**WESTREAP COMMUNITY SCHOLARSHIPS**

Regulations

**1. BACKGROUND**

WestREAP (Westland Rural Education Activities Programme Society Incorporated) is one of 13 REAPs in New Zealand.

REAPs are community organisations based on a philosophy of community development through education. The government of the day established the 13 REAPs between 1979 and 1982 with the overarching aim of facilitating access to lifelong learning opportunities for people living in rural and isolated areas. A substantial part of REAP work is in a brokerage role, connecting learners with appropriate programmes across the sectors of Early Childhood Education (ECE), Schools and Youth and Adult and Community Education (ACE).

WestREAP is offering Community Scholarships for re-trainers and adults residing in the West Coast Districts. They will be awarded to applicants who require training with or without the requirement for the training to result in a qualification.

Applicants will be required to complete an application form outlining their intention for the scholarship. There will be no requirement for any funds provided under this Scholarship to be audited.

Candidates will need to: reside on the West Coast or be able to demonstrate a substantive connection to the West Coast; and demonstrate a willingness and commitment to developing themselves in meaningful ways which may or may not lead to further education or employment.

WestREAP is committed to the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi and to demonstrate this partnership some of the scholarships will be awarded to Māori.

**2. NAME**

The awards shall be known as the WestREAP Community Scholarship. It will open from 16th of August and go through the 11th of September 2024. Successful applicants will be notified by the third week of October 2024.

**3. PURPOSE**

The WestREAP Community Scholarship is intended to funds that may be used for course related costs, equipment, travel, accommodation, and fees to attend training. The Scholarship is intended to support adult learners who need to retrain to become more employable or to develop their own business.

**4. REGULATIONS**

4.1 Eligibility

Applicants for the WestREAP Community Scholarship:

* must be New Zealand citizens or permanent residents who have resided on the West Coast, or have immediate relatives and a substantive home on the West Coast; and
* must demonstrate the reasons behind the chosen course of study and the benefit that the course will have the applicant

 4.2 Tenure and Value

The WestREAP Community Scholarship shall be tenable for one year and applicants may apply for subsequent years if the scholarship is made available.

4.3 Selection

The award shall be made by a selection panel comprising the Board Members of WestREAP.

Decisions of the selection panel are final.

Candidates may be asked to attend an interview as part of the selection process.

4.4 Selection Criteria

The following criteria shall be considered when awarding the Scholarship:

* Evidence of connection to the West Coast.
* Evidence that the field of study selected adds value to the person and will assist them in gaining further education or employment whether self-employment or otherwise.
* If in the opinion of the Selection Committee there is no suitable applicant, they may decline to make an award.

4.5 Lodging Applications

Applications must be submitted on the prescribed application form and submitted no later than 4.30 pm 11th of September 2024. All necessary supporting documentation must be provided with the application.

***WestREAP can provide assistance to those who require help in completing the application at our Hokitika office located at 72 Tudor Street during operating hours.***