



VICTORIA UNIVERSITY OF  
**WELLINGTON**  
TE HERENGA WAKA

**TE KAHUPAPA**

**MĀORI**

**STUDENTS'**

**GUIDE**

**2026**

# Nau mai ki tō kāinga rua—Welcome to your second home



"Te Herenga Waka is such a hub for people from different backgrounds who hold different outlooks. Although Māori students have differences, we come together as a collective to celebrate our Māoritanga and support one another."

**Nathan Hania** (Ngāti Raukawa ki te Tonga,  
Ngāti Tūwharetoa, Te Atiawa)  
Student, Bachelor of Arts

**Make Wellington  
your campus in 2026**



📍 Te Herenga Waka marae



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Te Herenga Waka—Victoria University of Wellington has an overall five-stars-plus rating in the QS Stars university rating system, one of only 23 universities worldwide to do so. The University gained a total score of 966 out of a possible 1,000 points across eight audited categories, including maximum points for the employability and inclusiveness categories. Maximum points were awarded for 25 of the more than 30 indicators, including overall student satisfaction; further study; graduate employment rate; international diversity, support, and collaborations; academic reputation; satisfaction with teaching; campus facilities; accreditations; art and cultural investment and facilities; disabled access; scholarships and bursaries; low-income outreach; and student cohort diversity.



**THE PASTORAL CARE CODE:**  
The Government's Pastoral Care Code sets out the University's roles and responsibilities in ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all our students. This includes fostering learning environments that are safe and designed to support positive learning experiences of diverse learner groups. During your time here, you have access to a range of services and support to promote your overall wellbeing, development, and educational achievement. Read more about the code and our obligations.

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

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:** Te Herenga Waka—Victoria University of Wellington uses all reasonable skill and care to ensure the information contained here was accurate at the time it was prepared. However, matters covered by this publication are subject to change due to a continuous process of review, and to unanticipated circumstances. The University therefore reserves the right to make any changes without notice. So far as the law permits, the University accepts no responsibility for any loss suffered by any person due to reliance (either whole or in part) on the information contained in this publication, whether direct or indirect, and whether foreseeable or not.

# NAU MAI, HAERE MAI

Tēnei te reo rāhiri o te whānau o Te Herenga Waka ki a koutou katoa. Nau mai, haere mai, herea mai tō waka ki Te Tumu Herenga Waka hai tāwharau i a koe.

As deputy vice-chancellor (Māori and Kaitiakitanga), I am pleased to welcome you to Te Herenga Waka—Victoria University of Wellington. I personally want to encourage you to explore and experience all the opportunities that we have to offer, and to become part of our vast Te Herenga Waka marae whānau.

Figuratively, our wharenui, Te Tumu Herenga Waka, is the 'mooring post' from which students and staff can be connected to the Māori world during their time at the University, and it provides a platform to enhance teaching, learning, research, and engagement. Last year, we opened our new building, Ngā Mokopuna, and we aspire to do the international Living Building Challenge™ by being a totally sustainable building. Ngā Mokopuna's whakataukī is 'Mō te āpopo for a better future', and we invite you here to help shape what that will look like for our people and our future mokopuna. There are many other opportunities for you to connect with other Māori at Te Herenga Waka and give life to the University's strategic plan, *Te Herenga Waka, he herenga tāngata, he herenga kaupapa*, which emphasises the importance of connection, collaboration, and community.

At Te Herenga Waka, a sense of whānau and community is important to us. This publication will introduce you to some of the dedicated staff and support structures here to help you achieve your goals and aspirations. Your arrival at this university marks a new chapter in the story of your life. The preceding chapters were largely navigated by your parents, teachers, whānau, and others.



But now you are the principal navigator of your journey and you have the power to determine the direction of your own path. While you are here at Te Herenga Waka, you will have the opportunity to acquire new knowledge, develop new skills, and enhance your personal attributes that will equip you for life after university.

I wish you every success in your journey here at Te Herenga Waka. Whakamaui te pae tata kia tīna, whaia te pae tawhiti kia tata!

