

2026

FOUNDATION STUDIES  
PROGRAMME  
PROSPECTUS

TOP LEADERS

FROM  
LEARNERS

TOP 2%  
OF THE WORLD'S  
UNIVERSITIES\*

\*Source: QS World University  
Rankings 2026

Study at Te Herenga Waka—  
Victoria University of Wellington



VICTORIA UNIVERSITY OF  
**WELLINGTON**  
TE HERENGA WAKA  
NEW ZEALAND

POWERED BY **UP EDUCATION**

# PATHWAY PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

## THE PROGRAMMES WE OFFER

Pathways Link Programme<sup>1</sup>

Foundation Connect<sup>2</sup>

Victoria University of Wellington Foundation Studies Programme (Standard) (Level 3)<sup>3</sup>

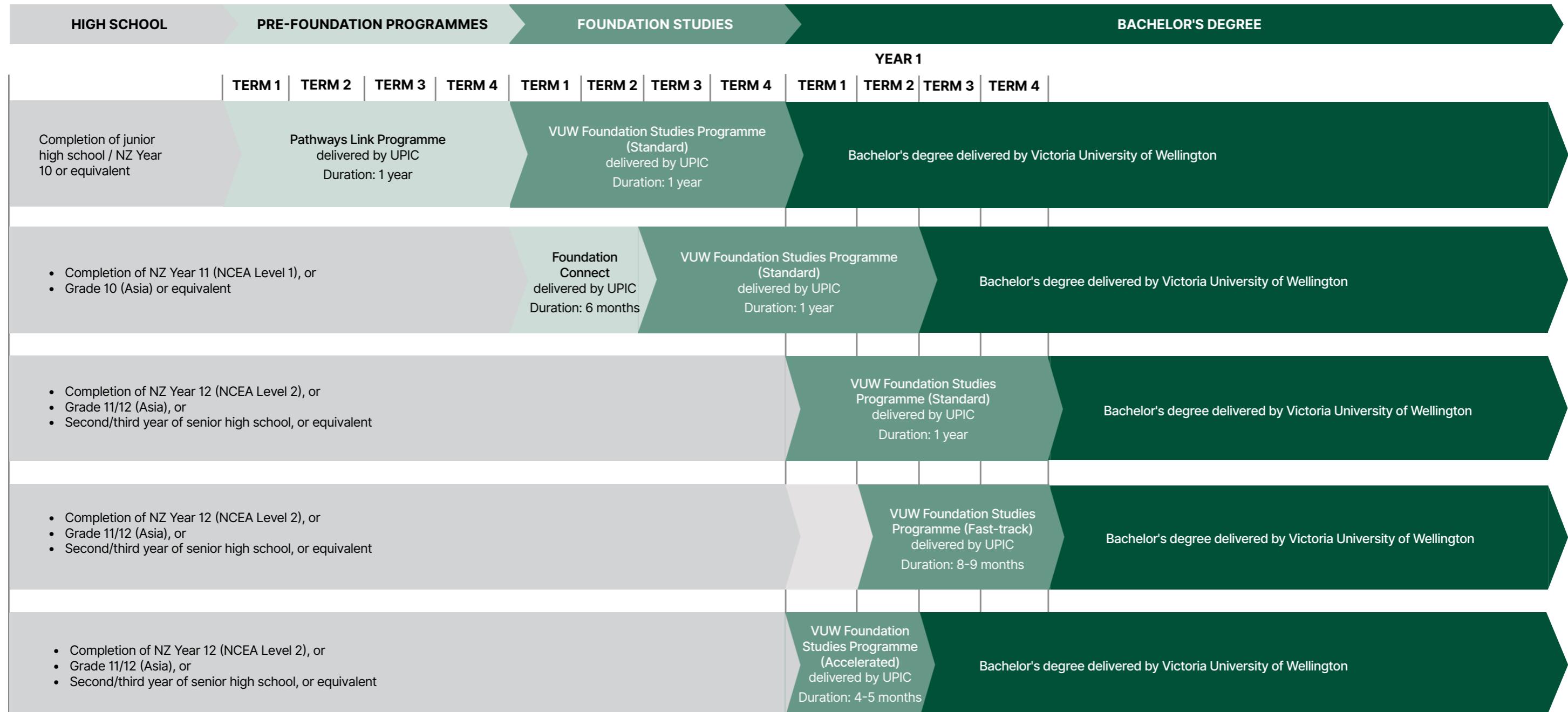
Victoria University of Wellington Foundation Studies Programme (Fast-track) (Level 3)<sup>3</sup>

Victoria University of Wellington Foundation Studies Programme (Accelerated) (Level 3)<sup>3</sup>

1. Pathways Link is registered as 'Pathways Link - L1A and L1B (Level 1) (Training Scheme)' with NZQA.

2. The programme is marketed as Foundation Connect and the programme name is registered as "Intensive General English Course" at NZQA.

3. Victoria University of Wellington Foundation Studies Programme is registered as UP International College (UPIC) New Zealand Foundation Studies Programme (Level 3) at NZQA.



# WELCOME TO VICTORIA UNIVERSITY OF WELLINGTON

## Nau mai, haere mai ki Te Herenga Waka

Aotearoa New Zealand and Te Herenga Waka—Victoria University of Wellington are pleased to welcome UP Education students from all over the world to our creative capital city, to join our diverse and thriving community. We are looking forward to supporting you as you experience a world-class education in a safe and truly liveable environment.

Our whole university community is excited to welcome you. International students bring a global outlook that helps make our community richer. Our university has been a place where diverse experiences come together to not only create a vibrant student experience, but it is also a unique platform for launching careers both in New Zealand and around the world.



### Professor Nic Smith

Vice-Chancellor  
Victoria University of Wellington



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# AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND

## A GREAT PLACE TO STUDY, LIVE AND WORK

New Zealand is world-famous for its friendly people, spectacular landscape and relaxed lifestyle. Discover what it's like to be a student here. Learn about the different types of accommodation. Explore our cities and regions, and find out about the cost of living.

### FEEL SAFE AND SECURE

New Zealand is recognised as one of the most peaceful, least corrupt countries in the world, giving you a sense of security and confidence while you concentrate on your studies or as you explore our beautiful country.

### WORLD-CLASS EDUCATION

All of New Zealand's eight universities rank in the top 2% globally. Students are encouraged to solve problems, collaborate, and innovate.

### WORK-LIFE BALANCED LIFESTYLE

New Zealand is known for its healthy balance between career and personal life. Many companies offer flexible working hours and generous holiday leave, enabling employees to pursue interests outside of work.



**Top 3**  
safest country  
to study abroad

BusinessBecause (GMAC) 2025



**#1**  
country globally for the  
best work-life balance

Global Life-Work Balance Index 2025,  
Remote.com



**Top 2%**  
universities  
in the world

QS World University Rankings 2026



**3rd**  
most peaceful  
country globally

Global Peace Index score 2025



### POST STUDY WORK OPPORTUNITIES

Take your next step after graduation with a Post Study Work Visa<sup>1</sup>. Eligible international students may remain in New Zealand for up to 3 years to gain relevant work experience and transferable skills.



### EMBRACING ALL PEOPLES

New Zealanders, or Kiwis, embrace people from diverse backgrounds with warmth and respect. Our friendly culture, our rich history, our laidback, open-mindedness, and our diverse traditions respect everyone's rights, beliefs, and choices.

