

LAW

AUT

TE WĀNANGA ARONUI
O TĀMAKI MAKAU RAU

LAW

UNDERGRADUATE & POSTGRADUATE
PROGRAMME GUIDE
2026



TOP 100
WORLDWIDE
Young University

AUCKLAND
UNIVERSITY
OF TECHNOLOGY

Nau mai, haere mai ki AUT WELCOME TO AUT

E ngā mana, e ngā reo
E te iti, e te rahi
E ngā mātāwaka o ngā tōpito o te ao
Ngā mahuetanga iho e kawe nei i ngā
moemoeā o rātou mā
Tēnā koutou katoa

Piki mai rā, kake mai rā,
Nau mai, haere mai ki tēnei o ngā wānanga
Whakatau mai i raro i te korowai āhuru o Te Wānanga
Aronui o Tāmaki Makau Rau

Te whakatupu i te kōunga, i te mana taurite me ngā
tikanga matatika, i ngā pūkenga ako,
i ngā pūkenga whakaako me te āta rangahau hei hāpai
i ngā hāpori whānui o te motu, otirā, o te ao.

To the prestigious, the many voices
The few, the great
To those of all races and creeds
We who remain to fulfil the dreams and
aspirations of the ancestors
Greetings one and all

Climb, ascend
Embark on the journey of knowledge
Let us at AUT embrace and empower you
To strive for and achieve excellence

To foster excellence, equity and ethics in
learning, teaching, research and scholarship,
and in so doing serve our regional, national
and international communities.

Cover

The cover design symbolises the far-reaching impact AUT has on students, their whānau, society and the world. The ripples represent this impact, while beneath them lies a modern Poutama pattern, symbolising the support and guidance AUT provides to students on their educational journey. A traditional Poutama design on the back connects to the front, reflecting the foundational role of Te Ao Māori in supporting and enhancing all aspects of AUT.

Disclaimer: Although every reasonable effort is made to ensure accuracy, the information in this document is provided as a general guide only for students and is subject to change. All students enrolling at AUT should consult its official document, the AUT Calendar, which is available online at aut.ac.nz/calendar, to ensure that they are aware of, and comply with, all regulations, requirements and policies. The information contained in this programme guide was correct at the time of print, December 2024.

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He aha ai e ako ki AUT? WHY STUDY AT AUT?

Scan this QR code for details about courses, where your study could lead and stories about our great graduates and students.



1 2



3 4



- 1 & 2 At AUT you have access to everything you need to succeed, from employability support to relevant law textbooks
- 3 As a law graduate you'll develop skills that are sought after by law firms, community organisations and other employers
- 4 You can also study law at the AUT South Campus

New Zealand's leading modern university

AUT is proud to be one of the world's best modern universities. Times Higher Education has ranked us in the top 1% of universities in the world, the top 100 universities under 50 years of age and number one in Aotearoa New Zealand for international outlook. AUT has the most diverse law school in the country. You'll study alongside classmates from different backgrounds, countries and a variety of ages, and become part of our diverse and inclusive student community. As an AUT law student, you're enrolled in a highly respected and versatile degree that will prepare you for a career in law or a wide range of other areas where you can really make a difference.

A thriving community of law alumni

AUT is where talent meets opportunity, and we love seeing so many of our graduates shape successful careers in top law firms or in business, government, media and community organisations. Law graduates have one of the highest employability rates of all university graduates, and AUT law graduates are no exception. When you graduate with your law degree you automatically become a member of the AUT Law School Alumni Association (AUTLSAA), which makes it easy to stay in touch with the people you've met while studying and make connections with alumni from other years. We're proud of the strong connections with our law alumni, and we often bring them back into the classroom to share their experiences and learnings with current students.

Preparing you for the future

At the AUT Law School, you'll develop strong problem-solving, communication and advocacy skills. Alongside core traditional law skills, your studies include hands-on learning through practical electives, moots, dispute resolution exercises, negotiations and drafting court documents. We combine large lectures with smaller, interactive classes and workshops where you can collaborate with other students and academic staff. You also have access to outstanding resources, including a variety of legal databases containing cases, legislation, commentary and other resources. To complement your learning in class, you can also apply for clerkships and other internship positions. This well-rounded experience stands out to employers and will help you build a strong foundation for your future, no matter where your career will take you.

An innovative learning environment

Our university campuses feature modern buildings that don't just win architecture awards but also offer excellent environments where you can collaborate with your classmates and develop skills that help you stand out in your future career in law. We're proud of our five-star ranking for teaching and facilities, awarded by the world university rankings organisation QS. Whether you're studying law at our City Campus in the heart of the Auckland CBD or at the South Campus in Manukau, you'll learn in state-of-the-art buildings that were created using sustainable principles and offer inviting lecture theatres, auditoriums and research spaces.

Oranga Taurira

STUDENT LIFE

As a modern and innovative university, we offer you endless opportunities, and a supportive culture that celebrates diversity. Here, you are at the heart of everything we do. At AUT, you'll find some of the most comprehensive student support services in New Zealand, designed in collaboration with our students. We'll support you to build friendships, develop life skills, achieve academically, and have amazing experiences both inside and outside the classroom.

The best start for your uni journey

Starting university life is exciting and perhaps a little daunting, regardless of your stage in life. With our wide-ranging support services, orientation programmes at the start of each semester, and multiple opportunities to meet new friends and follow a passion or hobby, you'll transition smoothly.

Student Hub

Our professionally qualified staff, including social workers and occupational therapists, are ready to support our diverse student community. The Student Hub is your go-to for navigating student life at AUT, providing the support you need from when you apply to after you graduate.

Your home away from home

As a student you'll spend most of your time on campus, whether you're based at an AUT campus in the City, South Auckland or the North Shore. Each campus has its own vibe, and all are connected by shuttle buses or public transport. You'll find everything you need right here, including medical centres, gyms and recreation centres, free and confidential counselling, programmes to develop your self-knowledge and resilience, and community-specific services to make you feel comfortable and safe. Our campuses are monitored 24/7 by our security team.