**Professor Rawinia Higgins (Tūhoe)**  
Tumu Ahurei—Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Māori and Kaitiakitanga)



# YOUR MĀORI FUTURE STUDENT ADVISERS

Our kaitawaka Māori (Māori future student advisers), Te Mapihi Tutua-Nathan and Tayla Petera-Gerrard, are your first points of contact with the University. They can provide advice on:

- ▶ university study
- ▶ academic expectations
- ▶ university support services
- ▶ planning the first year of your degree and courses
- ▶ entrance and admission
- ▶ scholarships.

They can also help you through the application process and connect you with the Māori support network at the University. There are opportunities for Māori students and their whānau to have customised visits around our campuses and to attend information evenings and open days throughout the year. If you are struggling with anything regarding applying to university or understanding how university works, they are the people to talk to.

## CHANCES TO MEET US

### Te Paewai o te Rangi

Te Paewai o te Rangi is a week-long on-campus programme for 20 Māori students in their final year of secondary school who live outside the Wellington region. They get to experience Māori student life at the University and explore the capital city. This programme usually runs in August and invitations to apply will be sent to schools, kura, careers advisers, and future students in June.

### Pōrutu

Pōrutu is our on-campus day programme for Māori secondary school students based in Wellington. It has a key focus on Māori-specific support, scholarships, accommodation, and finance. We hold this programme at different times for different year levels. Your Wellington-based careers adviser, school, or kura will receive notice of this event and can confirm your attendance.

### On the road

Tayla, Te Mapihi, and the Future Students team often travel to visit schools, attend careers days and evenings, attend whānau evenings, and hold regional events. They may be at your school or kura next.

### Make an appointment

You can book a Zoom or phone appointment directly with us by using our Calendly link below. You can also email us to book an in-person appointment with us at our Kelburn campus. The whānau are more than welcome to join you too!

📍 [calendly.com/vuw-course-advice/maori](https://calendly.com/vuw-course-advice/maori)



📍 Ngā Mokopuna



**Te Mapihi Tutua-Nathan**  
(Ngāti Tūwharetoa, Raukawa  
ki Wharepuhunga, Ngāti Awa)  
📞 04 886 5762  
✉ [temapihi.tutuanathan@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:temapihi.tutuanathan@vuw.ac.nz)



**Tayla Petera-Gerrard**  
(Te Rarawa, Ngāpuhi, Ngāti Porou)  
📞 04 887 4386  
✉ [tayla.petera-gerrard@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:tayla.petera-gerrard@vuw.ac.nz)





📍 Te Herenga Waka marae

# TE HERENGA WAKA MARAE

Te Herenga Waka marae is a fully operational pan-iwi, university-based marae where tikanga Māori prevails and Māori values find fullest expression. Our marae is a place of learning where Māori students and staff can immerse themselves within their culture.

The marae has acted as a second home for Māori students—a place to forge connections and friendships.

Marae facilities include two exceptional whare:

- ▶ Te Tumu Herenga Waka—the whare whakairo is a house rich in cultural meaning and is the repository of legends, traditions, and knowledge.
- ▶ The wharekai, Ngā Mokopuna, has now been upgraded and is in the process of meeting Living Building certification.

**i** [wgtn.ac.nz/maori-hub](https://wgtn.ac.nz/maori-hub)

“The marae is the hitching post of our university. You can go out into the world and gather knowledge and live life but know you can always come back home, share your learning, and be Māori.”

Aria Ngarimu (Ngāti Porou, Ngāti Kahungungu ki Wairoa, Rongomaiwāhine, Te Whānau-ā-Apanui)  
Student, Bachelor of Laws and Bachelor of Science






# ngā mokopuna

In 2024, we opened our new building, Ngā Mokopuna, which aspires to complete the international Living Building Challenge by being a totally sustainable building.

Ngā Mokopuna's whakataukī is 'Mō te āpopo for a better future', and we invite you here to help shape what that will look like for our people and our future mokopuna.


Ngā Mokopuna is a building that tangibly demonstrates our commitment to manaakitanga and kaitiakitanga, to acting with more care towards people and the natural world. It is a platform to enhance teaching, learning, research, and engagement.