### A HIGH STANDARD OF LIVING

New Zealand boasts a high standard of living, with excellent education, healthcare, transport, and infrastructure. Our economy is strong, and our political system is stable. The country's transparent legal and governmental systems safeguard the rights of both citizens and visitors.



SCAN ME

1. For more information about Post Study Work Visa, please visit [www.immigration.govt.nz/visas/post-study-work-visa](http://www.immigration.govt.nz/visas/post-study-work-visa)

### QUICK FACTS

**NZ population:**  
5,330,600\*

**Largest city:**  
Auckland – population  
1,711,000\*

**Capital city:**  
Wellington

**Official languages:**  
English, Māori,  
New Zealand Sign  
Language

**Currency:**  
New Zealand dollar

**Climate:**  
Summer –  
Ave. 24°C (75°F)  
Winter –  
Ave. 16°C (60°F)

**Warmest months:**  
January, February

**Coldest months:**  
July, August

\*Statistics New Zealand,  
June 2025.





**2nd**  
Tech is NZ's 2nd  
largest export sector  
Source: Statistics  
New Zealand, 2023



**2nd**  
Wellington is #2 in  
New Zealand for its  
Startup ecosystem  
Source: StartupBlink.com,  
2025

# NEW ZEALAND, A HUB OF INNOVATION



**7th**  
in Asia and Oceania  
for innovation  
Source: World Intellectual  
Property Organization, Global  
Innovation Index, 2024



## OPENSTAR

Redefining the future of  
satellite connectivity

Founded in 2021 in Wellington, New Zealand, OpenStar Technologies was established by Dr Ratu Mataira, who completed his PhD at the Robinson Research Institute, Victoria University of Wellington.

- OpenStar achieved its first plasma in Wellington, proving its levitated-dipole fusion concept and advancing New Zealand's clean-energy innovation.
- Partnered with MIT's Plasma Science and Fusion Center to co-develop superconducting magnet systems, boosting global credibility and accelerating fusion research progress.

## SHARESIES

Making investing accessible  
to everyone

Founded in 2017 in Wellington, Sharesies revolutionised New Zealand's investment landscape by making share trading simple and affordable for all.

- Over 600,000 users democratising access to NZX and global markets.
- Introduced fractional share ownership and education-first investing.
- Named Deloitte Fast 50 Rising Star (2022).

## WĒTĀ FX

Where Oscar-winning  
visuals come to life

Founded in 1993 in Wellington, Wētā FX blends creativity and tech to reshape storytelling across film and media.

- From Avatar and The Lord of the Rings to The Avengers, Wētā FX brings magic to the big screen.
- With 2,000+ staff, the company is a multi-Oscar and BAFTA winner.
- A pioneer in AI-powered facial animation and virtual production.

## HNRY

Simplifying tax for the  
self-employed

Launched in 2017 and based in Wellington, Hnry is an award-winning fintech platform that automates tax and accounting for freelancers and contractors.

- Automatically calculates, deducts, and files income tax, GST, and ACC.
- Serves tens of thousands of users across NZ and Australia.

# MORE THAN NATURE, THE UNTOLD STORY OF NEW ZEALAND

## SUSTAINABILITY & RENEWABLE ENERGY

New Zealand is not only famous for its breathtaking landscapes—we're also a global leader in sustainable practices. From organic vineyards to one of the world's highest shares of renewable energy, we're shaping a greener future together.



# STUDY AND THRIVE IN WELLINGTON

## LIVEABILITY AND CONNECTIVITY

Wellington, surrounded by a beautiful harbour and green hills, is often ranked as one of the world's most liveable cities. With a population of 422,000, it's well-connected and easily accessible at the bottom of the North Island. Its compact size makes it easy to navigate.

## QUALITY OF LIFE

As the capital of New Zealand, Wellington benefits from strong collaboration between education providers, research institutions, the business community, and government. It's a city where people love to live, study, and work, and Wellingtonians consistently top the charts in terms of quality of life.

## LIFESTYLE AND CULTURE

Wellington is compact and convenient, offering great shopping, beaches, mountain bike trails, native bush, restaurants, and the best café culture in the country. You can visit galleries and museums, enjoy vibrant nightlife, explore night markets, and attend festivals, theatre shows, and music gigs.



NO 1  
GREENEST CITY  
IN THE WORLD<sup>1</sup>



CAPITAL  
CITY  
OF NEW ZEALAND



14TH  
QUALITY OF  
LIVING  
IN THE WORLD<sup>2</sup>



50,000  
HECTARES  
OF FOREST AND  
PARKS

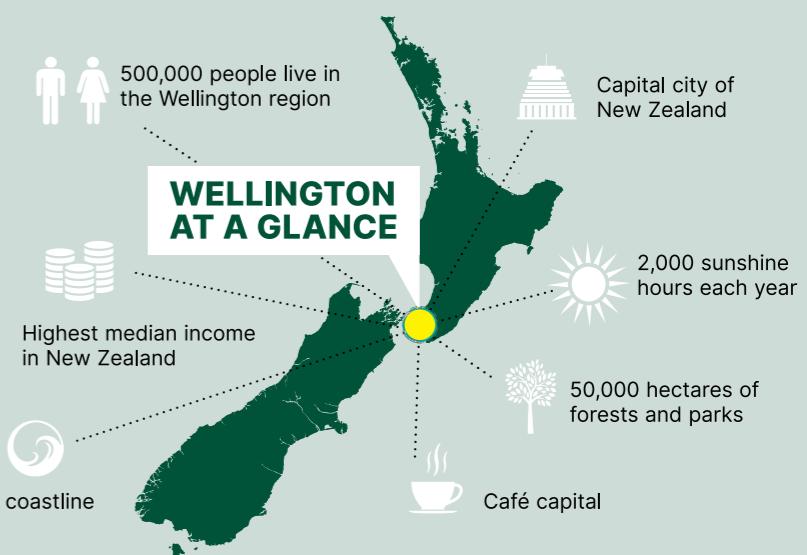


497  
KMS  
OF COASTLINE

## DISCOVER WELLINGTON

Wellington is the geographic, political, and cultural heart of New Zealand. You'll find a great quality of life, a strong global outlook, and a study experience to remember in our beautiful harbour city. There is no better place to shape your future.

For more information, go to  
[www.wgtn.ac.nz/international/why-wellington](http://www.wgtn.ac.nz/international/why-wellington)



## WELLINGTON IS AN IDEAL PLACE TO STUDY

### CREATIVE

Wellington is New Zealand's most creative city. It has topped the list for over 20 years. You can find Wētā Workshop and the Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa here.

(Infometrics Creativity Index 2024)

### SAFE

Wellington is a safe and friendly place to live. It's ranked among the top 20 safest cities in the world.

(Safest Cities in the World 2024, World Population Review)

### CLEAN AND GREEN

Renowned for its clean, fresh air and green outdoor spaces, Wellington city has more than 100 parks and playgrounds, as well as a stunning waterfront, beaches, forests, and coastline.

### WALKABLE

Wellington is New Zealand's most walkable city, with the average time for any Wellingtonian to walk to all amenities being 14 minutes.

### HIGH TECH

Wellington is #2 in New Zealand for its startup ecosystem, home to hundreds of innovative tech companies and growing creative-tech ventures.

(StartupBlink Global Startup Ecosystem Index 2025)

### HAPPY

New Zealand is known for being one of the world's most sociable and supportive countries. It's no surprise that it ranks as the eleventh happiest country in the world.