Your place for support

AUT celebrates diversity and is committed to Te Tiriti o Waitangi with passion, curiosity and pride. We're committed to supporting the aspirations of our Māori and Pacific whānau. We were the first New Zealand university to appoint a full-time rainbow community coordinator, and are proud to be a Pride Pledge university. We support equity of access and opportunity for students, staff and visitors, and follow the principles of Kia Ōrite: Code of Practice for an inclusive tertiary environment that enables disabled, Deaf and neurodivergent students to achieve fully. As an AUT student you can access our specialised community support services, including LGBTTQIA+, disabled and Deaf, high-performance athlete, international, Māori and Pacific student support. The AUT Student Association (AUTSA) advocates and represents your interests, and shares student voices through Debate magazine.

Achieve your academic goals

Our goal is to help you achieve your academic dreams and set you up for a successful career. Our library and learning services support includes learning advisors, workshops, assessment advice appointments, tailored postgraduate research support and tools like Studiosity to help you ace your assessments. At AUT you'll find everything you need for your studies, including computer labs, printers, IT support, free wifi on campus, the full Microsoft 365 suite, LinkedIn Learning and remote access to AUT computers for specialist software. To make sure financial difficulty doesn't get in the way of your academic achievements, our support also extends to help with food or transport vouchers, rent and living expenses, and even laptops and data packages if you experience financial hardship.

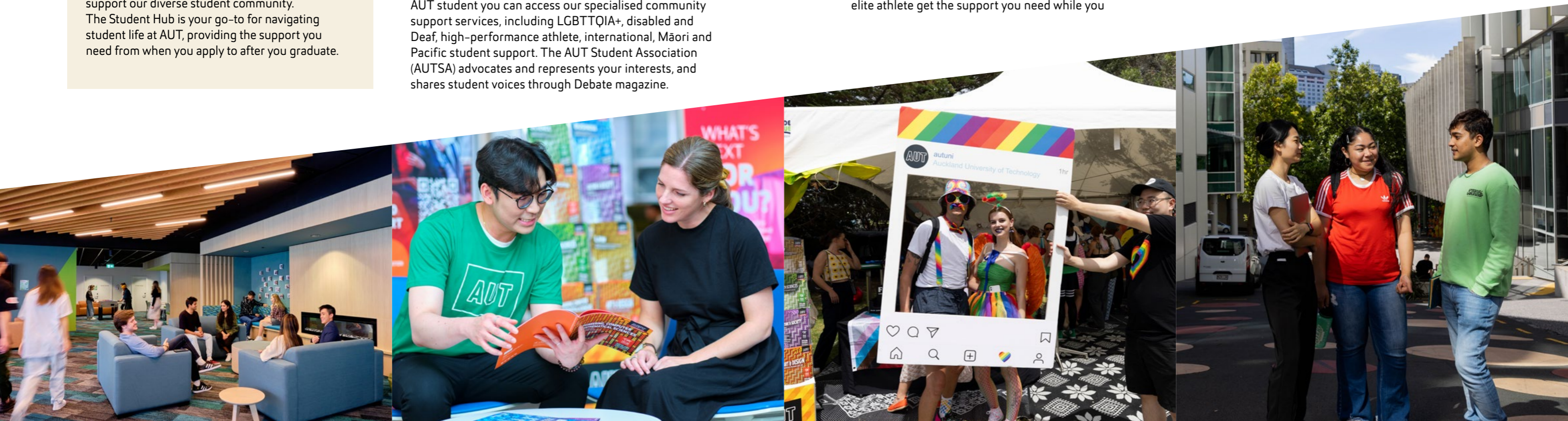
A vibrant uni experience

We want you to make the most of university life, have fun and grow during your time with us. Choose from over 90 student-led social, sustainability, cultural and academic clubs, or perhaps start your own. Participate in social sports, represent AUT through University Tertiary Sport (UTSNZ) and if you're an elite athlete get the support you need while you

compete internationally. Make the most of our state-of-the-art sports facilities at AUT Millennium, on-campus gyms at every campus, and a swimming pool and courts for tennis, volleyball, basketball and other sports at the South Campus. Our Te Āhuru Recreation Centre at the City Campus also has a sports court, dance and exercise studios, flexible spaces for clubs to meet, and large spaces to gather and share food.

Beyond learning and into employability

Our services and award programmes help you become a well-rounded graduate ready to succeed in New Zealand and the world, and support your career after you graduate. Attend employer presentations, events, and workshops throughout the year, and use our four graduate job boards, including for international career options. Develop sought-after skills through volunteering, leadership and employability activities with the AUT Edge and Beyond AUT Awards, or access funding and mentoring through AUT Ventures Limited to commercialise your AUT research. You can also study overseas as part of your degree at one of AUT Global's partner universities around the world.



Support and opportunities for law students

As an AUT law student you have access to an ever-growing range of extracurricular opportunities, law student societies and a close-knit, supportive environment that makes it easy to get advice or guidance if you ever need it.

Law School Student Support

Starting university can be a challenging time and we're here to help you succeed in your studies, with academic, social, and mentoring support.

We can help you access all the Law School and university services on offer. We provide course advice and help you plan your individual path of study.

We can also help with any questions you may have about enrolment, timetables, course information, exams, assessments and graduation.

Contact us at +64 9 921 9657 or email law@aut.ac.nz if you have any questions.

Student societies

AUT Law Students' Society (AUTLSS)

AUTLSS is a fully integrated member of the New Zealand Law Students' Association Incorporated, and exists to further the interests of AUT law students. We put on numerous events throughout the year, organise extracurricular law competitions and find mentors for students. We engage with external partners and local legal community to host speaker events and workshops for students.

To find out more visit [instagram.com/autlss](https://www.instagram.com/autlss)

AUT Moana Nui

Moana Nui is a club for Māori and Pacific students studying business and law (Te Ara Pakihi Me Te Ture) to connect and learn together. We offer study and assessment support as well as opportunities for internships and industry engagement experience.

To find out more visit [instagram.com/autmoananui](https://www.instagram.com/autmoananui)

AUT Mooting Society

The AUT Mooting Society gives law students first-hand practical insight into mooting. We provide ongoing training workshops and participate in several national level competitions throughout the year. You can improve your oral advocacy skills and confidence, and also have opportunities to engage with firms.

