



Yazaki Kizuna Foundation – Investment into Education

It is often said that an investment in knowledge pays the best interest and education is one of the main sectors the Yazaki Kizuna Foundation (YKF) has always helped and this has been done through scholarships for students through full scholarships.

According to YKF Managing Director Dr. Junichi Kitami, when students give their speeches when presented with scholarships or from the alumni, there is satisfaction which is beyond words. "We believe that the best way forward and into the future is through education and that is why we have had this relationship with the National University of Samoa (NUS)," Dr. Kitami said. "We want to help and this is one of the best ways we can do this."

From 2018 to 2023, there have been 139 students who have been helped through full scholarships which covers tuition, enrolment package, book allowance and student's association until minimum years required for their graduation. The scholarships were initially for Bachelor students who were majoring in science, business entrepreneurship and Ph.D. students. Scholarships had extended to the Faculty of

Education, Arts, Nursing and to those students undertaking Postgraduate and Master degree. A year value of scholarships for a Bachelor's programme is between SAT\$3,500 to \$5,000 per student. Between \$4,800 to \$6,800 for full time Postgraduate and Master studies and \$11,200 per student for Doctorates.

For the student-recipient this means that the financial burden of paying for school has been lifted off their families. YKF Scholarship Awards Presentation Ceremony also has been held every year since 2018. The latest ceremony was held on 11th May 2023. One of Bachelor recipients Sheronite Lima, she had tears as she delivered an address "I would like to emphasise that the award I am gifted and was awarded today is dedicated to my dear late father who passed away. He is forever my hero and my guardian angel. He keeps guiding me throughout every journey,".

Dr. Kitami said at the ceremony that our scholarship programme reflected our desire to support the students with knowledge to develop their families and community. He added that it is also a gesture of appreciation

to the Samoan people for the support they had given to the Yazaki Group during its 26 years of operation in Samoa.