 [wgtn.ac.nz/living-pa](https://wgtn.ac.nz/living-pa)



"Ngā Mokopuna is a space where I can celebrate and participate in Māori culture. The building incorporates tikanga Māori, which helps me feel grounded. Being connected to my culture is crucial while studying. The whānau atmosphere makes it easy to ask for help. Ngā Mokopuna is a safe and inclusive space where I can be myself. Lunchtime at the wharekai is one of my favourite times. The kai is delicious, affordable, and nourishing."

Renata Bidois (Ngāti Porou, Ngāti Maniapoto,  
Te Aitanga-a-Māhaki)  
Student, Bachelor of Science

 Te Herenga Waka marae ātea



# ADMISSION

To be accepted automatically into any degree at Te Herenga Waka—Victoria University of Wellington, you will need to:

- ▶ achieve University Entrance
- ▶ fulfill any other degree-specific requirements
- ▶ have your identity and residency details verified by the university, if required
- ▶ apply by the deadline.

For future students, Pūaha is where you go to apply for admission, search for scholarships, and explore accommodation options. You'll be able to start your application for admission at any time and return to it once you're ready to submit.

## FIND OUT MORE

[wgtn.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/steps](https://www.wgtn.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/steps)

## UNIVERSITY ENTRANCE

University Entrance through the National Certificate of Educational Achievement (NCEA) is one of the most common admission types for entry into the University. It has the following requirements.

### NCEA LEVEL 3 CERTIFICATE

14 credits  
at Level 3 in  
an approved  
subject

14 credits  
at Level 3 in  
an approved  
subject

14 credits  
at Level 3 in  
an approved  
subject

**LITERACY**  
10\* credits at Level 2  
or above (5 in reading,  
5 in writing)

**NUMERACY**  
10\* credits at Level 1  
or above

\*From specified lists of standards. Go to [nzqa.govt.nz](https://nzqa.govt.nz) for a list of approved subjects.

## DIPLOMA IN MĀORITANGA / TOHU MĀORITANGA

Tohu Māoritanga is designed to provide a foundation in Māori culture and society, Māori customs and practice, Māori language, and academic and study skills in a culturally responsive learning environment. Most courses are taught at the on-campus marae, Te Herenga Waka. It has a duration of one year (full-time study), with 120 points needed to complete the diploma.

Upon successful completion, you will gain entrance into our university and may be able to cross-credit up to 60 points to a Bachelor of Arts degree or 40 points to any other Bachelor's degree. You will be required to submit documents, including a personal statement and a CV, and participate in an interview to determine your suitability.

Achieving University Entrance is one of the quickest ways to gain entrance into our university. However, if University Entrance does not work out, Tohu Māoritanga is an alternative option.

✉ [maori-studies@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:maori-studies@vuw.ac.nz)

[wgtn.ac.nz/tohu-maoritanga](https://www.wgtn.ac.nz/tohu-maoritanga)

### Alternative admission options

University Entrance and pre-degree level programmes such as Tohu Māoritanga are not the only admission options available. Check out our website for all our alternative admission options.

[wgtn.ac.nz/admission](https://www.wgtn.ac.nz/admission)



"It's a great opportunity for tauira who are wanting to have a go and see what uni might be like for them. You'll learn about tikanga, waiata, and karakia that you can take away and put into your kete for your own use."

**Parekura Tutua-Nathan (Ngāti Tūwharetoa, Ngāti Awa, Raukawa ki Wharepuhunga)**  
School administrator, Te Kawa a Māui and former Tohu Māoritanga student

# MANAGING YOUR MONEY

The cost of studying at university encompasses more than just your course fees. It includes a range of other things you need to think about such as kai, transport, and accommodation. A good basic budget can help you feel less stressed and more in control when bills are due. Use the following guide to create your own budget.

My income

(weekly/monthly)

Student Allowance

Student Loan for living costs

Part-time work

Benefit

Family support

Scholarship payments

Other

Total

Things that make me happy

(weekly/monthly)

Coffee / soft drinks

Takeaways / snacks

Movies

Clubs / gigs

Trips home

Café meals / restaurants

Other

Total

My essentials

(weekly/monthly)

Rent

Power

Internet

Mobile phone

Groceries

Toiletries

Transport

Bank fees / insurance

Other

Total

Make sure you set something aside for what really makes you happy.

