

MOUNT ASPIRING COLLEGE

2027 HOSTEL PROGRAMME APPLICATION PACK

Key Selection Criteria

To gain entry to our Hostel programme, students need to complete an application process. Each year, we offer 30 places for students in Year 13.

The most important criteria we look for in selecting students for our Hostel Programme are detailed below (but are not restricted to this list):

- willingness to take on new challenges and a ‘can-do’ attitude
- willingness to get involved at school and outside school
- self-motivated and independent
- good behavioural record
- good academic attitude
- fit and healthy.

Application Process Overview

The application process includes:

- submission of a personal letter and CV from the student
- provision of latest school reports and results
- a confidential reference from the applicant’s school dean
- a medical declaration
- an interview with one of our senior leadership team.

Five of the College’s senior management staff consider each application separately. Then, the panel of five meets to discuss the applicants and decide who is offered a place. The panel’s decision is **final**.

Application Submission and Deadlines

Your completed application must be received by email to learn@mtaspiring.school.nz **no later than 9.00am Friday 3 July**, and you must have attended an interview (in person or online) by **Friday 31 July**. (We will acknowledge receipt of your application by email, so please follow up if you haven't heard from us within a few days).

Please make sure that you include:

- a cover letter (written by the student) stating the reasons you wish to attend Mount Aspiring College
- your CV (please do not send original documents or testimonials)
- a copy of your latest school report
- a copy of your NCEA (or equivalent) results
- a recent photograph
- Hostel application form
- Medical information and declaration form
- Hostel application fee of **\$250 non-refundable** (deposited to Mount Aspiring College Board of Trustees 03-1739-0027820-00 reference 'hostel / student surname').

To support your application, we require **a confidential report from your dean** at your current school. Please use the report form included in this pack. This report should be forwarded **directly** from your school to reach Mount Aspiring College by the application closing date of **9.00am Friday 3 July**. Please give your dean plenty of time to do this.

Interview Booking

The booking process and deadlines are outlined below. The interview is compulsory and is a two-way process allowing us to find out more about the applicant, and allowing the applicant to determine whether the Mount Aspiring College Hostel Programme is the right choice for them. Bookings are essential, please allow one hour for the interview.

The two options for interviews are as follows (**please book one interview only**). In-person and online interviews are given equal consideration.

Wānaka Interviews: Friday 17 July 2026

- Interviews will be held at the College on Friday 17 July. You should allow two hours for both the interview and a tour of the school and Hostel (plus travel time to Wānaka if you are staying out of town). **Please note:** this interview day, along with a school tour, is only open to 2027 applicants and their families.

- To book an interview go to www.schoolinterviews.co.nz and enter the event code **7e9jn** - follow the onscreen instructions. Bookings close at **9.00am Friday 3 July**.

Online Interviews: 21 July - 31 July 2026

- Online interviews will be held after school from 3.30pm to 5.30pm during the first two weeks of Term 3. You should allow up to one hour for the interview. Please make sure that you are ready for the online meeting 5-10 minutes prior to your interview time.
- To book an online interview go to www.schoolinterviews.co.nz and enter the event code **bwsdw** - follow the onscreen instructions. Bookings close at **9.00am Friday 3 July**.

A booking confirmation email will be sent to you. Please retain this email as it enables you to make changes or cancel your booking. Closer to the interview date, we will email you instructions for accessing your online Google Meet interview. If you require further assistance please email: learn@mtaspiring.school.nz

Application Outcome and Acceptance

We will email applicants the outcome of the selection process at **3.00pm, Friday 21 August 2026**.

An offer of place will be sent via email to the applicant's (the student) email address as provided on the application form - we require a **written acceptance of the offer by 3.00pm Wednesday 26 August**, and payment of a **\$1,000 deposit by 3.00pm Friday 28 August**, otherwise the place will be offered to the next person on the waiting list.

Arrival Date

The hostel year starts with an orientation programme three days before school starts. At this point, hostel students are expected to arrive between **9.00am - 9.30am on Tuesday 26 January 2027**. The orientation is a crucial part of the Hostel Programme and it is important that all new hostellers attend. (This date is subject to change and will be confirmed in the Hostel Handbook on acceptance to the programme).

