

Te Ara Whakamua Fund- The Path Forward

Bursary Regulations

Focus

Financial support for Māori students

Level of Study

Undergraduate and Postgraduate

Purpose

The Te Ara Whakamua Fund provides financial support to Māori students undertaking placements, internships, professional wānanga, or student hui that contribute to their learning, career development, and cultural growth.

The purpose of the fund is to reduce financial barriers that may prevent Māori students from fully engaging in opportunities that build capability, strengthen professional networks, and enhance future employment prospects.

Value and Tenure

The value of the bursary is up to \$500; the tenure is one semester.

Typical Number on Offer

The number of bursaries varies depending on the available funds.

Eligibility

Applicants should be:

- of Māori descent
- have completed or be completing a minimum of 15 credits at Massey University
- be currently enrolled in a minimum 15 credit course at the time of application
- undertaking an approved placement, internship, professional wānanga, or hui that is directly related to their field of study or professional development.

Applicants must demonstrate the financial assistance required to enable participation in the opportunity.

Selection Criteria

Selection will be based on:

- the alignment of the opportunity with the applicant's study or professional development
- the potential benefit to the applicant's personal, professional, and cultural growth
- the strength of the connection to Māori advancement and community contribution
- financial need and the availability of funds.

Selection Committee

The bursary will be awarded by a panel consisting of staff from Te Rau Tauawhi including the Kaiwhakahaere Matua, Māori Support Centre Manager.

Conditions of the Bursary

The Te Ara Whakamua Fund may be granted to assist with costs directly related to the approved activity, including but not limited to:

- Travel (airfares, petrol, bus fares, etc.)
- Accommodation
- Kai and daily living costs during the placement, internship, or hui
- Registration or participation fees
- Equipment or resources essential to participation

The Fund is intended to support Māori students rather than salaried Massey University employees.

Staff who are full-time or in fixed-term employment at 0.5 FTE or above are not eligible. Students who are casually employed or in short-term student roles remain eligible.

Payment will be made in one instalment.

Recipients may be required to provide receipts or confirmation of expenditure if requested.

Applications may be submitted at any time during the year but must be received at least two weeks prior to the commencement of the placement, internship, or hui.

The panel's decision shall be final, and no correspondence will be entered into.

Recipients may be asked to provide a short reflection or feedback statement after completing their placement, internship, or hui.

Recipients are encouraged to acknowledge the Te Ara Whakamua Fund and Massey University Māori Student Success Team in any public reports, presentations, or social media posts relating to their funded activity.

Should the recipient withdraw from study or the approved activity, any unspent funds may be required to be returned.