Having this in your budget may help you avoid overspending or making impulsive purchases when you’re under pressure.



HELP WITH FINANCIAL PLANNING

Te Ratonga Penapena Pūtea—Student Finance can provide practical advice on budgeting, coping financially, and hall payment plans, and help with some questions related to Student Loan and Student Allowance applications. We can also provide emergency financial assistance through the Pūtea Āwhina—Hardship Fund.

📞

0800 04 04 04

✉

student-hardship@vuw.ac.nz

📍

wgtn.ac.nz/financial-advice

STUDYLINK

You can apply for a Student Allowance or a Student Loan for course-related and living costs through StudyLink. This service also offers help with applying for a Community Services Card and other financial aid, such as subsidies for childcare. The Student Allowance, Student Loan, and threshold for the Community Services Card are adjusted annually on 1 April and usually increase slightly. For more information, contact your Māori future student advisers (see page 4) or go to the StudyLink website.

📞

0800 889 900

📍

studylink.govt.nz

PŪTEA ĀWHINA—HARDSHIP FUND

This is an emergency fund that helps students facing financial difficulties. Eligible students are expected to claim their full StudyLink entitlements before applying for the hardship grant. Grants are available for a range of issues, including:

▶

flating problems

▶

high course-related costs

▶

high transport costs

▶

medical, dental, and optical costs.

Contact a student finance adviser (see left) to make an appointment.

Hardship Fund Equity Grant

Grants are available to encourage students who are facing financial hardship to continue in their studies at the University.

📍

wgtn.ac.nz/hardship-fund

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# SCHOLARSHIPS

## SCHOOL-LEAVER SCHOLARSHIPS

Our school-leaver scholarships have been developed to support and encourage students who embody the key attributes that the University values: excellence, leadership, diversity, sporting achievement, sustainability, and commitment to community. Offering much more than just financial assistance, our scholarships are designed to create communities of students who share the same ambitions, goals, backgrounds, and values.

All our scholarship recipients will have access to a dedicated development toolkit that provides links to career development, events, and learning opportunities. Whatever your study and life goals, our range of scholarships offers something for everyone.

### Kahurangi Māori Student Scholarship

The Kahurangi Māori Student Scholarship recognises Māori students who have achieved Merit or above in NCEA Level 2 (or equivalent study for Year 12) and demonstrate strength of engagement in te ao Māori, involvement in their community, leadership responsibilities, and performance in the arts, sports, or other cultural contexts. There are three levels of award: \$5,000, \$10,000, and \$30,000.

Our \$30,000 award (over three years of study) includes accommodation costs for the first year in a University hall of residence, and a fees contribution and stipend in the second and third years. For students who are not in a hall, a \$5,000 fees contribution can be taken in the first and second years, and a \$5,000 stipend in the third year.

For any of the Kahurangi scholarships, students will be able to choose for their award to go towards fees or halls. First-year taura Māori who want to live, learn, and maintain their own tikanga with other taura Māori can choose to stay on the Marino floor in Joan Stevens Hall. All taura Māori will be connected with Āwhina—Māori Student Success.



### Kaumātua endorsement

When applying for school-leaver scholarships, you will be asked for a kaumātua endorsement. This is to verify your whakapapa—confirm that you whakapapa to your iwi (see below). It's good to start thinking about this early. You will need to supply their email address so the University can contact them directly. If your kaumātua does not have access to email, get in touch with our scholarships office or your Māori future student advisers (see page 4).

## REGISTER WITH YOUR IWI

Registering with your iwi is important, not just for connecting with them and being in the know but also because many Māori scholarship applications will require you to verify your whakapapa and check to see if you are registered with your iwi. Most iwi will have websites, so make sure you check out all your iwi websites and follow the instructions provided on how to register with them. Keep a note of the registration number they provide you with for future reference.

