

**Waikato Graduate Women Educational Trust**  
**Ngā Raukura Wāhine Mātauranga o Waikato**

**Dr Vivienne Cassie-Cooper Award**

**1. Purpose**

To enable women returning to study (full-time or part-time) after a period in the paid or voluntary workforce or caring for family, to enrol for and complete a Masters degree.

**2. Funding available:** \$5,000 over two years (or part-time equivalent).

**3. Closing Dates:** 30 April and 30 September.

Applications must be sent to the Waikato Graduate Women Awards Committee, P.O. Box 148, Hamilton 3240 or emailed to [gwawards@gmail.com](mailto:gwawards@gmail.com) by the due date.

**4. Eligibility criteria**

Applicants must:

- a. be women students who, at the time of application for the award are at least thirty years of age;
- b. hold a Bachelors degree or equivalent;
- c. have spent time in the workforce/community service since graduation and/or have spent time caring for family/whanau members;
- d. been accepted for a Masters programme at Bethlehem Tertiary Institute, Toi Ohomai Institute of Technology, the University of Waikato, or the Waikato Institute of Technology;
- e. be holders of New Zealand citizenship, or have held permanent residence for at least two years.

**5. Application process**

Applicants must provide:

- a. evidence of completion of a degree or suitable qualification for entry into a Masters programme;
- b. a synopsis of up to 500 words describing the benefits of the proposed study to the individual and the community, future career plans and any special circumstances, and study plan (i.e. 120, 180 or 240 point programme, part/full time study and current schedule for proposed papers);
- c. a brief curriculum vitae outlining work, community and family/whanau responsibilities;
- d. evidence of citizenship, or permanent residence of at least 2 years;
- e. name and contact details of a referee. This should be a person qualified to comment on your experience and your capability to undertake postgraduate study.

**6. Selection**

The Award will be made, taking into consideration the academic merit of the degree proposal and the relevance of the course of study to the community;

The Awards Committee of the Waikato Graduate Women Educational Trust will administer the Award. The Committee's decision is final.

The number of awards will be subject to availability of funds and the standard of applications. If, in the opinion of the Committee, applications are not of an acceptable standard, no award will be made.

**7. Awarding**

Award winners will be informed in June for April applications, and at the end of October for September applications.

**8. Recipient report requirement**

Recipients must provide an annual progress report to the Waikato Graduate Women Educational Trust and a final report upon completion of the Masters degree. The reports may be used by the Trust for publicity.