

APRIL 2023-MARCH 2024
Donor Impact Report



VICTORIA UNIVERSITY OF
WELLINGTON
TE HERENGA WAKA

**TE HERENGA WAKA—
VICTORIA UNIVERSITY
OF WELLINGTON**

ALUMNI APPEAL SCHOLARSHIPS



**CAPITAL THINKING.
GLOBALLY MINDED.**
MAI I TE IHO KI TE PAE

THE STORY OF YOUR IMPACT BEGINS HERE

\$93,462

**RAISED FROM
THE 2023
ALUMNI APPEAL**

267

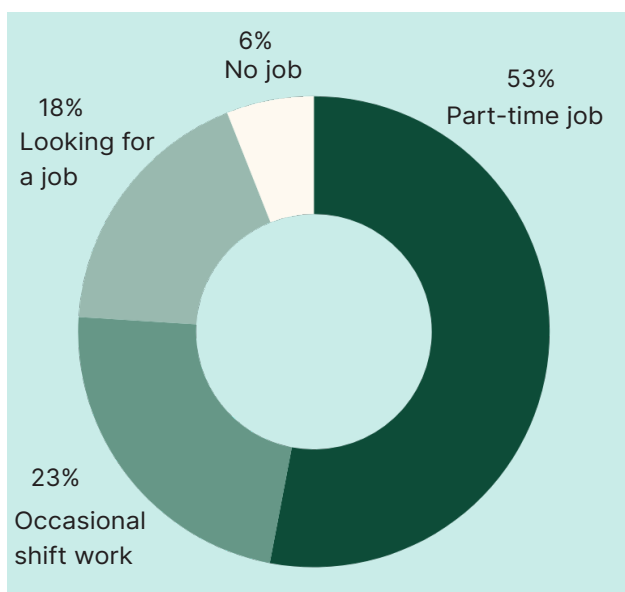
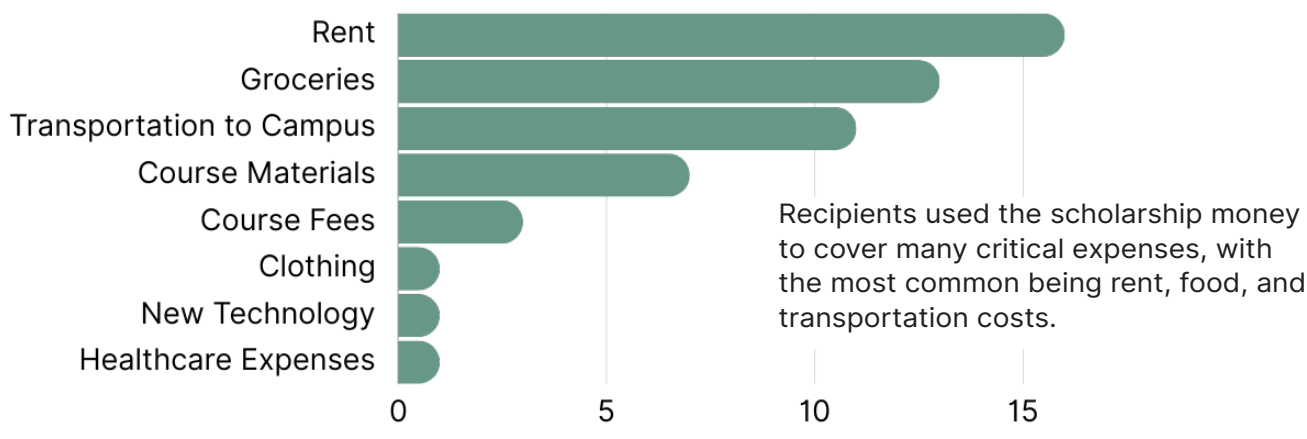
**GENEROUS
DONORS**

17

**ALUMNI APPEAL
SCHOLARSHIPS
AWARDED FOR 2024**

The second year of university is a make-or-break moment for many students, especially those with limited income taking a full courseload. Your generosity ensured that 17 second-year scholars could thrive in their studies without the burden of financial stress. One third of the recipients are the first in their family to attend university, and half of them report being unlikely to continue university without the scholarship.