## TAIHONOA

Through our Taihonoa programme, the University has partnered with iwi, Māori organisations, and trusts to increase the grants and scholarship offerings for taura Māori studying at Te Herenga Waka. This means that if you receive a scholarship through a Taihonoa partner, we can offer to match it or provide additional funding towards it.

[wgtn.ac.nz/taihonoa](http://wgtn.ac.nz/taihonoa)

## MĀORI EDUCATION TRUST

The Māori Education Trust has hundreds of scholarships for secondary school and tertiary Māori students. The criteria for each scholarship vary depending on the kaupapa of the scholarship. Because the Māori Education Trust is a partner of Te Herenga Waka, we are able to negotiate matched funding with the Māori Education Trust and with Taihonoa partners to provide awards from all three groups, depending on the interested funding partners. Check out the Māori Education Trust's website for more information.

[maorieducation.org.nz](http://maorieducation.org.nz)

## OTHER SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

The University has a range of scholarships and awards for students at all levels of study with varying criteria based on subject or degree programme, financial need, and/or academic merit. Explore hundreds of opportunities on our scholarships database.

[wgtn.ac.nz/scholarships](http://wgtn.ac.nz/scholarships)



**“Scholarships gave both myself and my whānau the confidence that I would be financially capable to enjoy the start of my journey at Te Herenga Waka and flourish during the time I was here.”**

**Sterling Maxwell**  
(Ngāti Porou, Ngāpuhi)  
Student, conjoint Bachelor of Commerce and Bachelor of Arts



# ACCOMMODATION

Te Herenga Waka—Victoria University of Wellington offers 13 halls of residence, with two accommodation options for students wanting to live in a Māori environment.

## MARINO FLOOR

Marino is a dedicated floor within Joan Stevens Hall for any Māori students who want to live with other Māori students from around the motu (country). This provides a space where students are welcome to kōrero in te reo Māori and live with other taura Māori from different backgrounds, whether you have grown up in te ao Māori or are still learning more about your Māoritanga. Taura Māori are also welcome to practise and maintain their own tikanga, and share and embrace their own mātauranga from their iwi/hapū/region.

Marino floor has a direct connection to the Āwhina—Māori Student Success team. There are two kaiakiaki—Māori student engagement advisers from the Āwhina team who have direct and regular contact with Marino floor students and run regular activities to support them, whether that be with study, finances, social support, or kai. Students will also have a Māori residential adviser who is a senior student living on site and will most likely be the first point of contact to provide any help.

Joan Stevens Hall is located at 132 The Terrace, close to the Wellington central business district and the University's Kelburn and Pipitea campuses.

All bedrooms are fully furnished, heated, and have internet access. Each floor of the building has a large common room with a kitchenette, study area, television, DVD player, and couches. Laundry facilities are also available on site.

### How to apply

To apply, you will need to include your interest in the Marino floor in your personal statement that is attached to your accommodation application. You will also need to select Joan Stevens Hall as your preferred hall.

If you receive a Kahurangi Scholarship and plan to stay in a hall, you will automatically be placed on Marino floor. However, you will most likely submit an accommodation application before finding out the outcome of scholarship applications. Therefore, it would be safer to mention your interest in Marino floor in your accommodation application, just in case you do not receive the scholarship.


Read more about the Kahurangi Scholarship on page 14.


## KELBURN FLATS—WHARE HĪNAU: WHĀNAU HOUSING

The 10 houses in the Kelburn Flats—Whare Hīnau community contain a mixture of single and twin-share rooms, along with a lounge, kitchen, bathroom, and laundry. The bedrooms all come with a bed, desk, and storage. Internet and power are included, and the communal areas are also furnished. This is an option for Māori students in their second year and above of university only.

Whānau Housing is great for those who want to connect more with their taha Māori (Māori side) and for those who want to live in accommodation where tikanga Māori and te reo Māori (Māori cultural practices and language) are normalised.

To learn more about Joan Stevens Hall, Whānau Housing, and any of our other halls of residence, check out Te Kopanga—University Accommodation Wellington's website.

