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New Zealand Agent Toolkit

For Recruitment Partners

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Why New Zealand

Top 3%
All 8 NZ universities in global top 3% (QS 2026)

Up to 3 yrs
Post-Study Work Visa for Level 7+ graduates

85,500+
International students Jan–Aug 2025 (+14% YoY)

#3
Global Peace Index 2025

New Zealand has re-established itself as one of the fastest-growing international education destinations. All eight New Zealand universities rank inside the global top 3% (QS World University Rankings 2026), and the government's International Education Going for Growth strategy targets 105,000 international enrolments by 2027 and 119,000 by 2034, up from 83,400 in 2024.

Post-study work rights are a major draw. Graduates with a Level 7 (bachelor's) qualification or higher can access the Post-Study Work Visa for up to three years with any employer, in any role. From late 2026, Immigration New Zealand introduced a Short-Term Graduate Work Visa, granting graduates of shorter or lower-level qualifications up to six months of open work rights. Post-Study Work Visa eligibility was also extended to Level 7 graduate diplomas paired with a bachelor's degree.

Tuition and living costs are typically lower than in the UK, US, Canada, or Australia. Students can work part-time during study (up to 25 hours per week) and full-time during breaks. New Zealand ranks 3rd in the 2025 Global Peace Index.

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Pathway Student Visa update (20 July 2026)

The Pathway Student Visa allows up to three consecutive courses on one visa.

From 20 July 2026: high school graduates moving into tertiary study can change major without a new visa (conditions specify level and provider only); PSV covers NZQCF Levels 1-4 pathways including English, foundation, and vocational certificates; first-time PSV holders can take up to 30 weeks of pre-sessional English (up from 20 weeks).

Standard health, character, and genuine student requirements still apply.

Source: https://www.immigration.govt.nz/about-us/news-centre/improvements-to-the-pathway-student-visa/



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Waipapa Taumata Rau
University of Auckland

University of Auckland

New Zealand's highest-ranked university, and the only one in the global top 100.

#67	Top 100	45,000+	Top 50
Graduates outcome within 9 months (2024)	Only NZ university in QS global top 100	Students from around 100 countries	Eight subjects in world's top 50 (QS 2026)

Ranked 67th in the world and number one in New Zealand (QS World University Rankings 2027).

Eight subjects ranked in the world's top 50, including Psychology, Education, Sports-related subjects, Civil and Structural Engineering, and English Language and Literature.

Graduate employment outcomes are a particular strength in the university's own reporting on the 2027 ranking.

Clear first choice for high-achieving international students seeking maximum global brand recognition.

Key programs

Business, Commerce, Engineering, Computer Science and IT, Law, Health Sciences and Medicine, Arts and Social Sciences.



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Waipapa Taumata Rau
University of Auckland

University of Auckland entry requirements

Varies by country. Assessed against NZ University Entrance equivalency. **Undergraduate**: Senior Secondary equivalent to NZ UE. **Postgraduate**: recognised bachelor's degree. Conditional offers are available. Some programmes add portfolio, audition, interview, or minimum GPA.

English language (standard minimum)

- **Undergraduate**: IELTS 6.0 (no band below 5.5) · TOEFL iBT 80 (writing 21) · PTE 50 (no score below 42) · Cambridge C1/C2 169 (no band below 162).
- **Postgraduate**: IELTS 6.5 (no band below 6.0) · TOEFL iBT 90 (writing 21). Some programmes higher (IELTS 7.0+). The results are valid for 2 years. IELTS One Skill Retake accepted within 60 days.
- **Pathway**: English Language Academy (ELA).

Application deadlines (2027)

Programme-specific closing dates. Apply at least 3 months before intended start. Check UoA UG and PG closing dates pages for 2027 dates as published.

Key scholarships

- **International Student Excellence Scholarship**: up to NZD 10,000 (up to 50 awards bi-annually for new UG and PG taught; tuition fee credit Semester 1; approx. October deadline for S1; offer required to apply).
- **India High Achievers Scholarship**: up to NZD 20,000 for new Indian students on UG, PGDip or master's (check 2027 opening date).