To find out more visit [instagram.com/autmootingsociety](https://www.instagram.com/autmootingsociety)

AUT Pasifika Law Students' Association (AUTPLSA)

AUTPLSA is dedicated to the progression and success of Pacific Island law students here at AUT. We believe that your overall success will require hard work, determination and a supportive network of people who want to see you achieve. AUTPLSA was created to be that reliable network students can look to for support. We aspire to make a difference in your learning experience, push you to aim higher and do well as you make your way through law school.

To find out more visit [facebook.com/groups/AUTPLSAMembers](https://www.facebook.com/groups/AUTPLSAMembers)

AUT Women in Law (AUTWIL)

AUTWIL is dedicated to building a powerful, supportive, and empowering community for female law students. Our mission is to foster connections, provide guidance, and create opportunities that help women excel in both their academic and professional journeys.

To find out more visit [instagram.com/autwomeninlaw](https://www.instagram.com/autwomeninlaw)

Te Aro Ture (TAT)

Te Aro Ture is the Māori Law Students' Association at AUT and is designed to provide law students with the support to achieve the best academic outcomes, incorporating tikanga values and principles. Throughout the year, the roopu hosts a number of events, from mentoring sessions and workshops to professional meet and greets.

To find out more visit [instagram.com/tearoture](https://www.instagram.com/tearoture)

Student exchange

See the world while you're studying and spend a semester overseas with the AUT Global programme. We have exchange agreements with prestigious law schools around the world.

Ireland

- Trinity College Dublin

Spain

- Universidad Pontificia Comillas (School of Law)

Sweden

- Stockholm University (Department of Law)

United Kingdom

- Exeter University



"AUT has a very community and whānau-oriented approach to students and their learning journey. You can connect directly with your lecturers, journey together with other like-minded students and share knowledge with each other without being judged. As a Pacific person, I've found that AUT provides a platform with a diverse and inclusive focus. That is very helpful to those students who are desperate to break negative historical cycles that affect them and their community. From a mature student point of view, AUT is welcoming to adult students who want to pursue a different area of profession. And that makes AUT my preferred choice of university to study law."

Sauniuni Seleni
Commercial Senior Associate - Bank of New Zealand
Bachelor of Laws



"It's so easy to get stuck into your studies to the elimination of the outside world, and just aim for A grades and nothing more. There's so much more that university has to offer. For example, I competed in three law competitions at AUT - the junior mooting competition, senior client interviewing and senior negotiations competition. The competitions were a great way to meet new people and provided an opportunity to put the legal principles we learned in class into context. The connections that you make at university will be your future colleagues and could be your way into a new job!"

Laura Hall
Solicitor, Chapman Tripp
Bachelor of Business in Accounting and Bachelor of Laws

Prizes and awards

The annual Dean's List Awards acknowledge the achievements of the top students in all law courses. The following named prizes are also awarded. The AUT Law School would like to acknowledge and thank all firms, organisations and individuals who continue to support our students by sponsoring prizes.

Part I awards

- Law School Prize for the top student overall in Part I courses – City Campus
- The College of Law New Zealand Prize for the top student overall in Part I courses – South Campus

Part II awards

- Law School Prize for the top student in:
 - Criminal Law
 - Law of Contract
 - Law of Torts
- LexisNexis Prize for the top student in Public Law
- LexisNexis Prize for the top student overall in Part II courses
- Meredith Connell Prize for the top student in Criminal Law

Parts III and IV

- Law School Prize for the top student in:
 - He Raranga: Tikanga Māori Me Ngā Ture o Aotearoa
 - Law of Property
 - Wills, Trusts and Succession
- The College of Law New Zealand Prize for the top student in Legal Ethics

Other awards

- ETPC Prize for Trusts and Fiduciary Obligations
- New Zealand Insurance Law Association Prize for the top student in Insurance Law
- SBM Legal Prize for the top student in Employment Law
- The Maritime Law Association of Australia and New Zealand (MLAANZ) Prize for the top student in International Trade Law

Overall awards

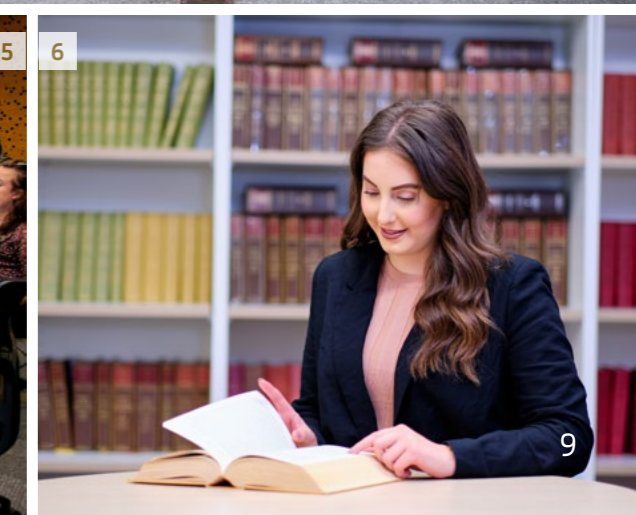
- Meredith Connell Prize for the top all around Māori law student
- Pacific Lawyers' Association Pacific Island Law Student Excellence Award for the top graduating Pacific student
- Law School Honours Award for the student with the best mark in the honours dissertation
- The Law School Award for the student with the best undergraduate record in the LLB or LLB(Hons)

Special awards

- The Matt Weber Memorial Prize for Commercial Transactions
- Law Dean's Outstanding Contribution Award to a Graduating Student who has made an outstanding contribution to the Law School
- Law Dean's Alumni Award to recognise a graduate's continued contribution to the Law School



1 There are many spaces across campus for either solo study or group work 2 & 3 AUT's City Campus is located in central Auckland – just minutes from the courts 4 City Campus is the main home of AUT's law programmes 5 Enjoy our modern lecture theatre facilities and smaller class numbers 6 You'll have access to an extensive range of law textbooks, including those written by your lecturers



"When I met others who had graduated or been admitted to the bar, I was reminded that one day that was going to be me. I was inspired to keep going strong. While I was at AUT, I was fortunate enough to win a number of awards, including the LexisNexis Award for the best overall grades in Part II of the Bachelor of Laws, the Dean's List award for Criminal Law, the College of Law Award for Legal Ethics and the Law School Award for the top dissertation. I also had the honour of delivering the graduate speech at the Winter Graduation. It meant a lot to me to acknowledge my colleagues, their hard work and the support of AUT."