 [wgtn.ac.nz/accommodation](https://wgtn.ac.nz/accommodation)

 Ngā Mokopuna (top),  
and Whare Hīnau: Whānau Housing





MARINO		
CATERED		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Catering is provided seven days a week.</li><li>Twenty-one rooms are offered to first-year students aged 17–20.</li><li>Marino is a dedicated community within a catered hall so students can connect and support one another</li><li>Māori students may also be eligible for a Kahurangi Scholarship to go towards their accommodation cost. Ask the Scholarships team or your Māori future student advisers for more information.</li></ul>		
WALKING DISTANCE TO CAMPUSES		
Kelburn campus	10 minutes	
Pipitea campus	10 minutes	
Te Aro campus	15 minutes	
FEES		
	Per academic year (39 weeks)*	Per week*
Single room	\$17,784	\$456

KELBURN FLATS—WHARE HĪNAU: WHĀNAU HOUSING		
INDEPENDENT LIVING		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Residents will need to prepare their own meals.</li><li>One four-bedroom house is dedicated to postgraduate students.</li><li>Resident groupings for each whānau house are determined by a university committee. The committee considers age, gender, and other factors in deciding on suitable groupings.</li><li>Rooms are offered to students in their second year or above.</li></ul>		
WALKING DISTANCE TO CAMPUSES		
Kelburn campus	10 minutes	
Pipitea campus	30 minutes	
Te Aro campus	20 minutes	
FEES		
	Per academic year (38 weeks)*	Per week*
Single room	\$9,538	\$251
Twin-share room	\$7,638	\$201

\*First-year halls have an extra Tau Mai orientation week before the start of Trimester 1. These figures are based on 2025 costs and are subject to change. Check [wgtn.ac.nz/accommodation](http://wgtn.ac.nz/accommodation) for up-to-date figures. They are also subject to change if a student is awarded a Kahurangi Scholarship.



“The whakawhānaungatanga on Marino floor meant that we also wanted to carry through the relationships we formed to Whānau Housing, being able to maintain a Māori environment while still being located close to university and each other. Now, living together in Whānau Housing, we truly live as a whānau. We cook together, have movie nights, and are still able to help each other with our assignments.”

Brody Panoho (Ngāpuhi, Ngāti Tahu-Ngāti Whaoa, Ngāi Tūhoe)  
Student, Bachelor of Arts



# MĀORI STUDENT SUPPORT

## ĀWHINA—MĀORI STUDENT SUCCESS

The Āwhina team is one key part of the on-campus whānau for taura Māori studying at Te Herenga Waka, and our goal is to help taura Māori make the most of their time at university. To do this, we strive to provide holistic care that encourages cultural confidence, academic success, and a positive university experience for taura Māori.

Through a shared experience, you can apply your individual skills and expand your horizons by learning with meaningful support. We achieve this by offering services that include:

- ▶ study wānanga
- ▶ one-to-one hui with Āwhina kaiakiaki
- ▶ connecting with other taura Māori
- ▶ general get-togethers and academic workshops
- ▶ advocacy
- ▶ referrals to other services.

Follow our social media channels to get an idea of what the Māori student experience is really like.

✉ [awhina@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:awhina@vuw.ac.nz)

📘 [AwhinaVUW](#)

📷 [awhina\\_vuw](#)

## DISABILITY SERVICES

Te Amaru—Disability Services works in partnership with students and staff to ensure students can fully participate and achieve their aspirations, and to strengthen the University's culture of inclusion. At our university, disability includes the Deaf and and those with injuries or physical, mental, sensory, specific learning, or health impairments. The team provides individual coaching, liaison with academic staff, adaptive technology, inclusive digital learning tools, sign-language interpreting, lecture information capture, assessment support, mobility transport, and quiet places to rest and study. Students can meet with a disability and inclusion adviser on campus or online.

Each campus has an accessible route, which is indicated on the campus maps.

✉ [disability@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:disability@vuw.ac.nz)

📍 [wgtn.ac.nz/disability](http://wgtn.ac.nz/disability)

📍 [wgtn.ac.nz/maps](http://wgtn.ac.nz/maps)

## HEALTH AND COUNSELLING

Our doctors and nurses at Mauri Ora—Student Health and Counselling provide a full range of health services, including care if you have had an accident, if you are unwell, or if you are managing an ongoing health condition. Appointments for contraception, sexual health checks, and preventative healthcare such as immunisations are also available. Same-day appointments are available for urgent cases. Consultations are free if you register with us.