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AUT

Auckland University of Technology (AUT)

One of the world's top modern universities, built around real-world, employer-connected learning.

#431	5★	#1 NZ	26,700
Ireland – Graduate Employment Rate (QS)	World – Graduate Employment Rate (QS)	International outlook (THE 2026)	Students from 140+ countries

Ranked first in New Zealand for international outlook by Times Higher Education (2026).

Top-ranked nursing programmes in NZ (Shanghai Ranking) and a top 100 sport science school; hospitality and leisure management in QS top 50.

QS 5-star overall, including Employability, Teaching, Research, and Global Engagement.

Strong option for students prioritising practical, career-ready degrees in New Zealand's largest job market.

Key programs

Business, Computing and IT, Health Sciences, Engineering, Communications, Sport Science, Hospitality and Tourism (250+ programmes).



Auckland University of Technology (AUT) entry requirements

Country-by-country table on AUT site. **Undergraduate**: Senior Secondary equivalent to NZ UE. **Postgraduate**: recognised bachelor's in relevant field. **Pathways** via UP International College or NCUK if below direct entry.

English language (standard minimum)

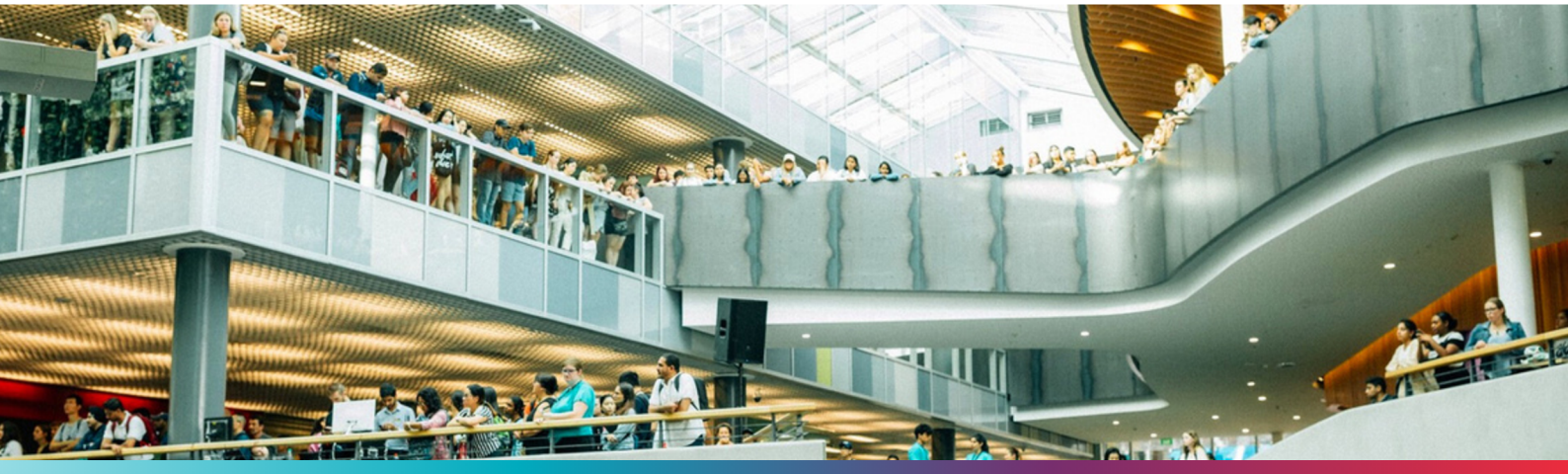
- **Undergraduate**: IELTS 6.0 (no band below 5.5) · TOEFL iBT 80 (24W/20R/20L/20S) · PTE 50 (no score below 42) · Duolingo 95.
- **Postgraduate**: IELTS 6.5 (all bands 6.0+) · TOEFL iBT 90 (same section mins) · PTE 58 (all 50+) · Duolingo 120. Results are valid for 2 years. IELTS OSR within 60 days.
- **Pathway**: AUT Academic English (AUT AE).