(World Happiness Report 2024)



# ABOUT VICTORIA UNIVERSITY OF WELLINGTON

Our students come from about **120** countries and the world

**Top 1%** of the world's universities for 14 subjects (latest QS Stars rankings)

**ZERO CARBON BY 2030**



**145+** partner universities in 30+ countries



**92%** of our graduates are currently employed or furthering their study (latest Graduate Destinations Report)



**3 CENTRAL CITY CAMPUSES IN WELLINGTON**



# NEW ZEALAND'S LEADING UNIVERSITY

When you study at Victoria University of Wellington, you will enjoy a great quality of life, a diverse and welcoming environment, and a student experience to remember.

Located in New Zealand's vibrant capital city, Victoria University of Wellington enjoys privileged access to the country's leaders, influencers, and decision makers. This in turn shapes our world-class degrees. When you study in Wellington, you also have access to the city's many museums, archives, libraries, scientific institutes, cultural bodies, financial, legal and business institutions, and political and government agencies.

## OUTSTANDING RESEARCH QUALITY

Victoria University of Wellington is New Zealand's leading university for research intensity, as confirmed by the latest Performance-Based Research Fund (PBRF) Quality Evaluation by the New Zealand Government. With 177 researchers actively contributing to sustainable development<sup>1</sup>, you'll have the opportunity to learn from world-class experts in state-of-the-art facilities, addressing critical social, economic, and environmental challenges.

## FLEXIBLE STUDY

Choose a conjoint or double degree, or a double major to build a study programme that suits your interests and career goals.

## KEY PARTNERSHIPS

You'll benefit from studying at a capital city university. The university has strong teaching and research partnerships with government, business, research institutes and the technology and arts sectors.

## THREE YEARS OF POST-STUDY WORK RIGHTS

After graduating with a 3- or 4-year bachelor's degree from Victoria University of Wellington you will be eligible to apply for a three-year post study work visa<sup>2</sup>.

1. Work and Study 2023

2. Refer to the Immigration New Zealand website for most updated information: [www.immigration.govt.nz/visas/post-study-work-visa/](http://www.immigration.govt.nz/visas/post-study-work-visa/)



## Minel Espeleta

Minel Espeleta made the decision to move to New Zealand to pursue a high-quality education alongside her two younger siblings.

She says the pandemic hit her family hard, but with the support of UP International College New Zealand, she was able to consider degree-level study at Victoria University of Wellington.

As the eldest sibling, Minel leads the way for her family, and proudly graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in 2021. Her first job out of university was with the Inland Revenue Department in the Government precinct of Wellington. Minel continues to thrive in her new role as consultant for the Ministry of Justice.

When asked about the value of being educated in New Zealand, she says, everyone deserves the opportunity to pursue a great education — no matter where you come from, or how much money you have in the bank.

# WELCOME TO THE VICTORIA UNIVERSITY OF WELLINGTON FOUNDATION STUDIES PROGRAMME

Victoria University of Wellington is all about providing quality educational opportunities to help students transition into study and work.

UP Education and Victoria University of Wellington have a supportive programme of regular meetings with our students in their final term, so that they have the knowledge, skills and understanding to start their University with confidence and care.

Our students meet the Victoria University of Wellington team regularly, so they have their own relationships with University staff before they even start.

The three programmes for Victoria University of Wellington at UP Education (Standard, Fast-Track and Accelerated) are tailor-made to meet students where they are at and to provide them with the tools to be successful in their programmes and into the future.



**Julian Latimer**  
Principal  
UP International College  
New Zealand

## PROGRAMME DELIVERY

Partnered with Victoria University of Wellington, UP Education has been delivering foundation programmes for over 8 years. All teachers are trained and registered with the Teaching Council of New Zealand.

We also place great emphasis on student welfare and ensure a high standard of care. Our dedicated staff are experienced in looking after the educational, practical and social needs of students.



## ENDORSEMENT FROM NEW ZEALAND GOVERNMENT

The Victoria University of Wellington Foundation Studies Programme, delivered by the UP International College New Zealand, is proudly a Licensee of the FernMark Licence Programme, a country of origin trademark programme endorsed and recognised by the New Zealand Government.



It's a symbol people recognise and trust—a trademark that embodies our values of kaitiaki, integrity, ingenuity—the values of our New Zealand Story.

# TEACHING AND LEARNING AT UP INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE NEW ZEALAND

At UP International College New Zealand, we are focused on equipping students with the knowledge and skills required to be successful at university and beyond.

## TEACHING STAFF

Our teaching staff bring a wide range of relevant skills and experiences. Some come from high school teaching, others from university settings, and many from professional industries. A significant number have also taught overseas in international colleges. Around 25% of our teachers hold PhDs, with many of these earned at New Zealand universities.

This diversity of backgrounds provides our students with access to a wealth of knowledge, expertise, and real-world perspectives—helping them to succeed both academically and in life.



## FLEXIBLE LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Many of our courses include Flexible Learning Activities (FLAs)—interactive videos, quizzes, readings, vocabulary practice, and more—that students complete outside of class to build their English, subject knowledge, and skills. Teachers use data from these activities to better understand class and individual progress.

Because FLAs mirror what students encounter in their first year of university, they also develop key skills such as time management, self-motivation, academic independence, and effective study habits.

## LIVE LESSONS

Live Lessons take many forms—lectures, tutorials, labs, and workshops—giving students different ways to build knowledge and skills. Attendance is recorded at every session, as active participation is a key factor in student success. We have clear requirements and follow-up processes to ensure students attend and make the most of these opportunities.

## ASSESSMENT

Our courses are assessed through internal assessments (usually 50%) and final examinations (usually 50%). The internal assessments are made up of different modes of assessments, including tests, presentations, group work, and FLAs. This means that students get many opportunities, spread out over their programme, to show their learning.

### EXAMPLE ASSESSMENT SCHEDULE: ALGEBRA

ASSESSMENT	WHEN	MODE	WEIGHTING
Test: Fundamental Algebra	Week 3	Supervised test	30%
Test: Functions and Polynomials	Week 5	Supervised test	30%
Test: Exponents and Trigonometry	Week 7	Supervised test	30%
Flexible Learning Activities	Throughout	Unsupervised	10%

### EXAMPLE ASSESSMENT SCHEDULE: MEDIA

ASSESSMENT	WHEN	MODE	WEIGHTING
Test: Film Narrative and Language	Week 3	Supervised test	25%
Short Film Project	Week 4-7	Group project	50%
Critical Reflection	Week 8	Supervised writing	25%

# FURTHER STUDY AND LIFE

## STUDY AND LIFE SKILLS

Through our orientation programme, mentor programme, and a range of activities, we help students develop the broader study and life skills they need to succeed at university and beyond. These include:

- Time Management – balancing study, deadlines, and personal commitments
- Resource Management – using tools, materials, and support effectively
- Learning Management – taking ownership of learning and study strategies
- Self-Management – building resilience, motivation, and independence
- Collaboration – working effectively with others in academic and professional settings

## STUDY PLANNING

With support from our college-based teams and our close partnerships with universities, students receive guidance in planning their future studies and career pathways. This includes advice on:

- Undergraduate degrees
- Undergraduate majors
- Employment opportunities
- Further study options



"It was an amazing experience to study with people from all over the world and get to know about them. Teachers were all very supportive and I had no hesitation to ask any kinds of questions in and out of the classes. They taught me not only the class contexts but also it is okay to ask help when I need them."

