

## Darren Simpson-Lees Scholarship 2025 Regulations

### BACKGROUND

The Darren Simpson-Lees Scholarship was established in 2023 by Wintec | Te Pūkenga in memory of Darren Simpson Lees - a past Wintec student.

This scholarship has been set up by Wintec | Te Pūkenga and Darren's family to recognise and remember Darren's achievements and passion for Te Taiao (the natural environment).

The purpose of the scholarship is to assist students studying Advanced Horticultural Trades (Level 4) (Amenity, Arboriculture or Landscape Design) at Wintec | Te Pūkenga who may be facing financial constraints to proceed to the second year of study. The scholarship will be awarded based on character and potential contribution to the community, as assessed by the selection panel.

Each year, a maximum of \$4,000 is available to contribute toward tuition fees for a single year of enrolment. The scholarship is tenable for one year. The scholarship may be shared between two recipients. The decision to share the scholarship is entirely at the discretion of the selection panel.

### CONDITIONS

1. The scholarship shall be known as the Darren Simpson-Lees Scholarship and will be open to students studying Advanced Horticultural Trades (Level 4) (Amenity, Arboriculture or Landscape Design) at Wintec | Te Pūkenga.
2. Applicants must apply on the required scholarship application form and all complete applications will be assessed by a selection panel. The panel will include the Group Director from Centre of Applied Science and Primary Industry, and a representative of the Komiti Āpiti Karahipi (Scholarship Committee). Panel members may elect a representative to participate in the selection on their behalf.
3. An online scholarship application form will be available on the Wintec | Te Pūkenga [Darren Simpson-Lees Scholarship](#) webpage.
4. The scholarship will be awarded upon confirmation of enrolment into Advanced Horticultural Trades (Level 4) (Amenity, Arboriculture or Landscape Design), up to a maximum value of \$4,000 for one year. The scholarship will be applied to the tuition fees in the year it is granted. The scholarship will not cover course related costs or sundry fees.
5. The tuition fees will be credited directly against a recipient's student finance account once their enrolment has been confirmed and, where appropriate, fees will be refunded directly to the original payee (e.g., StudyLink).
6. Applicants who commence study in July (semester two) are eligible to apply for the scholarship up to a maximum value of \$4,000 for one year.
7. The scholarship is not transferrable to any other Wintec | Te Pūkenga qualification or another tertiary institution – subject to Item 8.
8. The selection panel may agree to a transfer of the scholarship to another Wintec | Te Pūkenga qualification for an individual recipient if the majority agree. Applications should be emailed to the Scholarship Administrator at [scholarships@wintec.ac.nz](mailto:scholarships@wintec.ac.nz) for consideration by the panel. A decision will be made on a case-by-case basis and will not set a precedent for other recipients.
9. A recipient may apply to have their scholarship placed on hold for an agreed period on a case-by-case basis should they need to take a break from study. Applications should be emailed to the Scholarship Administrator at [scholarships@wintec.ac.nz](mailto:scholarships@wintec.ac.nz) for consideration by the Group Director.

10. The scholarship may be held together with any other bursary, grant, prize, or student allowance unless the conditions of the other funding preclude this. However, this scholarship will still only apply to the payment of tuition fees.
11. Recipients are encouraged to access student support from Te Kete Manaaki and or the Team Manager, or their delegate, at any time during the semesters for support with their learning for the duration of the scholarship.
12. The selection panel may refrain from making a recommendation if it finds no candidate of sufficient merit.
13. The offer of a scholarship must be accepted and returned by the date indicated in the letter of offer. If a recipient declines or does not take up the scholarship, the selection panel may offer the scholarship to another applicant.
14. The decision of the selection panel is final, and no further correspondence will be entered into.
15. By accepting the scholarship, recipients agree to participate in publicity regarding the scholarships as arranged by Wintec | Te Pūkenga.
16. **The closing date for applications is Friday 27 June 2025.** The closing date may be extended as required. All applications and supporting documents must be submitted, using the online application form available on the Wintec | Te Pūkenga [Darren Simpson-Lees Scholarship](#) webpage.
17. Incomplete applications will not be considered.
18. The scholarship winners will be advised by Friday 11 July 2025.

## ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

1. Applicants for the scholarship must be a New Zealand citizen or permanent resident.
2. Applicants for the scholarship must have completed Applied Horticultural Services (Level 3) (General, Amenity, Arboriculture or Landscape Construction) or New Zealand Certificate in Primary Industry Skills (Level 2).
3. Applicants for the scholarship must have applied or currently be enrolled in the Advanced Horticultural Trades (Level 4) at Wintec | Te Pūkenga.
4. Applicants must complete the prescribed scholarship application form and provide the following supporting documents:
  - A written personal statement, video, or voice recording outlining how this scholarship will assist the applicant in furthering their career aspirations (particularly in Horticultural Trades). How it will support their personal development and their potential contribution to the community and the environment.
  - A referee, for this scholarship must not be a relative of the applicant. The referee should be someone who is familiar with the applicant's character, achievements, or potential, and who can speak to how the applicant aligns with the values and goals of the scholarship. If you choose a Wintec tutor as your referee, you must also provide an additional external reference, such as an employer, community or church leader, sports coach, etc. You can find the scholarship referee questionnaire [here](#).
  - A current Curriculum Vitae (CV) or resume.