Gloria Rapoto
 Lawyer, Bell Gully
 Bachelor of Laws (Honours) with First Class Honours

Bachelor of Laws

Overview

LLB | AK1008

QUICK FACTS

Level	7
Points	480
Duration	4 years full-time, part-time available
Campus	City & South ¹
Starts	23 Feb 2026

AUT's law degree opens the door to a wide range of rewarding careers where you can make a positive impact on people's lives. AUT law graduates have established successful careers in a range of law firms, immigration consultancies, community organisations and commercial establishments. Our interactive lectures and regular case-study workshops develop your ability to interpret, critically analyse, reason and deliver practical solutions to legal problems. You become an articulate communicator, and confident in your understanding of legal principles and their relevance to business and community. You also develop your critical thinking and problem-solving skills, your ability to act ethically, and your sense of community and professional responsibility.

Entry requirements

Minimum entry requirements

University Entrance or equivalent

English language requirements

IELTS (Academic) of 6.0 overall with all bands 5.5 or higher; or equivalent

Useful New Zealand school subjects

Subjects that develop a very good standard of reading, oral and written English including (but not limited to) Art History, Classical Studies, Drama, English, Geography, Health Education, History, Media Studies, Social Studies, Te Reo Māori or Te Reo Rangatira

Don't meet the entry requirements?

Consider starting with our Diploma in Business.

Scan this QR code for details about courses, where your study could lead, and stories about our great graduates and students.



What this qualification covers

PART I

You study two compulsory law courses: Legal Reasoning and Writing, and Tikanga Māori and the Settler State Legal System of Aotearoa New Zealand. This makes up half of your first-year study (60 points). The other 60 points must be taken from another AUT degree, which gives you the opportunity to broaden your study and enables you to enrol in one of the double degrees. If you've previously studied at a tertiary level you may be eligible for recognition of prior learning (refer to the AUT website for RPL information).

If you complete your Part I courses with at least a B grade average in the compulsory law courses, you will be offered a place in Part II. Other students may also be eligible for Part II.

PART II, III and IV

In your second year, you study four more compulsory law courses: Public Law, Law of Contract, Law of Torts and Criminal Law. In your third year you study He Raranga: Tikanga Māori Me Ngā Ture o Aotearoa, Law of Property; and Wills, Trusts and Succession; and choose three law elective courses. In your final year you study Legal Ethics, plus your remaining seven law electives.

Becoming a barrister and solicitor

After completing the requirements for the Bachelor of Laws (LLB), students who want to practise law in New Zealand must:

- Complete the Professional Legal Studies Course at either the Institute of Professional Legal Studies (IPLS) or the College of Law; and
- Obtain a certificate of completion from the New Zealand Council of Legal Education (NZCLE); and
- Obtain a certificate of character from the Law Society; and
- Be admitted to the roll of barristers and solicitors of the High Court of New Zealand; and
- Hold a current practising certificate issued by the Law Society.

By completing a Professional Legal Studies course (Profs), you are able to be admitted to the bar enabling you to become a barrister and solicitor and call yourself a lawyer.

1. All courses are available at the City Campus. Most compulsory courses are also available at the South Campus.



"Law isn't just a set of rules; it's a tool for shaping a better world, ensuring that everyone is treated equitably. AUT's commitment to addressing key societal issues through research resonated with me, as did the diverse and inclusive community, and the emphasis on hands-on learning, practical electives and experiential opportunities. My father is an AUT law graduate, and I knew I had to follow in the steps of my role model and start a new family tradition while making him and my family proud. Being able to make a difference in the lives of victims and contribute to the prevention of family harm is one of the achievements I cherish most in my career. It underscores my commitment to serving justice and protecting the most vulnerable."

Jasween Jyoti Mala
Police Prosecutor, New Zealand Police
Bachelor of Laws

Course planner – Bachelor of Laws

	PART I			PART II				PART III				PART IV				
SEMESTER 1	Tikanga Māori and the Settler State Legal System of Aotearoa New Zealand	30 PTS		Legal Reasoning & Writing	30 PTS		Non-law courses from any other AUT degree programme	60 PTS	He Raranga: Tikanga Māori Me Ngā Ture o Aotearoa*	30 PTS	Law of Property*	30 PTS	Wills, Trusts & Succession*	15 PTS	Legal Ethics	15 PTS
								Law of Contract	30 PTS				Elective course	15 PTS	Elective course	15 PTS
SEMESTER 2								Law of Torts	30 PTS				Elective course	15 PTS	Elective course	15 PTS
								Public Law	30 PTS				Elective course	15 PTS	Elective course	15 PTS
								Criminal Law*	30 PTS				Elective course	15 PTS	Elective course	15 PTS
													Elective course	15 PTS	Elective course	15 PTS
													Elective course	15 PTS	Elective course	15 PTS

■ Core courses PTS: Points
 * Proposed new course. More details will be available once this course has been fully approved. Visit aut.ac.nz/law for more information.

Direct entry to Part II

The AUT Law School considers applications for direct entry to Part II of the LLB degree. Applicants will normally have:

- Successfully completed Part I of the law degree at another New Zealand law school; and
- Obtained a minimum of a B grade average in their first-year law courses

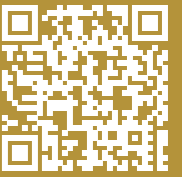
If you're offered direct entry to Part II from another New Zealand law school, you normally receive cross-credits for the following AUT courses:

- Tikanga Māori and the Settler State Legal System of Aotearoa New Zealand – 30 points
- Legal Reasoning and Writing – 30 points
- Plus 60 points of non-law courses in the first year of the AUT law degree.

For more information visit aut.ac.nz/law



You can study at the AUT South Campus in Manukau



Scan this QR code for details about courses, where your study could lead, and stories about our great graduates and students.

Bachelor of Laws (Honours)

Further your legal research and writing skills, and make your CV stand out when you apply for highly competitive law jobs or clerkships. The Bachelor of Laws (Honours) is aimed at high-achieving students in the Bachelor of Laws who want to advance their legal research skills.

Entry requirements

Minimum entry requirements

- Completed Bachelor of Laws Parts I and II to the academic standard for honours

Students will be invited to join the Bachelor of Laws (Honours) programme if they have at least a B+ grade average in their Part II Bachelor of Laws courses.