**Haruka Yanagidani**

from Japan

Victoria University of Wellington  
Foundation Studies Programme Graduate



## DEGREE OPTIONS

### TRANSITION TO UNIVERSITY

Victoria University of Wellington offers a wide range of undergraduate courses for you to choose from for your packaged offer. Our Education Counsellor is available to offer their expertise if you want to learn more about your chosen undergraduate degree. Once you successfully complete your Foundation course, you will be awarded with a completion certificate from the University.

#### Programme

- Bachelor of Architectural Studies (BAS)
- Bachelor of Arts (BA)
- Bachelor of Biomedical Science (BBmedSc)
- Bachelor of Building Science (BBSc)
- Bachelor of Commerce (BCom)
- Bachelor of Communication (BC)
- Bachelor of Construction (BConst)
- Bachelor of Design Innovation (BDI)
- Bachelor of Education (Teaching) Early Childhood
- Bachelor of Engineering with Honours (BE(Hons))
- Bachelor of Environment and Society (BEnvSoc)
- Bachelor of Global Studies (BGS)
- Bachelor of Health (BHealth)
- Bachelor of Laws (LLB)
- Bachelor of Midwifery (BMid)
- Bachelor of Music (BMus)
- Bachelor of Politics (BPols)
- Bachelor of Popular Music (BPM)
- Bachelor of Psychology (BPsyc)
- Bachelor of Science (BSc)

Please note that the conditional Bachelor offer for Victoria University of Wellington is a preliminary offer only. Students must complete their full application upon starting the Foundation course. The availability of the selected program and intakes may change, and final decisions are at the discretion of the universities.



Over  
**95%**  
of students receive  
an offer from  
Victoria University  
of Wellington

# FOUNDATION STUDIES

## WHO IS THIS PROGRAMME FOR?

- New Zealand secondary school Year 12 (NCEA Level 2), or
- Grade 11/12 (Asia), or
- Second/third year of senior high school, or equivalent.

For students who do not meet the requirements above, there is a Foundation Connect option.

## TO ENTER AN UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMME:

- Successfully complete 120 credits in the Foundation Studies Programme
- Achieve a minimum of 55% in English I, 60% in English IIA, 65% in English IIB and 50% in two other core subjects, equal to 60 credits
- Achieve 50% or higher in six elective subjects equal to 60 credits (300 marks out of a possible 600)

## SUBJECTS

- Core
  - English (I, IIA, IIB - 40 credits)
  - Introductory Mathematics (10 credits)
  - New Zealand Culture and Society (10 credits)
- Elective (10 Credits each)
  - Mathematics: Algebra, Statistics
  - Sciences: Biology, Physics
  - Arts: Media Studies, Design & Society, History
  - Commerce: Tourism, Microeconomics, Macroeconomics, Marketing, Management Studies

Availability of subjects might change each term.

## ASSESSMENTS

We prepare students for assessments that will get them into the Victoria University of Wellington's degree programmes. Our assessments are benchmarked against international standards and are a stepping stone to achievement.

All assessments are internally assessed. The final mark for subjects is made up of a combination of tests, assignments, projects and presentations.

Getting a foundation in English, media and design studies will aid me in my university studies. I have always been interested in film and the arts from a young age. I chose to study in Wellington because it has always been a top travel destination for me, seeing photos of the scenery and hearing about the work culture has always enticed me."

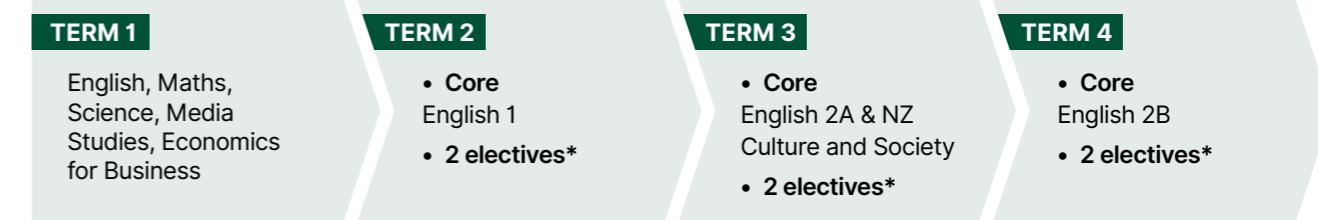
**Istavrino Manual Yu Jun Jian**  
from Singapore  
Victoria University of Wellington  
Foundation Studies Programme Graduate

SCAN ME   
Watch Istavrino's testimonial video



## COURSE STRUCTURE

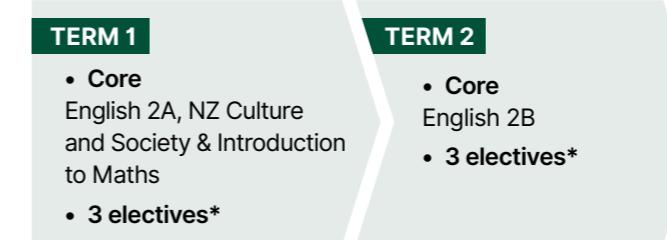
### STANDARD (4 TERMS)



### FAST-TRACK (3 TERMS)



### ACCELERATED (2 TERMS)



\*Choose electives from those offered in Mathematics, Sciences, Arts or Commerce.

## SAMPLE COURSE PROGRESSION

Programme option	English requirement	2026												2027											
		J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Accelerated (6 months)	IELTS 6.0 (min. 5.0 in all bands) or equivalent																								
Fast-track (8-9 months)	IELTS 5.5 (min. 5.0 in all bands) or equivalent																								
Standard (12 months)	IELTS 5.0 (min. 4.5 in all bands) or equivalent																								

# DEGREE PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS

To gain entry to a Victoria University of Wellington undergraduate degree from the foundation studies programme, you will need to:

- Achieve a minimum of 55% in English I, 60% in English IIA, 65% in English IIB and 50% in two other core subjects.
- Achieve 50% or better in a minimum of six optional academic subjects.

Programmes	Trimester intake February = Trimester 1 July = Trimester 2 November = Trimester 3	Minimum Duration (Years)	Notes
<b>Bachelor of Architectural Studies</b>	February	3	Entry into second year is competitive and is based on first-year results.
<b>Bachelor of Arts</b>	February, July	3	
<b>Bachelor of Biomedical Science</b>	February, July	3	
<b>Bachelor of Building Science</b>	February, July	3	Entry into second year is based on passing all the required core courses in the first year. There is a longer duration to complete your programme if you commence in July.
<b>Bachelor of Commerce</b>	February, July, November	3	Limited courses offered in the November intake may lead to longer duration to complete programme.
<b>Bachelor of Communication</b>	February, July	3	
<b>Bachelor of Construction</b>	February	3	
<b>Bachelor of Design Innovation</b>	February, July	3	
<b>Bachelor of Education (Teaching) Early Childhood</b>	February	3	Supply overseas police certificate; a selection meeting, and a numeracy and literacy assessment are required.
<b>Bachelor of Engineering (Honours)</b>	February, July	4	
<b>Bachelor of Environment and Society</b>	February	3	
<b>Bachelor of Global Studies</b>	February, July	3	
<b>Bachelor of Health</b>	February, July	3	
<b>Bachelor of Laws</b>	February	4	Entry into the second year is competitive and based on first-year results; entry to the parallel third- and fourth-year Honours programme is by invitation after high achievement in second year.
<b>Bachelor of Midwifery</b>	February	4	Entry requires meeting the standards of the Midwifery Council of New Zealand. Applicants must provide proof of immunisation, hold a first-aid certificate and driver's licence.
<b>Bachelor of Music</b>	February, July	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Classical Performance major: Audition required, meeting a performance standard equivalent to Grade 8 in ABRSM, TCL, NZMEB, or AMEB exams.</li> <li>• Jazz Performance major: Audition required, demonstrating a level of technical and musical competence in a jazz style on your instrument or voice.</li> </ul>
<b>Bachelor of Politics</b>	February	3	
<b>Bachelor of Popular Music</b>	February	3	Audition recording or composition may be requested, depending on major. Songwriting major will be offered from 2026.
<b>Bachelor of Psychology</b>	February, July	3	
<b>Bachelor of Science</b>	February, July	3	There is a longer duration to complete your programme if you commence in July for specific majors—check with International Office.