Counsellors are available on all campuses to confidentially discuss personal and academic issues that may be affecting your general sense of wellbeing, learning, or relationships. Duty counsellors are available each day for urgent cases. Personal development and wellbeing programmes are also available.

📍 [wgtn.ac.nz/mauri-ora](http://wgtn.ac.nz/mauri-ora)

## KAIĀRAHI AKO MĀORI—MĀORI LEARNING ADVISER

Te Herenga Waka—Victoria University of Wellington expects good academic performance. If you want support with your study and writing skills, connect with the Māori learning adviser on campus or online. One-to-one appointments with the kaiārahi ako Māori and group workshops can help with skills such as note-taking, essay writing, academic writing, referencing, and more.

📞 04 463 599

✉ [student-learning@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:student-learning@vuw.ac.nz)

📍 [wgtn.ac.nz/student-learning](http://wgtn.ac.nz/student-learning)

## LIBRARY SUPPORT

The Library has a kairauhī who specialises in providing study support with a kaupapa Māori focus.

The kairauhī Māori is a contact person for Māori students in all disciplines across the University and provides tailored subject librarian services to students of Te Kawa a Māui—School of Māori Studies.

📍 [wgtn.ac.nz/library-maori](http://wgtn.ac.nz/library-maori)

## RECREATION

It is important to balance study and other stimulating activities throughout your journey. University Recreation Wellington provides sport, recreation, wellbeing, fitness, and club services for the University community.

📍 [wgtn.ac.nz/recreation](http://wgtn.ac.nz/recreation)





# MĀORI STUDENT EXPERIENCE

We want you to get the best out of your time at the University and these Māori student-led associations can assist you. Many Māori students utilise these associations as their main social networks on campus. Get involved and get amongst it!

## NGĀI TAUIRA—MĀORI STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Ngāi Tauira represents the interests of all Māori students studying at Te Herenga Waka. Ngāi Tauira provides a number of services to students, including advocacy and support, scholarships and funding, representation on boards, national representation, social networking, and pastoral support. It also often supports students socially and has sports teams that play weekly during trimesters, hosts social events, and provides safe spaces for tauira Māori to hang out.

✉ [ngaitauira@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:ngaitauira@vuw.ac.nz)

📘 Ngāi Tauira Pānui

📷 [ngaitauira.vuw](https://www.instagram.com/ngaitauira.vuw)

## NGĀ TAURA UMANGA—MĀORI COMMERCE STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Ngā Taura Umanga plays a key role in developing strong relationships among Māori students at the Wellington School of Business and Government. Ngā Taura Umanga organises social and networking events, participates in national hui, and has access to information that will encourage and assist you along your path as a Māori in the business world.

✉ [ngatauraumanga@gmail.com](mailto:ngatauraumanga@gmail.com)

📘 [ngatauraumangaNTU](https://www.facebook.com/ngatauraumangaNTU)



## NGĀ RANGAHAUTIRA—MĀORI LAW STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Ngā Rangahautira is passionate about developing skilled Māori law students with a commitment to kaupapa Māori. Ngā Rangahautira organises social, academic, cultural, and political activities for Māori students throughout their study, providing opportunities to engage with the community, network with practising Māori lawyers, and develop as a Māori law professional.

✉ [ngarangahautira1986@gmail.com](mailto:ngarangahautira1986@gmail.com)

📘 [NgaRangahautira](https://www.facebook.com/NgaRangahautira)

## TE HŌHAIETI O TE REO MĀORI—MĀORI LANGUAGE SOCIETY

Te Hōhaieti o Te Reo Māori is a group that seeks to provide space at the University for students to utilise and strengthen their reo Māori. Te Hōhaieti does this through organising and facilitating activities and events students can join, regardless of their te reo Māori proficiency.