Application deadlines (2027)

Rolling applications year-round. No fixed hard deadline. For February 2027, apply by October–November 2026 to allow processing and visa time.

Key scholarships

- **Regional International Scholarships** by world region each intake (South Asia incl. India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal; Southeast Asia; North Asia; Europe) as upfront tuition credit; amount varies by region and programme.
- **Faculty-based scholarships** (Business, Design & Creative Technologies, Health & Environmental Sciences).
- **AUT-NCUK**: Two NZD 10,000 awards by invitation.
- **Nicholas Tarling Memorial PhD**: NZD 10,000 annual Southeast Asia research.



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VICTORIA UNIVERSITY OF WELLINGTON
TE HERENGA WAKA

Victoria University of Wellington

New Zealand's capital city university rated 5 Stars Plus by QS.

#240	5★+	16	8 Dec 2026
QS World Rankings 2026, top 2% globally	QS Stars Plus	Subjects in world's top 1% (QS 2026)	Confirmed closing date for Feb 2027 intake

Capital city location with proximity to government, diplomatic missions, Te Papa, and Wētā Workshop.

Wellington School of Business and Government holds Triple Crown accreditation (AACSB, AMBA, EQUIS).

QS ranking inside the global top 300 every year since 2010.

Strong fit for government, policy, law, creative industries, and research-intensive postgraduate study.

Key programs

Architecture and Design Innovation, Business and Government, Law, Engineering, Health, Humanities and Social Sciences, Science (30+ UG and 140+ PG programmes).



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VICTORIA UNIVERSITY OF WELLINGTON
TE HERENGA WAKA

Victoria University of Wellington entry requirements

Equivalent of NZ University Entrance. **Undergraduate**: secondary equivalent to NZ UE. **Postgraduate**: recognised bachelor's with competitive GPA. Credit transfers are available. **Foundation Studies** guarantees UG entry on successful completion.

English language (standard minimum)

Standard Undergraduate and most Postgraduate:
IELTS 6.0 (no band below 5.5) · TOEFL iBT 80 · PTE and Duolingo also accepted · EAP at VUW pathway. Higher for some programmes (e.g. Education, some Health): IELTS 7.0 overall, no band below 7.0. Check programme pages.

Application deadlines (2027)

Confirmed hard deadline: 8 December 2026 for February 2027 intake. No application fees for international students. Rolling assessment until close. Trimester 2 (July 2027) approx. April 2027 (confirm on site).

Key scholarships

- **Undergraduate International Scholarship**: NZD 15,000 first-year tuition credit; automatic assessment of programme application; offer required.
- **Postgraduate International Scholarship** for Master's and PGDip (value and deadlines on VUW site).
- **International Excellence (school leavers)**: NZD 7,000; applications open 1 June, close 1 September 2026 for 2027 entry.

VUW awards more than NZD 28 million in scholarships annually.



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THE UNIVERSITY OF WAIKATO
Te Whare Wānanga o Waikato

University of Waikato entry requirements

Undergraduate: equivalent to NZ University Entrance (e.g. GCE A-levels minimum 3 passes at grade C or above, or country equivalent). **Postgraduate**: recognised bachelor's in relevant field. University of Waikato College pathways below threshold. Guaranteed Credit Agreements with partner universities in several countries.

English language (standard minimum)

Undergraduate: IELTS 6.0 overall, minimum 5.5 in Writing · TOEFL iBT 90 (writing 21) · PTE and Language Cert accepted · IELTS OSR combinable within 12 months.
Postgraduate: IELTS 6.5 (no band below 6.0 recommended) · TOEFL iBT 90 (writing 21).

Application deadlines (2027)

Rolling assessment. Scholarship monthly review deadlines:

- 30 November for A trimester (February);
- 31 May for B trimester (July);
- 31 August for C trimester (November).

For February 2027, submit enrolment and scholarship applications by 30 November 2026.