Please note that the conditional Bachelor offer for Victoria University of Wellington is a preliminary offer only. Students must complete their full application upon starting the Foundation course. The availability of the selected program and intakes may change, and final decisions are at the discretion of the universities.



# FOUNDATION CONNECT

Delivered by UP Education, Foundation Connect provides a comprehensive, English-rich curriculum to prepare students for the Foundation Studies Programme (Level 3). This six-month extension programme allows students to develop their English skills, confidence and apply these English skills in an academic setting. Foundation Connect includes engagement in Mathematics and academic courses to give students a broader foundation for future learning.

The programme is marketed as Foundation Connect and the programme name is registered as 'Intensive General English Course' at NZQA.

## COURSE STRUCTURE

There are two core subjects (English and English for Mathematics) and two academic subjects per term. These academic subjects will be used to prepare students for their future academic studies and contextualise their academic English usage.

- English: 11 hours per week
- English for Mathematics: 3 hours per week and 1 Flexible Learning Activity (FLA)
- Academic subjects: 3 live lessons and 1 FLA; students do four academic subjects with two in the first term and two in the second term

The academic subjects available are usually: Business; Science; Humanities (Geography) and Media.

Each term:

- English: 9 live lessons per week
- Maths: 3 live lessons and 1 FLA per week
- 2 Academic subjects: 3 live lessons and 1 FLA

## ASSESSMENTS

Foundation Connect will have a combination of internal assessments and exams with a minimum of 40% of the assessment weightings being exams.



Learn more about Foundation Connect



It helped prepare me both academically and personally in many ways. I learned referencing techniques that aren't commonly taught in high school and how to write academic essays at a university level. I gained an understanding of how the

education system in New Zealand works, how to collaborate with people from different backgrounds, and how to successfully complete group projects online.

**Nehara Leisambi Pandey**  
from India  
Victoria University of Wellington Foundation Studies Programme Graduate

## PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS

To accept your conditional offer for the Victoria University of Wellington Foundation Studies Programme, you must meet the minimum progression requirement of a 50% pass in all subjects.

### Some important notes:

In exceptional cases, students with outstanding work ethic and academic results may be considered for a fast-track program, subject to academic staff discretion.

If a student needs to re-sit subjects to meet progression grades, an individual study plan will be provided by the academic team. A student failing a Foundation Connect course more than twice cannot re-enroll.

## VISAS AND OFFERS

Foundation Connect students apply for their visa through UP International College New Zealand. Upon completion, they receive a firm offer for the Standard-length Foundation Studies Programme from the Victoria University of Wellington, with a visa issued by the university.

Students can also opt for a pathway visa covering all 3 courses:

- Foundation Connect
- The Victoria University of Wellington Foundation Studies Programme
- Victoria University of Wellington degree

# PATHWAYS LINK PROGRAMME

This programme aims to equip you with essential foundational knowledge, skills, and the confidence necessary to excel in your future Foundation studies. The accelerated one-year programme will offer successful students entry into the Victoria University of Wellington Foundation Studies programmes. PLP is an innovative educational initiative designed specifically for international students aged 14-17 who have recently finished their junior high school education and aspire to study abroad.



Learn more about Pathways Link

Pathways Link is registered as 'Pathways Link - L1A and L1B (Level 1) (Training Scheme)' at NZQA.

## SAMPLE COURSE PROGRESSION



Intake/Month	2026	2027	2028
Feb Intake	PATHWAYS LINK	FOUNDATION STUDIES	>DEGREE
Jul Intake	PATHWAYS LINK	FOUNDATION STUDIES	>DEGREE

## COURSE STRUCTURE

The Pathways Link Programme (PLP) supports younger international students with a nurturing environment and a broad curriculum to build English skills, prepare for Foundation Studies, and explore future degree options.

### Example subjects studied are:

- PLP1A: English, Maths, Biology, Economics, Global Studies
- PLP1B: English, Maths, Physics, Business, Media Studies

There will be regular opportunities for individual and team games and sports, using different locations across Auckland. Students should bring active wear and shoes.

## A PACKAGE OFFER AND VISA

A package offer will be issued to students, which includes the Pathways Link Programme, the Victoria University of Wellington Foundation Studies Programme, and the Victoria University of Wellington Bachelor's degree. Students may then apply for a pathway student visa, subject to Immigration New Zealand requirements.



# LIFE ON CAMPUS

Take a virtual campus tour



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Over 1,000 students from more than 50 countries study at UP Education. Our main New Zealand campus is in central Auckland, with a second campus in Wellington delivering the Victoria University of Wellington Foundation Studies Programme. The University itself has three campuses and several sites across Wellington city, offering a vibrant and welcoming environment.

Students can join clubs, mentor, volunteer, or take part in free programmes such as the Kitea Impact Programme, where you can volunteer with local and international charity organisations, attend diplomatic dialogues, and participate in global leadership seminars, among many other opportunities. You will develop skills, make friends, and prepare for your future careers. We encourage everyone to embrace life in New Zealand or Australia—learning not just in the classroom, but through new experiences and connections.

## KELBURN CAMPUS

At the Kelburn campus, you can access student support services, administrative offices, Te Pātaka Kōrero—The Library, and four faculties.



## PIPITEA CAMPUS

Located in the heart of Wellington's legal, government, and business district, the Pipitea campus hosts the Wellington School of Business and Government and the Faculty of Law.



## TE ARO CAMPUS

Located adjacent to bustling Cuba Street, the Te Aro campus hosts the Architecture and Design Innovation programmes.



## FACILITIES AND SERVICES

The University has a wide range of facilities and student services to help you succeed academically, to support you during your studies, and to help you have the best student experience. These include:

- Four libraries
- Academic and student learning support
- Recreation centre and gym
- Student health and counselling services
- Disability services
- Financial advice
- Religious support
- Student employment services
- Food and retail outlets
- Art gallery

## STUDENT SERVICES

The wellbeing of students is our top priority as it is the key to both academic and personal success.

## THE TUTOR SYSTEM

We encourage you to develop good study habits and offer personalised support to help you reach your goals. Each student is assigned a tutor who provides individual guidance, meeting regularly to check progress, celebrate success, and address challenges.



## SETTLING INTO STUDY

Offering a level of care that sets us apart, UP Education provides help and support to all international students from the moment you contact us, to arriving in New Zealand and throughout your studies. We're here to help ensure life in New Zealand is happy and rewarding.

## TIMETABLE

Student timetables are designed to help you become accustomed to university study, so you are expected to attend all lessons and work on study and revision between classes. Each lesson is 55 minutes in length.