English language requirements

IELTS (Academic) 6.5 overall with all bands 6.0 or higher; or equivalent

What this qualification covers

The Bachelor of Laws (Honours) involves completing a research course and a dissertation and may involve adding an extra semester to your Bachelor of Laws.

Parts I and II

Completion of the LLB to the required academic standard³.

Part III and IV and additional semester

Completion of the LLB, as well as a research methods course and a dissertation on a topic of your choice under the supervision of our AUT Law School staff.

- The 540 points include 480 points from the LLB.
- Most Bachelor of Laws (Honours) students complete the Research Course in Part III, and complete the Dissertation course in Part IV. Some students complete the dissertation course in February of the year following Part IV.
- Students will be invited to join the Bachelor of Laws (Honours) programme if they have at least a B+ grade average in their Part II Bachelor of Laws courses.

LLB(Hons) | AK1009

QUICK FACTS

Level	8
Points	540 ¹
Duration	4½ years full-time ²
Campus	City
Starts	23 Feb 2026

Career opportunities

As a lawyer you might practise in a wide range of legal areas including corporate law, commercial and intellectual property, family law, environmental law, criminal law, taxation and general practice.

Law graduates also move into roles that include:

- In-house lawyers in large New Zealand and multinational businesses and organisations
- Patent attorneys
- Policy advisors to central and local government
- Senior management roles in business
- Taxation practitioners in accountancy practices



"I decided on AUT because I wanted to study public relations and AUT's communications school is known to be the best in New Zealand. I was also curious about law, so decided to enrol in the law degree to see if it was for me. It only took a few weeks of classes for me to love it. Law is challenging, but so interesting and fulfilling, and my communications degree was the perfect way to add a creative outlet. This was also where I acquired an interest in technology and media communications, which is the field of law I'm in now."

Shania Amolik
Solicitor, Hudson Gavin Martin
Bachelor of Laws (Honours) & Bachelor of Communication Studies
in Public Relations

Certificate in Legal Studies

Scan this QR code for course details and where this qualification could lead you.



Interested in law and the legal system? Gain an understanding of New Zealand's legal framework in less than a year. The Certificate in Legal Studies offers an introduction to law in New Zealand and includes courses from the Bachelor of Laws. This certificate is ideal for students who aren't quite ready to commit to a full law degree or who have an overseas law degree and need to complete New Zealand Council of Legal Education (NZCLE) requirements to practise law in New Zealand. The Certificate in Legal Studies prepares you for further study in the Bachelor of Laws.

Entry requirements

Minimum entry requirements

University Entrance or equivalent

English language requirements

IELTS (Academic) 6.0 overall with all bands 5.5 or higher; or equivalent

Useful New Zealand school subjects

Subjects that develop a very good standard of reading, oral and written English including (but not limited to) Art History, Classical Studies, Drama, English, Geography, Health Education, History, Media Studies, Social Studies, Te Reo Māori or Te Reo Rangatira

What this qualification covers

To graduate with a Certificate in Legal Studies you must successfully complete 60 points from the Bachelor of Laws.

If you haven't studied law before you'll complete courses on tikanga Māori and the settler state legal system, and legal reasoning and writing.

If you've previously studied law and need to complete courses as required by the Council of Legal Education, you may complete level 6 and level 7 courses from the Bachelor of Laws.

CertLegalSt | AK2601

QUICK FACTS

Level	5
Points	60
Duration	½ year full-time, 1 year part-time
Campus	City & South
Starts	23 Feb & 13 July 2026

Postgraduate Certificate in Law

Scan this QR code for course details and graduate stories.



The Postgraduate Certificate in Law is for those who have already completed an undergraduate degree, whether in law or another area, and want to gain advanced legal knowledge and develop their research skills. It provides you with advanced theoretical and practical knowledge of law and legal issues, which you can integrate with your existing knowledge and related professional experience.

Practising lawyers can earn credit towards satisfying compulsory Continuing Legal Education requirements by enrolling in and completing courses towards a Postgraduate Certificate in Law.

In exceptional circumstances, a student who does not otherwise meet the criteria for entry to the Master of Laws but who has completed the Postgraduate Certificate in Law may be considered for admission into the Master of Laws.

Entry requirements

Minimum entry requirements

- A Bachelor of Laws or Bachelor of Laws (Honours); or
- A bachelor's degree; or
- A relevant professional qualification or professional experience approved by the Dean of Law to be equivalent to a bachelor's degree
- Applicants must demonstrate to the Dean (or representative) an ability to undertake advanced study and research in law

English language requirements

IELTS (Academic) 7.0 overall with 7.0 or higher in Writing and Reading, and 6.5 in Listening and Speaking; or equivalent

What this qualification covers

To qualify for the Postgraduate Certificate in Law, you must successfully complete 60 points from courses in the Master of Laws, including the Legal Research Methodology course.

PgCertLaw | AK1050

QUICK FACTS

Level	8
Points	60
Duration	½ year full-time, part-time available
Campus	City
Starts	23 Feb & 13 July 2026



Scan this QR code for course details and graduate stories.

Master of Laws

A Master of Laws will deepen your legal knowledge and legal research skills. We offer a range of study options to suit your needs – you can complete the Master of Laws entirely by thesis, entirely by coursework, or through a combination of coursework and research. Choose from a range of specialisations or focus areas.

Entry requirements

Minimum entry requirements

- A Bachelor of Laws, Bachelor of Laws (Honours) or equivalent
- In exceptional circumstances, an applicant who does not meet the requirements above but who has extensive professional or scholarly experience of an appropriate kind, may be considered for admission
- Applicants must demonstrate to the dean (or representative) an ability to undertake study at postgraduate level in the proposed course of study

English language requirements

IELTS (Academic) 7.0 overall with 7.0 or higher in Writing and Reading, and 6.5 in Listening and Speaking; or equivalent

Other requirements

Will normally be required to complete an approved research methods course.

LLM | AK1044

QUICK FACTS

Level	9
Points	120
Duration	1 year full-time, part-time available
Campus	City
Starts	23 Feb & 13 July 2026

Career opportunities

The in-depth study required in the Master of Laws can enhance your employment opportunities, either professionally or academically, and give you the edge you need to take your career to the next level.

