



Yeju's story

A story of challenge and growth:
Meet our UoAIC scholar

Student profile

Name: Yeju Lee

Nationality: South Korean

Programme: The University of Auckland
Certificate in Foundation Studies (level 3)

How did you feel when you found out you received the scholarship, and how will this scholarship support your academic journey in New Zealand?

I was very happy and grateful to receive my first scholarship. Studying abroad can be expensive, but this scholarship has helped ease the cost, allowing me to focus more on my studies.

What motivated you to apply for the UoAIC Foundation programme?

I was worried about going straight to university and wasn't sure if I could do well, so I chose the foundation programme to better prepare myself.



Why did you choose to take the Korean high school equivalency exam?

I studied in the Philippines for one year and missed the chance to enter high school in Korea. Although the perception of the GED in Korea is still not very positive, my goal was to study at the University of Auckland, so I wanted to complete high school quickly and move on to the foundation programme.

What steps did you take after passing the exam to prepare for studying abroad?

First, I prepared for the IELTS test. After achieving the Korea GED qualification, I studied subject-specific vocabulary by watching YouTube videos.

Why did you choose New Zealand as your study destination?

Since I was young, I've wanted to study abroad. I prefer countries with beautiful nature, not just big cities like the U.S. I also chose New Zealand because it's safe and has a relaxed atmosphere.



What major are you planning to pursue at the University of Auckland, and what are your long-term goals or dreams?

I hope my job can help people in countries that need support. After working in the medical field, I would also like to volunteer in other countries.

Do you have any advice for other students hoping to receive a scholarship?

Trying is very important. Don't hesitate just because you're scared. Even if it doesn't go well, trying will help you grow and discover what suits you best.