Key scholarships

Vice-Chancellor's International Excellence Scholarship:
up to NZD 15,000 toward tuition for high-achieving new international UG or taught PG students. Reviewed monthly via MyWaikato after enrolment application. Deadlines as above.



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THE UNIVERSITY OF WAIKATO
Te Whare Wānanga o Waikato

University of Waikato

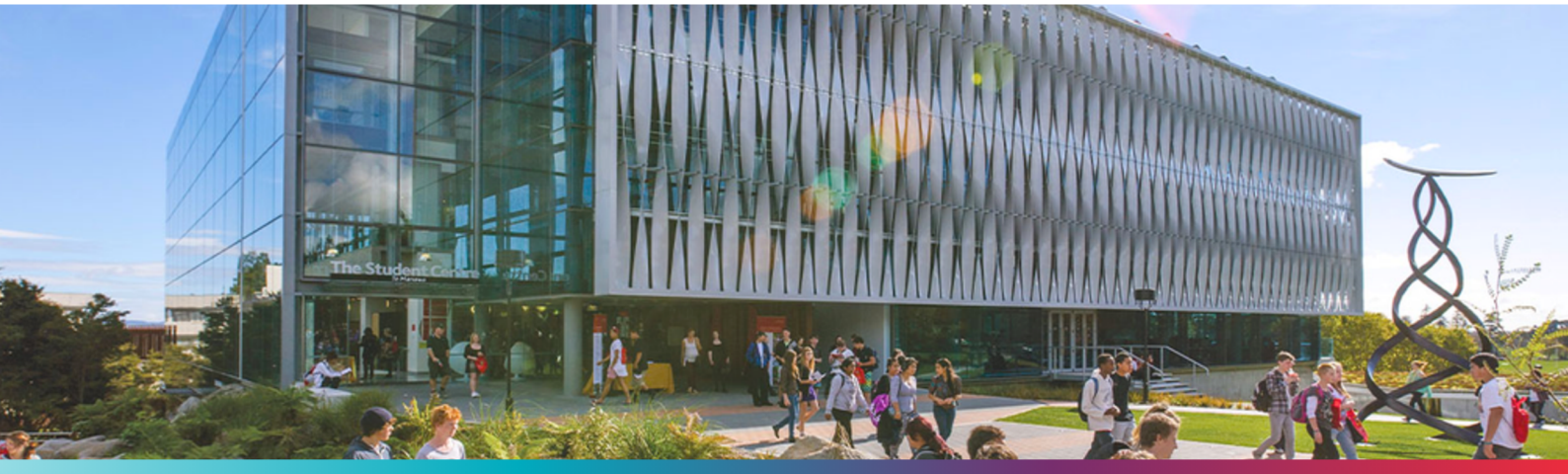
New Zealand's top university for research impact, based in the heart of the export economy.

#281	#1 NZ	Top 1%	Up to $15k
QS World Rankings 2026 (equal)	Research impact (citations per faculty)	Waikato Management School, Triple Crown	Vice-Chancellor's International Excellence

- Hamilton and Tauranga campuses linked to agribusiness, government, and industry employers.
- Waikato Management School Triple Crown accredited (AACSB, AMBA, EQUIS).
- Seoul Accord computing qualifications recognised across Australia, UK, Canada, Japan, and South Korea.
- More than 2,000 industry placements a year.

Key programs

Business and Management, Computing and Mathematical Sciences, Law, Education, Science, Māori and Indigenous Studies.



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TE KUNENGA KI PŪREHUROA | MASSEY UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY OF NEW ZEALAND

Massey University

New Zealand's second-largest university, and home to the country's only veterinary school.

#215	#14	5★+	25,000+
QS World Rankings 2027, highest-ever	Veterinary Science worldwide (QS 2026)	QS Stars, third consecutive time	Students, 4,000+ international

- Highest-ever QS rank #215 (2027), four consecutive years in the global top 250.
- Only School of Veterinary Science in New Zealand, ranked 14th globally and #1 worldwide for employer reputation in that subject.
- MBA Tier One four consecutive years; Executive MBA joint 10th in the world for 2026 (only ranked EMBA in NZ).
- Strong veterinary, agriculture, food science, and flexible or distance postgraduate pathways.