## SAMPLE TIMETABLE

SDS = Self-directed study

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9:00-10:10	English	Statistics	SDS	SDS	Media
10:10-11:20	SDS	SDS	Media	English	Statistics
11:20-12:30	Media	English	Statistics	English	SDS
12:30-13:40	Statistics	TSS	SDS	SDS	English
13:40-14:50	SDS	Media	SDS	Statistics	SDS
14:50-16:00	English	SDS	Media	SDS	Media
16:00-17:10	SDS	Statistics	SDS	TSS	SDS

Please note that the exact time of each class might be subject to change.

## LIVING COSTS IN WELLINGTON

Cost of living*	Homestay estimated weekly cost in NZD
Accommodation	\$440
Electricity, water and gas	Included in homestay fee
Mobile phone plan	\$15
Public transport	\$0—\$50
Food	Included in full-board homestay fee
Free time activities	\$50—\$150

\*Please note that this table is only applicable to Homestay prices. Costs can vary depending on lifestyle, accommodation, and hobbies and interests. However, for a reasonable standard of living, the estimated living cost per year is \$20,000 to \$27,000 NZD.

## ADDITIONAL COSTS

- Flights to and from New Zealand
- Tuition fees
- Clothes



"I won the Study Award at graduation and it was very appreciated that Victoria University of Wellington and UP Education gave me this opportunity to get NZ\$5000 to go towards university fees. During my studies at UP Education, I have been a student mentor which is a place to help

other students who have any problems. I have shown courage, conscientiousness, endurance, resilience, and a commitment to excellence in the application."

**Pei-Chen Wu**  
from Taiwan  
Victoria University of Wellington  
Scholarship Winner



# STUDENT SUPPORT

## GETTING STARTED

### PRE-ARRIVAL WORKSHOP

This online workshop is designed to help you feel confident and well-prepared before you begin your study journey in New Zealand. It covers everything from what to pack to the different accommodation options available, an overview of your academic journey, and the support services you can access throughout your studies.



### AIRPORT PICKUP SERVICE

To help you arrive in New Zealand smoothly, we offer a convenient airport pickup service. A dedicated driver will meet you at Wellington Airport and take you to your accommodation. This service is especially recommended for first-time travellers to New Zealand.

### MEDICAL AND TRAVEL INSURANCE

The Education (Pastoral Care of Tertiary and International Learners) Code of Practice 2021 requires all international students studying in New Zealand to have appropriate health and travel insurance during their period of study.

Allianz Partners is our preferred insurance provider. Enrolled international students will be charged Allianz's Studentsafe Inbound University insurance premium when enrolment is completed. You must pay this fee unless the University approves the use of an alternative insurance provider.

You must have approved insurance for the duration of your study and covering the duration of your visa or until you depart New Zealand, whichever comes first.

Note: Your Victoria University of Wellington student ID number is also your insurance policy number. You are not automatically covered for pre-existing medical conditions. However, any new medical condition that develops after your studies have commenced at UP will be considered a new condition and will be covered.

### SETTLING IN

#### ORIENTATION

Orientation Week is the perfect introduction to your studies at our college. It's a great opportunity to meet fellow students, connect with the College Principal and staff, and get familiar with your new learning environment. You'll also finalise your subject selection during orientation.



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Download  
Pre-Arrival  
Information Sheet

## ACCOMMODATION

### HOMESTAY

Available to all students, homestay is a great way of experiencing New Zealand culture and practising your English every day. You will have your own room with a bed, desk, lamp and wifi, and all meals are included for the full-board homestay option. Laundry is also included.

- All homestays are thoroughly checked—the family is interviewed and the home inspected.
- All homestay providers sign a contract agreeing to rules and standards and undergo a vetting procedure by New Zealand Police.
- All students under 18 are visited in their accommodation quarterly by authorised accommodation assessors.
- All payments to the homestay provider are made via the UP Education Student Fees Trust.
- A 24-hour call centre number is provided in cases of emergency.

### OTHER ACCOMMODATION OPTIONS

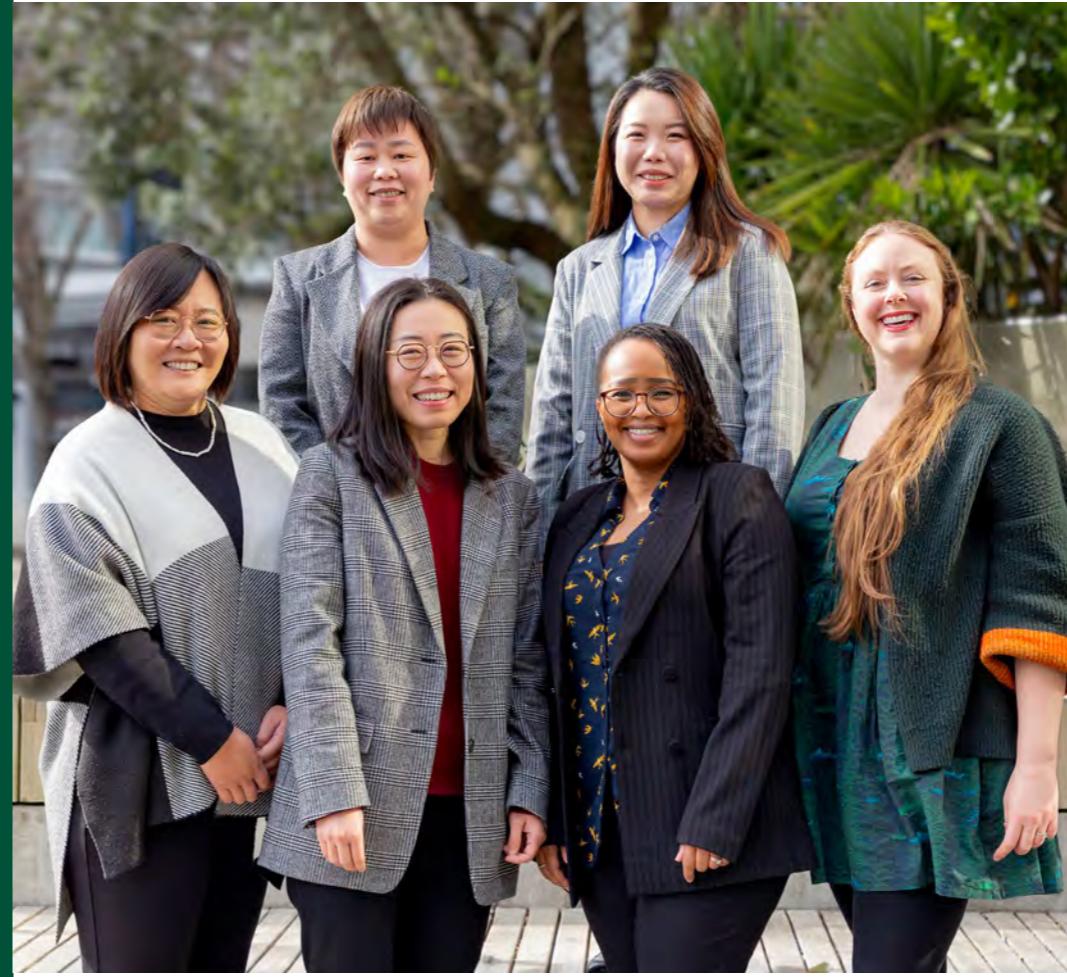
You could also choose to:

- Live with your parents
- Live with a designated caregiver (relative or family friend)
- Live in Victoria University of Wellington's halls of residence and apartments. Please note that this only applies to students who are over 18 years old. You must book independently through the website stating that you are a Foundation Studies Programme student.