Thank you for investing not only in the bright futures of our talented students, but also in the future of our entire community. **Your support changes lives.**



More than 70% of scholarship recipients support their studies with some level of part-time work.



16 out of 17 recipients would unequivocally recommend the scholarship to other students. Only one recipient commented that it would depend on a student's circumstances.

A WORD FROM THE STUDENTS YOU HAVE HELPED



"My parents are not able to financially support me because I am one of four kids and two of my siblings have autism. This scholarship has meant I have been able to find a comfortable flat and not be financially stressed about rent, groceries, clothes, and travel expenses. I feel much more present in the other activities that I do, such as my activism mahi and voluntary youth work, because I'm not worried about money."

Anika Green

BA (Political Science, Te Reo Māori)



"This scholarship provides me with the financial support to focus on my studies instead of splitting my time between university and part-time work. This will be particularly useful next trimester when I have 80 points worth of courses to complete. It also lets me have a summer internship instead of summer job, which might pay slightly less but is more beneficial to my studies."

James O'Keefe

BBMEDS (Chemistry, Molecular Pharmacology and Medicinal Chemistry)



"Without the scholarship money I wouldn't have been able to purchase a much-needed new laptop. For the previous year I was borrowing my dad's old laptop, but it was very slow and made it difficult to keep up with taking notes in class and writing my assignments. With my new laptop, I'm trying even harder in all my courses to do the absolute best I can and make my family proud!"

Morgan Good

BA (English Literature, Philosophy)



"This scholarship has made a huge impact on my mental health. I've struggled with anxiety my whole life, but my financial anxiety has gotten much worse over the last few years. Receiving the scholarship has made a world of difference in quelling my fears and getting rid of self-doubt. I'm able to worry less about the financial aspect of student life and focus more on my studies."

Jordyn Papistock

BBMEDS (Cell and Molecular Bioscience, Molecular Pathology, Molecular Pharmacology and Medicinal Chemistry)

A life-saving scholarship

I'm a disabled person who primarily covers their costs with the WINZ supported living payment and occasional shifts working retail. Last year, to keep up with costs while studying, I had to take on multiple other contracts to make ends meet, which severely restricted my time for study and the maintenance of my health.

When I received the scholarship this year, I had originally wanted to upgrade some of my technology because the lack of proper tools was causing me to fall behind on coursework.

Unfortunately, I was infected with COVID-19 and couldn't work while I recovered. I experienced months of extreme fatigue, and I'm still dealing with the impacts of long COVID. If it weren't for the scholarship, I wouldn't have been able to take time off work and continue affording my medications, healthy food, and rent during this incredibly stressful period. There's a very high chance I would've had to drop out of university and may have been homeless simply because of how unwell I was.

I believe that I'm only this well-recovered and able to start catching up on my studies because of the safety net the financial support has given me.

The self-esteem boost from receiving this scholarship has also been immense, and it motivated me to continue my studies despite the extra health battles I've experienced this year.

This newfound confidence led me to accept an invitation to do a week of work at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa where I helped create contemporary music using native Hawaiian as part of a language revitalisation project. I also held a workshop on indigenous song writing with my peer, Mārire Brunning-Kouka, during a conference hosted by 'Ahahui Noi'i No'eau 'Ōiwi—Research Institute of Indigenous Performance.



Because I'm an older student and not a school leaver, this scholarship was the only one I was eligible to apply for. I think it fills quite a critical gap for people who are struggling to continue their studies or who want to come back to study but can't get financial support for their specific degrees.

Not having restrictions on how I spend the money and having the freedom to use it for what's most important in the moment quite literally saved my life this year. I know that this scholarship will have the same impact on other students for as long as it continues to exist.

Taranaki Ah Young-Grace
BA (Māori Studies, Pacific Studies)

THANK YOU

Your support continues to make a difference.



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