What this qualification covers

Master of Laws by Thesis

- 120-point thesis (around 40,000 words) OR
- 90-point thesis (around 30,000 words) and 30 points from courses
- The thesis question has to be approved before enrolment.

Master of Laws by Dissertation

- A dissertation of 60 points (around 20,000 words) AND
- 60 points from additional courses
- We suggest you start by completing the courses. The topic for your dissertation has to be approved.

Master of Laws by Coursework

- 120 points from courses

Specialisations and focus areas

Specialisations

You can complete the Master of Laws with 90 points¹ in one of these specialisations:

- Corporate and Commercial Law
- Criminal Law
- Employment Law
- Environmental and Resource Management Law
- Intellectual Property
- Property and Development
- Regulation and Competition

Focus areas

You could also choose one of these focus areas and include courses from one of the following:

- Climate Change Law
- Human Rights Law
- Indigenous Rights and Law
- International Law
- Jurisprudence
- Non-Adversarial Justice
- Private Law
- Public Law
- Trusts and Fiduciary Obligations

1. This may include points from a thesis, dissertation or research project.



"I wanted to further my understanding of specific aspects of the law, improve my legal research skills and establish a strong academic foundation as I progress in my legal career. I had previously completed a Bachelor of Laws (Honours) at AUT and thoroughly enjoyed my time there, so AUT was my natural first option to pursue further postgraduate study. I enjoyed engaging with academics who are at the top of their field and being given the opportunity to structure my programme in a way that suits me and my interests; enabling me to pursue areas that I'm interested in. I consider AUT a positive and practical learning environment with down to earth, knowledgeable and supportive academic staff."

Ryan Marsich
Barrister, Emily Chambers
Master of Laws
Bachelor of Laws (Honours) with First Class Honours



"During my bachelor's degree, we learned about the issues Māori and Pacific people face throughout the criminal justice system, and how discrimination continues to be perpetuated in society. As a result, I wanted to learn more about navigating the legal system and understand the underlying issues that contribute to an overrepresentation of Māori and Pacific people in the legal system. I now enjoy my role as an associate in the risk services team at PwC. Each day brings different tasks and projects, and the job is both rewarding and dynamic."

Wairua Taru Grant Pukeiti
Cook Island Māori, Te Rarawa, Te Aupouri, Ngāti Hine
Associate, Risk Services Team, PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC)
Master of Laws with Distinction
Bachelor of Arts (Honours)
Bachelor of Arts in Criminology and Māori Development

Master of Philosophy

Scan this QR code for details on the application process and to browse academic supervisors.



The Master of Philosophy (MPhil) is a one-year, research-only master's degree. It provides an opportunity for you to undertake a research topic of your interest under the supervision of AUT Law School academics. It can also serve as a pathway to more advanced research at doctoral level.

Entry requirements

Minimum entry requirements

Must have completed one of the following with the equivalent of a B grade average or higher:

- Four-year bachelor's degree; or
- Bachelor's honours degree; or
- Bachelor's degree and postgraduate diploma; or
- Bachelor's degree and at least three years of experience relevant to the proposed research
- An interview may be required for particular research areas

English language requirements

IELTS (Academic) of 6.5 overall with all bands 6.0 or higher; or equivalent

Other requirements

May be required to complete an approved research methods course

What this qualification covers

You complete an original thesis during this year of your study. AUT Law School academics are available to supervise Master of Philosophy research on a wide range of topics.

MPhil | AK3720

QUICK FACTS

Level	9
Points	120
Duration	1 year full-time, 2 years part time
Campus	City
Starts	2 Feb, 4 May, 6 July & 5 Oct 2026

Career opportunities

As a graduate with a Master of Philosophy you have the necessary skills and qualifications to follow an academic or research career leading to a PhD. Alternatively, your research topic may lead you to a position of expertise in your chosen field.

Doctor of Philosophy

Scan this QR code for details on the application process and to browse academic supervisors.



The Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) is the University's highest qualification. The degree is undertaken by research only and leads to advanced academic and theoretical knowledge in a specialist area. The PhD is suitable for students who want to pursue an academic or research career, or a senior position in the public or private sector. You will make a significant original contribution to knowledge and understanding in your field of study and meet recognised international standards for your work. Our academic supervisors are recognised world-class researchers in their fields who have the expert knowledge to guide and advise you throughout your PhD.

Entry requirements

Minimum entry requirements

Must normally have completed the following in a discipline appropriate to the proposed research:

- Master's degree with first-class or second-class (first division) honours; or
- Bachelor's degree with honours (equivalent to four years of study), normally with first-class or second-class (first division) honours

The degree should include advanced learning in research, execution of a research project and a written report on the research.

English language requirements

IELTS (Academic) of 6.5 overall with 7.0 in Writing and no band less than 6.0

Other requirements

Acceptance is subject to the availability of staff for supervision, prior research preparation and appropriate facilities.

Planning your PhD

You are required to prepare a brief proposal for your intended research, specifying the field of research and a general research question you wish to investigate. You should provide official copies of academic transcripts, and evidence of previous independent research outputs, like an honours-level dissertation or master's-level dissertation or thesis. You should also provide evidence of successful completion of studies in research methodology at a postgraduate level.

PhD research allowance

PhD research allowances are normally available to support PhD candidates with expenses associated with data collection and analysis, conference funding, and other resources.

PhD | AK3518

QUICK FACTS

Level	10
Points	360
Duration	3-6 years
Campus	City
Starts	2 Feb, 4 May, 6 July & 5 Oct 2026

Career opportunities

The PhD is suitable for students who want to pursue an academic or research career, or a senior position in the public or private sector. The opportunities to apply the knowledge and skills you gain will be extensive, both in industry and academia.



University admission to AUT bachelor's degrees

University admission to AUT bachelor's degrees

If you're a New Zealand citizen or resident, or an international student studying in a New Zealand high school, you must meet the requirements for University Entrance to gain admission to bachelor's degrees, plus any additional requirements for your chosen programme such as specific subjects and interviews.

Admission categories

You may be granted University Entrance under:

- NCEA University Entrance
- Ad Eundem Statum admission (at an equivalent level) – this includes Cambridge Assessment International Education (CAIE) and International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IB)
- Discretionary Entrance
- Special Admission

To find out more about entry requirements, including entry requirements for international students, scan the QR code on the opposite page.

