

Te Kakau a Mui Scholarship

Rationale New Zealand Context

Aotearoa New Zealand has been identified by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) as a high quality, low equity educational system, and that translates to all levels of education including the tertiary (Hedderley 2018). Though international assessments show Aotearoa New Zealand consistently performing above average, the disaggregated data tell a different story. There has been a persistent inequity in the learning outcomes for Māori and Pasifika students.

The project outcomes highlighted that access to financial scholarships significantly influenced student's decisions about whether to consider university attendance at all, as well as which university to select.

We know that Māori, Pacific, first-in-family students, and students from low-socioeconomic circumstances are over-represented in low decile schools. Therefore, there is a greater imperative to ensure most students from lower decile schools, who are academically resilient, have increased encouragement and support to access university education.

Why Te Kakau a Māui scholarships to Decile 1-7 schools?

An equitable education system is one where all students, regardless of their ethnicity, socioeconomic status, can succeed and this reality is yet to materialise in Aotearoa New Zealand. While the country's education system performs well overall, large equity gaps still remain for Māori, Pacific and low socioeconomic status students. Therefore, keeping with UC's Strategic itre

References

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