Hostel Contracts and Key Conditions

Once you have accepted a place in the Hostel Programme, we will send you a Hostel Handbook and Hostel contracts. The student and parent(s) are asked to sign the contracts which set out standards of behaviour and conditions relating to the student's time in the Hostel.

Emotional and Medical Conditions

Parents and students should be aware that the programme is very demanding and intensive. The programme is designed to develop skills for independent living and the level of medical and/or emotional support that can be offered is limited due to the remoteness of Wānaka. In addition, the Hostel is not a suitable environment for students who require individual care and supervision due to long-term medical conditions.

- We ask you to provide a Medical Declaration from your doctor, and signed by the student and parent, stating any medical or psychological conditions which may require support during the year.
- Any information given will remain confidential to the selection panel during the application process, but may be disclosed to the guidance counsellor, senior dean and the Hostel management team if you are accepted into the Hostel.
- Should such a condition come to light during the year and the student's success or safety (or that of other students) is compromised, then parents may be asked to remove their student from the Hostel. If you wish to discuss such an issue prior to application please contact Deputy Principal, Dean Sheppard on **03 443 0499** for a confidential discussion.
- Where students suffer from a short term illness during their time at the Hostel, parents may be asked to remove them temporarily if they are infectious or require nursing. Any additional costs relating to individual care will be charged to parents. We strongly recommend that students are up to date with vaccinations prior to joining the Hostel.

Withdrawal of Students

Once accepted onto the programme, a deposit of **\$1,000** is required to confirm the place. Should a student withdraw, this deposit is **non-refundable**, even if they withdraw prior to the start of the programme.

Due to the nature of the programme, it is not always possible to fill a place should a student withdraw once the school year has started. It is therefore important that students are fully committed to the programme.

The following conditions apply to fees payable on withdrawal:

- In the event of a student having to withdraw from the Hostel, parents are required to give **one full term's notice in writing or pay a term's fee in lieu thereof.**
- If the withdrawal is because of an unforeseen medical condition or other unforeseen circumstances then parents may appeal in writing to the School Board for this fee to be waived.
- If parents choose to send their child in the knowledge that they had a pre-existing medical or psychological condition that was not disclosed in the Medical Declaration, and the child subsequently withdraws from the hostel, the **full year's fees are payable.**

Alcohol and Smoking/Vaping Policy

The hostel and school premises are (by law) smokefree, non-vaping, and alcohol-free environments.

Hostel Fees for 2027 (GST inclusive)

Boarding fees per annum*	24,530.00
Hostel Outdoor Pursuits Weekend Programme fee	7,590.00
Hostel Snow Sports Weekend lessons	690.00
Total Hostel Boarding cost (GST incl)	\$32,810.00

(*reduced GST rate of 11.55% applies to boarding fees)

In addition to the above fees:

- School curriculum and activity fees also apply. These fees vary for different subjects. Please see the <https://courseguide.mtaspiring.school.nz/> for details.
- Hostel students will need to purchase a season ski pass from the Cardrona office in Wānaka (at the local student rate).
- A College donation of \$180.00 will be included in the Term One fees invoice.
- A \$1,000 bond is collected with the Term 1 payment. The cost of any general damage or loss to hostel units and any unpaid school or hostel fees are deducted from this bond at the end of the year, and the balance is refunded. Any damage or loss attributable to individual students is invoiced as it occurs.

Payment of fees

- An application fee of \$250 with application (non-refundable). Payment to be made by direct credit to 03-1739-0027820-00 (referencing hostel and student surname) at the time your application is sent.
- A deposit of \$1,000 to confirm acceptance of a hostel place within one week of acceptance of the offer. This payment is non-refundable.

- Term One fees are payable by 1 December 2026, prior to attending, as follows:

Boarding fees (1 of 4)	6,132.50
Less deposit	-1,000.00
Hostel Outdoor Pursuits Weekend Programme fee	7,590.00
Hostel Snow Sports Weekend lessons	690.00
(College donation	180.00)
Bond	1,000.00
TOTAL DUE (GST incl)	\$14,592.50

The balance of the boarding fees are payable each term by the following dates:

Term 2	Payable by 20 March 2027 (2 of 4)	\$6,132.50
Term 3	Payable by 20 June 2027 (3 of 4)	\$6,132.50
Term 4	Payable by 20 September 2027 (4 of 4)	\$6,132.50

- School activity and curriculum fees are invoiced separately as applicable.
- With parent permission, hostel students are able to put incidental school expenses on their school accounts. These should be paid in full each month.