**i** [www.wgtn.ac.nz/accommodation](http://www.wgtn.ac.nz/accommodation)

You should also do so as early as possible as capacity is limited.

If you are under 18 at the start of your course, your accommodation arrangements must be approved by UP International College New Zealand.



## ACADEMIC AND WELLBEING SUPPORT

### VISA CHECKING AND MONITORING

Visa status is regularly checked and monitored to ensure students remain compliant with immigration requirements. Students will receive timely reminders when their visas are close to expiring, and assistance is provided in communicating with Immigration New Zealand if any errors are identified on the visa.

### ATTENDANCE AND ACADEMIC PROGRESS MONITORING

We regularly track each student's attendance and academic progress to ensure you are meeting programme requirements. If we notice any signs of concern—such as low attendance or declining grades—we will reach out early to offer support and help you get back on track.

### ONE-ON-ONE SUPPORT FOR PRACTICAL OR PERSONAL CHALLENGES

You can speak with our Learner Success Coordinators via email if you're facing any difficulties, such as time management, adapting to a new study system, personal issues, or balancing work and study. No matter the issue, we're here to provide practical advice or connect you with the right resources.

### MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING SUPPORT

Your mental health matters. Adjusting to a new environment can be challenging. Our team offers regular wellbeing check-ins to ensure you're coping well both mentally and emotionally.

You can also access a wide network of external support services through our Learner Success Team.

Help is always available, and you are encouraged to reach out.

## SCHOLARSHIPS

### INTERNATIONAL EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship is available for the Foundation programme and is awarded to students who demonstrate exceptional academic performance in their previous studies.

If you are interested in applying, please enquire with your agent or Regional Representative about the next steps.

### PROGRESSION SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship, exclusive to UP Foundation Studies students, is awarded towards first-year tuition fees at Victoria University of Wellington. Eligibility is assessed upon program completion. Scan the QR code for more information on eligibility.

### FOUNDATION CONNECT PROGRESSION SCHOLARSHIP

Student who successfully progress from Foundation Connect programme to Standard Foundation programme will be awarded a scholarship if they achieve top results. The scholarship will be awarded depending on their final grades.

### PATHWAYS LINK SCHOLARSHIP

The scholarship is available for the students who apply and are accepted into the Pathways Link Programme. Upon successful progression to Foundation Studies Programme, there will be scholarships available.

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Learn more about scholarships

# ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

## ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

International Qualifications	Qualification	Standard (12 months)	Fast-track (8-9 months)	Accelerated (6 months)
Global Assessment Certificate - GAC	Level 2	2.6	2.6	3
International Baccalaureate - IB <sup>^</sup>	First year of IB diploma	Grade 4 in 2 relevant subjects	Grade 4 in 3 relevant subjects	Grade 4 in 4 relevant subjects
Cambridge International Examinations O level/IGCSE/GCSE <sup>^</sup> (forecast / prelim can also be accepted)		1 C grades and 3 D grades in four CIE official subjects.	2C and 2Ds in four CIE official subjects.	1B and 3Cs in four CIE official subjects
Cambridge International Examinations A level <sup>^</sup>		40 UCAS points. Local language in AS Level is not accepted.	40 UCAS points. Local language in AS Level is not accepted.	48 UCAS points. Local language in AS Level is not accepted.
Country specific qualifications (Scan the QR code to find out more other countries)	Qualification	Standard (12 months)	Fast-track (8-9 months)	Accelerated (6 months)
New Zealand <sup>^</sup>	NCEA	30 credits at NCEA from mixed of level 2 or above. With no fewer than 6 credits in each of subjects (combined credits from related subjects)	30 credits at NCEA from mixed of level 2 or above. With no fewer than 6 credits in each of subjects (combined credits from related subjects)	34 credits at NCEA from mixed of level 2 or above. With no fewer than 6 credits in each of subjects (combined credits from related subjects)
China	Senior High School and Vocational - Year 2	60%	65%	70%
	Note that GPA will be based on the average of all subjects for the study period of high school			
	Senior High School and Vocational - Year 3		60%	65%
	High school certificate Year 2	55% or Rank 8	60% or rank 7	65% or Rank 7.0
South Korea	Korean High school graduation equivalency exam (GED)			60%
Country specific qualifications (Scan the QR code to find out more other countries)	Qualification	Foundation Connect (6 months)	Pathways Link Programme (12 months)	
New Zealand	NCEA	35 credits at level 1 with no fewer than 10 credits in each of 3 subjects including maths	Completion of Year 10 with a good school report, including satisfactory attendance (90%) and teacher comments. This assessment will be conducted by the Head of College	
China	Senior Highschool	Senior secondary year 1: 70%	-	
	Middle School	-	Completion of Middle School with Year 3 at 70%, or an average of 70% across all three years	
South Korea	High School	High school certificate year 1: 70%	-	
	Middle School	-	Completion of Middle School	
	GEE	-	70% in the Middle School GEE	

<sup>^</sup>Teachers' comments and attendance rate are considered to determine entry. An interview is applicable if studied in New Zealand. This information is to be used as a guide only to determine entrance. UP Education reserves the right to change the requirements at any time without prior notice.

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS

Programme option	IELTS (academic)
Accelerated	6.0 and no band less than 5.0
Fast-track	5.5 and no band less than 5.0
Standard	5.0 and no band less than 4.5
Foundation Connect	4.5 and no band less than 4.0
Pathways Link	4.5 and no band less than 4.0

Admissions reserve the right to request the student to re-sit a particular section if the subscore is deemed too low.



Learn more about entry requirements

# UP ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEST (UPELT)

The UP English Language Test (UPELT) has been developed to provide prospective students with an opportunity to quickly obtain an English language score prior to enrolment into a programme of their choice.

The test is facilitated online by highly qualified and experienced staff. It consists of computer-based, handwritten, and examiner-led tasks. Test description and instructions for test preparation are made available to all prospective candidates in advance, and a practice test is provided. Measures are taken to ensure the integrity of the test.

The UPELT is facilitated every Wednesday afternoon (12pm NZ Standard Time). Bookings can be arranged through the UP Admissions Team, admissions@up.education.



## UP ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEST SUMMARY

Part	Tasks	Time (Online)
Reading	3 short passages (approx. 300-400 words each) from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a textbook chapter or report</li> <li>• an academic article or essay</li> <li>• an academic abstract</li> </ul>	45 minutes
Listening	2 tracks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a conversation in an academic setting</li> <li>• a part of a lecture</li> </ul>	20 minutes (Plus time to record answers)
Writing	1 essay, 220-250 words <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• problem and solution</li> <li>• cause and effect</li> <li>• advantage and disadvantages</li> <li>• compare and contrast</li> </ul>	40 minutes (Plus time to upload the essay)
Speaking	2 tasks led by an examiner: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a conversation on familiar topics</li> <li>• a discussion of a topical issue</li> </ul>	10 minutes (Plus time for preparation)

One day before the test, candidates will be sent:

- Information about the UPELT and technical requirements
- The test security procedure
- Instructions on how to set up the room and desk for the test
- Demonstration of how to use two devices with cameras during the test
- Login instructions
- A practice test
- A Microsoft Teams link for joining the test

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Learn more about UPELT

# PROGRAMME OPTIONS AND FEES



Learn more  
about programme  
options and fees

	Foundation Studies			Foundation Connect*	Pathways Link*
Programme type	Accelerated	Fast-track	Standard	Progression to Foundation	Progression to Foundation
Duration	6 months (2 terms)	8-9 months (3 terms)	12 months (4 terms)	6 months (2 terms)	12 months (4 terms)
Tuition fees	NZ\$21,525	NZ\$26,775	NZ\$34,440	NZ\$18,533	NZ\$35,438
Resource fee	NZ\$1,100	NZ\$1,100	NZ\$1,100	NZ\$1,400	NZ\$2,300
Enrolment fee	NZ\$550	NZ\$550	NZ\$550	NZ\$550	NZ\$550
Exam fee	NZ\$500	NZ\$500	NZ\$500	NZ\$500	-
Intake dates (incl. Orientation)	27 Jan, 20 Apr, 13 Jul, 28 Sep	27 Jan, 20 Apr, 13 Jul, 28 Sep	27 Jan, 20 Apr, 13 Jul, 28 Sep	27 Jan, 20 Apr, 13 Jul, 28 Sep	27 Jan, 13 July

\*Students starting with Foundation Connect / Pathways Link Programme will pay the Resource, Enrolment, and Exam fees once and will not be charged again upon progression to Foundation.