English language requirements

If you don't have English as your first language, you may have to show evidence of your English language skills. Visit aut.ac.nz/englishrequirements for details about English language testing and recognised English tests.

International students

Contact us for information regarding studying at AUT if you're not a citizen or permanent resident of New Zealand or Australia, or a citizen of the Cook Islands, Niue or Tokelau islands.

Visit aut.ac.nz/int/entryrequirements for entry requirements for specific countries. If you have any questions, you can contact us at aut.ac.nz/enquire

UniPrep programme

Not sure if you're ready for university or what to expect at AUT? Taking place over five weeks in January and February every year, UniPrep is designed to ease you into university life and ensure you get the best possible start. Expect to advance your study skills, make lifelong friends, take part in team activities, find out where to get support for your studies and complete your first university course. Once you're part of our UniPrep whānau, just know – we got you!

Visit aut.ac.nz/uniprep

NCEA university entrance

You must achieve all of the below

Level 3 (60 credits)	UE Literacy	Numeracy
<p>Within the 60 credits, you need to at least achieve the below</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 14 credits in approved subject 1 14 credits in approved subject 2 14 credits in approved subject 3 18 credits from any Level 3 standards 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5 Reading credits (Level 2 or 3) 5 Writing credits (Level 2 or 3) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 Numeracy credits at Level 1, 2 or 3

To find out more visit www2.nzqa.govt.nz/ncea/understanding-secondary-quals/university-entrance

Getting UE through CAIE or IB? Here's what you will need:

CAIE		
120 points on the New Zealand CAIE Tariff at A or AS level in any subjects that are broadly equivalent to NCEA approved subjects	E or above in English Language, Language and Literature in English or Literature at AS or A level	D or above in IGCSE or GCSE Mathematics, or any mathematics subject passed at AS or A level
D or above in at least 3 different subjects (excluding Thinking Skills)		
IB ¹		
IB Diploma with a minimum 24 points	Literature or language and literature (SL or HL) – IB Group 1, with English as the language	Any mathematics subject – IB Group 5

1. New Zealand residents who have taken IB but have not been awarded the diploma may apply for discretionary entrance.

Ngā utu whakauru, ngā karahipi FEES & SCHOLARSHIPS

Cost is an important factor when thinking about university study. This page gives you an idea of the approximate tuition fees at AUT, and different options to help you fund your education including scholarships, student loans and allowances.

To give you an idea of approximate costs, the 2025 tuition fees are shown below (based on full-time study and completing 120 points per year). All fees are in NZ dollars and include GST. The 2026 tuition fees will be advertised on aut.ac.nz/fees as soon as they have been set. You may also need to pay additional fees for course materials or elective courses (check with your faculty if there are additional fees for your programme).

Domestic student tuition fees

Undergraduate programmes

Fee (per year): \$4,460 (for 60 points)–
\$11,220 (for 120 points)¹
(\$3,864–\$10,028 tuition fees +
\$596–\$1,192 student services levy)

Postgraduate programmes

Doctor of Philosophy

Fee (per year): \$9,118 (for 120 points)
(\$7,926 tuition fees + \$1,192 student services levy)

Master of Philosophy

Fee (per year): \$9,118 (for 120 points)¹
(\$7,926 tuition fees + \$1,192 student services levy)

Other postgraduate programmes

Fee (per year): \$5,610 (for 60 points)–
\$11,220 (for 120 points)¹
(\$5,014–\$10,028 tuition fees
+ \$596–\$1,192 student services levy)

1. Part-time students pay a proportion of the fee based on the number of academic points they are studying.

International student tuition fees

Undergraduate programmes

Fee (per year): \$18,296 (for 60 points)–
\$40,192 (for 120 points)¹
(\$17,700–\$39,000 tuition fees
+ \$596–\$1,192 student services levy)

Postgraduate programmes

Doctor of Philosophy

Fee (per year): \$9,118 (for 120 points)¹
(\$7,926 tuition fees + \$1,192 student services levy)

Master of Philosophy

Fee (per year): \$44,792 (for 120 points)
(\$43,600 tuition fees + \$1,192 student services levy)

Other postgraduate programmes

Fee (per year): \$20,196 (for 60 points)–
\$40,192 (for 120 points)¹
(\$19,600–\$39,000 tuition fees
+ \$596–\$1,192 student services levy)

1. The fee shown is for candidates conducting the majority of their study within NZ. Where the majority of studies is conducted outside NZ an international tuition fee of \$45,492 will apply.

Please note that you must pay your fees in full by the date specified on your fees invoice.

To find out more about fees call **+64 9 921 9779**
or **0800 AUT AUT** (0800 288 288).

Student loans and allowances¹

If you're a full-time domestic student, you may qualify for a student loan or allowance. Student loans and allowances are administered and paid by StudyLink. The application process can take some time, so it's a good idea to apply early. You can apply for a student loan or student allowance before your enrolment at AUT is complete.

To find out more call **0800 88 99 00**
or visit studylink.govt.nz

Free fees for your university study¹

Eligible domestic students may receive their final year of full-time study fees-free. To check if you're eligible for fees-free study visit aut.ac.nz/fees

1. Domestic students only, not available to international students.

Financial assistance

We know that sometimes things happen and financial stress can impact your academic success. That's why we offer financial support that ranges from offering grocery or fuel vouchers, to helping with that unexpected bill.

StudyLink

Visit studylink.govt.nz for tools, tips and information to help you plan and understand the costs you will have while studying.

Scholarships and awards

Scholarships and awards are a great way to fund your university study. There is a wide range of scholarships and awards available to AUT students at all stages of their study including the Welcome to Auckland scholarship and Find Your Greatness scholarship (details below).

Visit the scholarships website for a full current list of scholarships offered by AUT and external funders, as well as application forms and closing dates. You can also contact AUT's Scholarships Office for advice on scholarships, awards and the scholarship application process.

AUT Welcome to Auckland Scholarships

Because we recognise the challenges students may face when moving to Auckland, AUT's three-year Welcome to Auckland scholarships make a contribution towards students' accommodation and study fees. These scholarships recognise high-achieving secondary school students living outside of Auckland who intend to enrol in bachelor's degree study commencing in 2026.

