP

Guidelines

# NAU MAI, WHAKATAU MAI

Thank you for your interest in the Wai Māori Scholarship. In these guidelines you'll find all the key details about the Scholarship and the application process. If you have any further questions, please get in contact with the Te Wai Māori Team at [info@waimaori.maori.nz](mailto:info@waimaori.maori.nz).

## STRENGTHENING THE PRESENCE OF MĀORI EXPERTS IN FRESHWATER

The Wai Māori scholarship was established in 2022 to strengthen the presence of Māori experts in freshwater and freshwater fisheries. This includes related fields of academic study and professional fields that contribute to the advancement of one or more of the following areas:

- Indigenous freshwater species research
- Effects of climate change on indigenous freshwater species
- Kaupapa Māori freshwater research
- Māori rights and interests in freshwater
- Freshwater and/or freshwater fisheries/species management and protection
- Freshwater and/or freshwater fisheries/species policy, regulation, and development and
- Building or strengthening connections of taura to their iwi/hapū

## ABOUT TE WAI MĀORI TRUST

Te Wai Māori Trust is an independent Māori Trust established under the Māori Fisheries Act 2004.

The long-term outcomes we work towards include:

- enhancing the health and well-being of the indigenous fisheries and their environment;
- increasing iwi and hapū capacity and capability in freshwater fisheries and their ability to take responsibility for the health and well-being of freshwater fisheries;
- promoting and sharing indigenous fisheries expertise, knowledge and understanding; and
- increasing the quality and range of information to iwi and hapū on freshwater fisheries and their interests.

Our core values are **te mana o te wai**, **whakapapa**, and **kaitiakitanga**. These reflect our beliefs in the importance of our freshwater ecosystems; our connection between whānau, hapū and iwi, and te taiao; and our whānau, hapū and iwi obligations, as descendants of ngā Atua.

Ensuring the health and well-being of freshwater is essential for the continued health and well-being of freshwater fisheries. Healthy waterbodies are a direct source of mahinga kai for Māori and the use of mahinga kai is an important expression of cultural identity and values, passed down through generations.

## WHAT WE NEED FROM YOU

To apply for this scholarship, fill out the online application form and supply the following documents:

- Your full name, date of birth and iwi affiliations
- A short bio (this must include a statement on your suitability for the scholarship).
- Details of your proposed programme of study
- A one-page summary and a 120 second "Cover Video" outlining your research/proposed programme of study. Make sure you discuss how your research aligns with the scholarship purpose, the long-term goals that Te Wai Māori Trust, your ongoing commitment to freshwater/freshwater fisheries and to advancing tikanga, mātauranga and Te Ao Māori (particularly post-grant and at the completion of your proposed course study).
- Confirmation of enrolment
- Evidence of academic achievement such as an academic transcript
- Details of any other scholarships held, including the amount awarded/received
- Two character references
- If you are undertaking post-graduate research, details of your academic supervisor and their confirmation of the commitment.

## SCHOLARSHIP TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- A total of \$30,000 has been made available for this scholarship, this may be awarded to a single recipient or split between a number of recipients, at the discretion of the selection panel.
- Your award is conditional on the acceptance to an approved institution and course of study or research.
- This scholarship is open to students undertaking post-graduate study and to undergraduate students from their second year of study onward.
- Your selected course of study must begin within a calendar year of the confirmation of your award, and the grant cannot be deferred to subsequent academic years.
- Successful recipients permit publication and announcement of their acceptance of the award by Te Wai Māori Trust and are willing to present their research at a Māori Freshwater Fisheries conference or other forum such as a seminar or webinar. Additional funding may be available to assist with travel and conference attendance for this purpose.
- Should a recipient withdraw from a specified course of study for which the scholarship was awarded, the scholarship will be withdrawn.

## APPLICATION PROCESS

- Applications open on Friday 4 August 2023.
- You must complete and submit an [online application](#) by 5pm Friday 8 September 2023
- A Selection Panel will consider applications on their merit against the purpose of the scholarship and the long-term outcomes of the Trust.
- The successful candidates will be notified by Friday 22 September 2023. This will also be announced via Te Wai Māori Trust's website and associated social media channels and included in reporting material.