✉ [reomaorisociety@gmail.com](mailto:reomaorisociety@gmail.com)

📘 [reomaorisociety](https://www.facebook.com/reomaorisociety)

📷 [reomaorisociety](https://www.instagram.com/reomaorisociety)

# MĀORI STUDENT SPACES ON CAMPUS

In addition to Te Herenga Waka marae, there are other study spaces throughout our campuses that are dedicated for Māori students. These provide safe environments for Māori to study, practise tikanga, hang out, and kōrero Māori. You are more than welcome to check out these spaces during Orientation week and while you are studying.

## KELBURN CAMPUS

- ▶ Āwhina Hub: MOKO204, Ngā Mokopuna building
- ▶ Engineering students' whānau room: CO145a, Level 1, Cotton building
- ▶ Health students' whānau room (Oranga room): EA104, Level 1, Easterfield building
- ▶ Humanities and Social Sciences students' whānau room: MOKO209—Engagement space, Ngā Mokopuna
- ▶ Ngāi Tauira—Māori Students' Association common room: MOKO203, Ngā Mokopuna
- ▶ Psychology students' whānau room: EA421, Level 4, Easterfield building
- ▶ Science students' whānau room: TTR107, Level 1, Te Toki a Rata building
- ▶ Te Taratara ā Kae (flexible study space with the Māori and Indigenous library collection): Level 2, Library, Rankine Brown building

## PIPITEA CAMPUS

- ▶ Commerce students' whānau room: RHMZ19, Mezzanine Floor, Rutherford House
- ▶ Law students' whānau room: GB234, Level 2, Government Buildings

## TE ARO CAMPUS

- ▶ Architecture, Building Science, and Design Innovation students' whānau room: VS128, Vivian Street



*"Being surrounded by other Māori tauira who were also in similar positions to me made me feel at ease and also gave me a sense of belonging."*

**Parekura Tutua-Nathan (Ngāti Tūwharetoa, Ngāti Awa, Raukawa ki Wharepuhunga)**  
School administrator, Te Kawa a Māui and former Tohu Māoritanga student



# PREPARE FOR UNIVERSITY


We want you to be as prepared as you can be for university, and for your transition into studying with us to be as smooth as possible. You can use this checklist as a guide for keeping on top of all the admin that comes with applying for university.

## UNIVERSITY PREPARATION CHECKLIST

- ☐ Choose a programme: Explore our subjects and programmes to figure out what you would like to study.
- ☐ Apply for school-leaver scholarships (by 1 September).
- ☐ Apply early for StudyLink.
- ☐ Check your admission type (most commonly University Entrance). Also check you meet the entry requirements and prerequisites of your chosen programme.
- ☐ Apply for accommodation/halls of residence.
- ☐ Apply for admission through Pūaha, our online platform (you will need to create a Pūaha account at [wgn.ac.nz/puaha](http://wgn.ac.nz/puaha)).
- ☐ Plan your courses: You may have Te Kahupapa—Future Students advisers visit your school to help you with this process. If not, or if you have decided to change the courses you planned, contact a Māori future student adviser or set up a course-advice appointment to help plan your programme.
- ☐ Apply to enrol in your chosen courses (through Pūaha).
- ☐ Confirm your enrolment and accept your enrolment agreement.

- ☐ Submit any required documentation.
- ☐ Collect your student ID card.
- ☐ Go to New Students' Orientation in the week before your first trimester begins.

You can also access the online checklist here:

 [wgn.ac.nz/study](http://wgn.ac.nz/study)

## GET PREPARED AND IN THE MINDSET

At a certain point, going to university starts to feel very real. Get prepared for what you're about to experience. Most students are moving away from home for the first time and are gaining a lot more independence. Talk to whānau and friends who have been to university about their experience.

Get in touch with Māori future student advisers with any questions or worries. Follow Āwhina and Ngāi Taurira on social media (see pages 20 and 22) to get an idea of what current students get up to and what you have to look forward to. Most of all, get excited!



📍 Māori graduation





VICTORIA UNIVERSITY OF  
**WELLINGTON**  
TE HERENGA WAKA

**TE KAHUPAPA**

# **MĀORI STUDENTS' GUIDE**

**2026**