AUT Find Your Greatness Scholarships – School Leaver

AUT's Find Your Greatness undergraduate scholarships for school leavers reflect our commitment to creating great graduates. These three-year scholarships recognise students' academic achievement, as well as students' potential leadership ability and contribution to their school or community, cultural pursuits or sport at a representative level.

The Find Your Greatness scholarships are offered in the four categories below for study commencing in 2026:

- Academic Excellence
- All Rounder
- Hiki Ake (Lift Up)
- Kiwa (Māori and Pacific students)

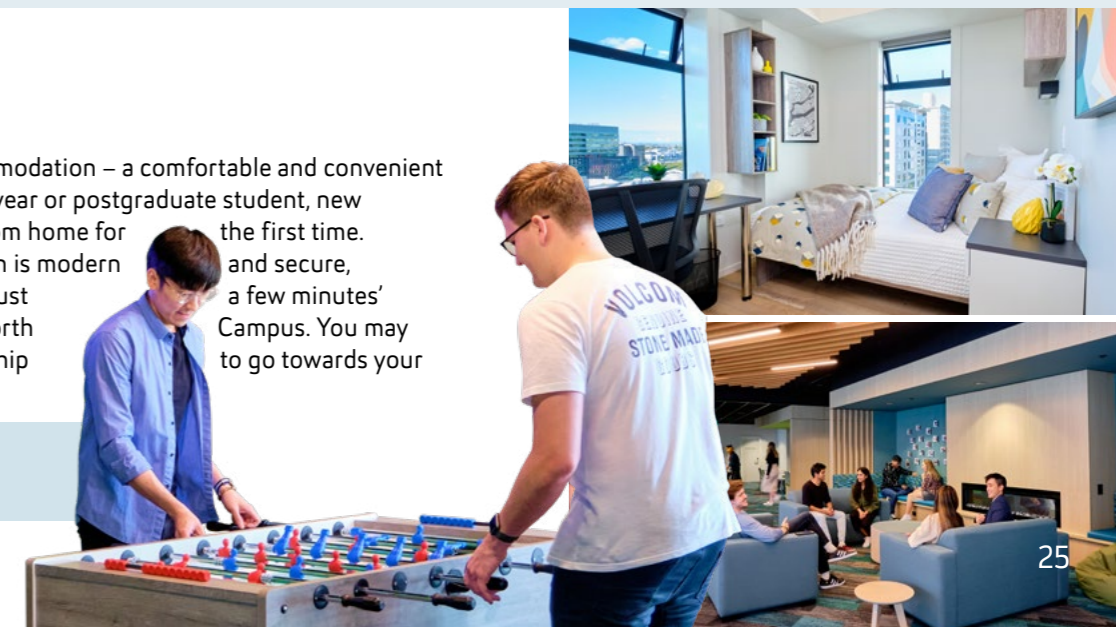
Applicants will be considered in all categories for which they are eligible.

To find out more call **+64 9 921 9837**
or visit aut.ac.nz/scholarships

Accommodation

Check out our student accommodation – a comfortable and convenient option whether you're a first-year or postgraduate student, new to Auckland, or living away from home for the first time. AUT's student accommodation is modern and secure, offering a social community just a few minutes' walk away from our City or North Campus. You may even be eligible for a scholarship to go towards your accommodation costs.

Visit
aut.ac.nz/accommodation



He pēhea te tono

HOW TO APPLY

Below is the step-by-step guide to the application process.
For more information visit aut.ac.nz/apply

1 APPLY EARLY

Places are limited. Submit your application well before the semester starts.

APPLYING FOR 2026

- Semester 1
– apply by 1 December 2025
- Semester 2
– apply by 4 May 2026

Applying for the Master of Philosophy (MPhil) and Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)

If you're planning to enrol in a Master of Philosophy (MPhil) or Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) at AUT, email the Graduate Research School
doctoral.and.mphil.admissions@aut.ac.nz

2 COMPLETE THE APPLICATION FORM

- Apply online
- Indicate your programme(s) of choice and major (if known)

International students can also apply using an AUT approved international agent. For a list of AUT registered agents visit aut.ac.nz/international-agents

SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION

WE ACKNOWLEDGE YOUR APPLICATION

- We will send you an acknowledgment email, which explains how to check the status of your application
- We will contact you if we need more information

WE ASSESS YOUR APPLICATION

- We assess your application to ensure you have met the entry criteria for the programme(s) you are applying for
- We consider your academic history and relevant experience to ensure you can succeed in your programme
- We let you know if your application has been successful

POSSIBLE OUTCOMES

CONFIRMED We would like to offer you a place to study at AUT

PROVISIONAL You have met some of the criteria for entry to your chosen programme of study and we would like to offer you a provisional place to study at AUT. If you don't meet the rest of the requirements, then this offer will be withdrawn

CONDITIONAL You have to meet the conditions and approvals listed in your conditional offer to be able to secure a formal offer of place

DECLINED If you don't meet the entry requirements or all places are taken, we may offer you an alternative programme

3 ACCEPT YOUR OFFER

It's important that you respond as soon as possible, particularly if you've been offered a place in a programme with limited places.

Once you've accepted your offer of place, we'll let you know how to enrol in the courses for your programme, and you can start to get excited about joining AUT.

Ready to apply?
apply.aut.ac.nz

Ētahi atu kōrero
FIND OUT MORE



aut.ac.nz

Need some help?

Visit aut.ac.nz/enquire, ask us your question and we'll call you back. Or you can phone **0800 AUT AUT** (0800 288 288) to speak to one of our friendly advisors. We can help with any questions you may have, and you could also book a course counselling session or a campus tour.

Campuses

City Campus

55 Wellesley Street East, Auckland Central

North Campus

90 Akoranga Drive, Northcote, Auckland

South Campus

640 Great South Road, Manukau, Auckland

Connect with us now:



AUT LIVE

Join us at our open day, AUT LIVE, on the City Campus and see everything AUT has to offer to help you make an educated decision about university study.

aut.ac.nz/live





0800 AUT AUT (0800 288 288)

Auckland University of Technology
Auckland, New Zealand
aut.ac.nz

Enquire now
aut.ac.nz/enquire

Connect with us now:



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