## ACCOMMODATION FEES

Homestay NZD	
Homestay Placement fee (one-off)*	\$350
Homestay Replacement fee (one-off)**	\$350
Standard Homestay - Full board***	\$440/week
Designated caregiver (DCG) - Under 18 only NZD	
DCG Assessment fee	\$350
DCG Reassessment fee (change DCG)+	\$250
Under 18 accommodation guarantee and service fees^ NZD	
Per year	\$1,000
Per term	\$250
Additional fees NZD	
Urgent Booking fee – Full board (one off) applicable for bookings received within 7 days of arrival	\$440
Short-stay (less than 1 week) / Emergency homestay - Full board	\$130/night
Homestay Retainer^^	\$250/week

Airport pick-up NZD	
Airport transfer (Pick-up/drop-off) (one way per person)	\$150
Airport transfer - no show	\$80
Transfer of additional passenger	\$80
Transfer of additional luggage/oversized luggage	\$30/item
Airport check-in assistant and transfer for Under 18 learners	\$50

## INSURANCE

Studentsafe Inbound NZD	
Medical and travel insurance (12 months) #	\$925
Medical and travel insurance (6 months) #	\$471

Please note that Accommodation Placement Fee, Designated Caregiver Assessment Fee or Airport pick up fee are non-refundable once the arrangement is confirmed.

\*If UP Education coordinates student accommodation.

\*\*Fee charged when student requests a change of homestay for reasons deemed unacceptable, or if student frequently changes homestays (fee charged at discretion of the Accommodation team).

\*\*\*Full-board – 3 meals a day are provided

+Fee charged when change to a new Designated Caregiver

^Allows for homestays for students under 18 to be checked once per term to ensure the Education Code of Practice requirements are being met.

^^Fee applies when students go away for more than seven days (6 nights) and want to keep the Homestay room.

#International students must have comprehensive medical and travel insurance while in New Zealand. Enrolled international students will be charged Allianz's Studentsafe Inbound University insurance premium when enrolment is completed. The final cost of insurance will depend on the length of requested insurance cover period.



## HOW TO APPLY

STEP  
1

### APPLICATION

Visit Enroller, our online enrolment portal, where you will be able to set up your account and manage the entire enrolment process from application through to arrival.

[enroller.app/up-education-university-partnerships/enrolment-application](https://enroller.app/up-education-university-partnerships/enrolment-application)

STEP  
2

### ACCEPTANCE

- Open the unconditional offer that you received from [admissions@up.education](mailto:admissions@up.education).
- Read through the electronic Confirmation of Enrolment (eCoE) Enrolment Acceptance Form and Summary of Terms Implied by Statute Sign and initial at the requested sessions on the offer and send them back to [admissions@up.education](mailto:admissions@up.education).

STEP  
3

### PAYMENT

- Open browser on your computer/laptop/mobile/tablet and go to [upic.flywire.com](https://upic.flywire.com).
- Change the language if you need by clicking the globe icon on the up-left side of the page.
- Choose the country that you are paying from and type in the NZD amount shown in the invoice on your unconditional offer.
- Follow the on-screen instructions to complete the payment.

STEP  
4

### VISA APPLICATION

Apply for your student visa online with Immigration New Zealand at  
[www.immigration.govt.nz/process-to-apply/applying-for-a-visa/](https://www.immigration.govt.nz/process-to-apply/applying-for-a-visa/)

STEP  
5

### ENROLMENT

- Once your payment is received, you will receive an email from [admissions@up.education](mailto:admissions@up.education) with your receipt.
- Please keep an eye in your email inbox, including spam and trash box, for emails from [adminservices@up.education](mailto:adminservices@up.education) as they include important information such as orientation schedules, subject selection links and deadlines. Read the emails carefully and reply to their emails with requested information to complete your enrolment process.

If you have any questions about the application process, contact the Admission Team at [admissions@up.education](mailto:admissions@up.education)

# KEY CONTACT DETAILS

**Student visa, insurance, and pre-arrival enquiries**  
adminservices@up.education

**Accommodation enquiries**  
accommodation@up.education

**Applications, admissions, and UP English test bookings**  
admissions@up.education

**Support for enrolled students (academic or personal)**  
learnsuccess@up.education

**Partnership and collaboration enquiries**  
international@up.education

**Postal address**  
UP International College New Zealand  
Wellington Station 1/2 Bunny Street  
Pipitea  
Wellington 6011

**Phone numbers**  
College contact number: +64 9 558 3536  
24-hour emergency contact: +64 (0) 21 597 135

# USEFUL QR CODES

## Our websites

UP International College New Zealand (English):  
wgtn.up.education



UP International College New Zealand (Chinese):  
wgtn.up.education/cn



# FIND US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

**Instagram**  
@up.education



**RED (小红书)**  
小红书号: UP教育集团



**Facebook**  
@upeducationnz



**WeChat**  
@UP教育集团



**YouTube**  
@UPEducationNZ



# MEET OUR STUDENT AMBASSADORS

## Real advice, real stories, from real students.

Our ambassadors are current Victoria University of Wellington Foundation students or graduates now studying at the Victoria University of Wellington.

**Nehara**  
BSc Biological Sciences

**Nehara**  
Kia ora from Wellington! My name is Nehara Pandey, and I'm a student at Victoria University of Wellington. I major in Marine Biology and Environmental Studies and mostly study on the Kelburn campus. Feel free to contact me for a chat about anything. I'm here to help in any way I can :)

Hello, Nehara. Hope you're doing well! I'd like to ask you few things about studying at UPIC/VUW. Was making friends difficult for you?

Not at all! At UPIC, most students are international, so it's easy to connect with others going through the same experience. And since we progress to the university together, adapting to uni life feels much easier.

**CHAT WITH US**  
Ask anything about life at UPICNZ — courses, accommodation, study tips, or making friends.

## WATCH STUDENT LIFE

Follow their everyday journey through videos, photos, and stories.

UP Education partners with leading universities in New Zealand and Australia to provide learning pathways to international students, equipping them with the knowledge, skills and confidence to excel at English language universities.

Every effort was made to present accurate information in this publication at the time of printing. (20 October 2025)

UP Education reserves the right to change information without notice where this is considered necessary or desirable.

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Scan the QR code to talk to them!



VICTORIA UNIVERSITY OF  
**WELLINGTON**  
TE HERENGĀ WAKA  
NEW ZEALAND



## International College