Key programs

Veterinary Science, Agriculture and Environment, Business (MBA and EMBA), Food Science and Technology, Communication and Media Studies, Development Studies, Architecture and Built Environment.



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TE KUNENGA KI PŪREHUROA | MASSEY UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY OF NEW ZEALAND

Massey University entry requirements

Country-specific minimums on Massey site. **Undergraduate**: Senior Secondary equivalent to NZ UE. **Postgraduate**: recognised bachelor's in relevant field. Competitive extra criteria for veterinary science, nursing, and similar. Kaplan Massey College pathway if not meeting direct entry.

English language (standard minimum)

- **Undergraduate**: IELTS Academic 6.0 (no band below 5.5).
- **Postgraduate**: IELTS Academic 6.5 (no band below 6.0).

Academic IELTS only (General Training not accepted). TOEFL iBT accepted (verifiable online). Scores valid for 2 years. IELTS OSR within 90 days if overall met but one band short. EAP 2 at Massey pathway for UG entry.

Application deadlines (2027)

Rolling for most programmes. No fixed hard deadline is published. Competitive programmes (e.g. veterinary, nursing) may have earlier programme-specific dates. For February 2027, aim for October–November 2026.

Key scholarships

- **Toroa International Undergraduate Fee Scholarship:** merit, first 120 credits Undergraduate; NZ B equivalent or higher.
- **Toroa International Postgraduate Fee Scholarship:** merit Postgraduate taught, excluding graduate diplomas and doctoral.
- **International Creative Excellence Scholarship:** College of Creative Arts; portfolio; typically opens ~Feb, closes ~April.

Values advised individually per intake. Check Massey scholarships page.



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Our New Zealand Partners

We partner with a wide range of New Zealand institutions, giving your students pathways from English-language preparation through to postgraduate study at some of the world's top-ranked universities.



Universities

- University of Auckland
- Massey University
- Victoria University of Wellington
- University of Waikato
- Auckland University of Technology

Institutes of Technology and Polytechnics

- Southern Institute of Technology – Te Pūkenga
- Toi Ohomai Institute of Technology
- Ara Institute of Canterbury – Te Pūkenga
- Nelson Marlborough Institute of Technology
- Manukau Institute of Technology and Unitec

Colleges and Private Training Establishments

- Auckland Institute of Studies
- New Zealand Tertiary College
- New Zealand Institute of Skills and Technology
- New Zealand School of Tourism
- New Zealand Management Academies
- Whitecliffe College
- UC International College
- Yoobee College of Creative Innovation
- Le Cordon Bleu New Zealand
- SAE Institute New Zealand

English Language Schools

- Kaplan International English – New Zealand
- Southern Lakes English College

Foundation and Pathway Programmes

- Massey University College
- University of Waikato College
- University of Auckland
- Victoria University of Wellington
- Auckland University of Technology
- University of Canterbury

Schools

- Northcote College
- Rosehill College
- Botany Downs Secondary College
- Green Bay High School
- Liston College
- St Dominic's College
- Wellington College
- Wellington High School
- Burnside High School

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Ready to send students to New Zealand?

upGrad GSP partners with recruitment agencies across India, Vietnam, Nepal, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, the Philippines, and beyond to **connect students with leading New Zealand universities.**

As an upGrad GSP recruitment partner, you get:

- Access to leading New Zealand university partners through a single platform
- On-ground support from the upGrad GSP team at every stage of the student journey
- Visa progression support aligned to New Zealand's Post-Study Work Visa and Short-Term Graduate Work Visa pathways
- Dedicated marketing support
- Commission tracking and transparent payment terms

Becoming a partner is free.

Visit upgradgsp.com to register or contact your upGrad GSP regional representative to get started.

Built for recruitment partners. Trusted by institutions. Powered by results.