Ministry of Education Boarding Bursaries

Parents may be eligible for Ministry of Education bursaries. As a general rule, if you are currently eligible for a boarding bursary on the grounds of distance from the nearest school, then you would normally be eligible for the same boarding bursary to attend Mount Aspiring College. However, you will need to reapply to the Ministry of Education due to the change in schools. Email boarding.allowances@education.govt.nz to check eligibility.

HOSTEL APPLICATION CHECKLIST

- Arrange for current school dean to complete the Confidential School Report (to be **emailed directly to the school** by the dean by Friday 3 July 2026)
- Medical Declaration (completed by your Medical Practitioner, and signed by applicant and parent/caregiver)
- Application form (completed and signed by applicant and parent/caregiver)
- Copy of NCEA (or equivalent) results
- Latest school reports
- Recent photograph (if not included in your CV)
- Cover letter (written by the student)
- CV (do not send original documents or testimonials)
- Interview booked
- \$250 hostel application fee - non-refundable (Deposit to Mount Aspiring College Board of Trustees 03-1739-0027820-00 - reference 'Hostel' and applicant Surname)
- Email application to: **learn@mtaspiring.school.nz**

All of the above items must be received no later than the application closing date of 9.00am Friday 3 July.

Applications close:

9.00am Friday 3 July 2026

Interview bookings close:

9.00am Friday 3 July 2026

Interview to be completed by:

6.00pm Friday 31 July 2026

Outcome advised:

3.00pm Friday 21 August 2026

MOUNT ASPIRING COLLEGE Hostel Application Form (2027)

Student details:

Full name:
Present school:
Student email for application communication: <i>(The philosophy of our Hostel Programme is that students must demonstrate self-responsibility - our expectation is that students are able to respond to emails in a timely manner).</i>

Parent details:

Parent name:	
Parent email:	Parent mobile:
Parent bank account no. <i>(for bond refund)</i> :	
Name on bank account:	

Subjects and level studied this year, eg. Level 2 English:

Level	Subject	Level	Subject	Level	Subject

Please give a summary of the subjects and credits you achieved in Year 11 (please also include a copy of your NCEA or equivalent results). For other examinations, please list the subjects and the grades awarded.

Subjects and levels studied:	Number of credits achieved:			Total credits per subject
	Achieved	Merit	Excellence	
Total:				

Qualifications achieved to date:

Name and level of qualification	Endorsement (if applicable)	Date awarded

Please summarise the information from your CV below:

What sports, cultural, or other involvement do you currently have with your school?

What are your interests and hobbies?

How did you hear about our hostel programme?

Signature of applicant: _____ **Date:** ____ / ____ / ____

I confirm that all of the information given is true and correct and that the applicant does not have any medical condition which requires individual care and supervision. I understand that should such a condition arise during the year that I may be required to remove my child (the applicant) from the hostel, and am aware of conditions of withdrawal regarding fees.

Signature of parent/guardian: _____ **Date:** ____ / ____ / ____

Medical information and declaration

The hostel offers semi-independent living and the level of support we can offer in the case of ongoing medical conditions is limited. As such, we ask that you have your medical practitioner complete this questionnaire and that it is returned to us with your application, or separately, but before the closing date of Friday 3 July.

If you have any medical conditions it will not necessarily preclude your acceptance into the hostel, but not knowing about these at the outset may affect your success in the hostel. Any information provided to us will remain confidential to the selection committee during the application process, but may be disclosed to the Guidance Counsellor, Senior Dean and hostel management team if you are accepted into the hostel.

Medical practitioner to complete

Name of hostel applicant: _____

Has the hostel applicant ever sought medical help, received treatment, or suffered from, any of the following conditions in the last 12 months:

- Anorexia or bulimia
- Depression
- Self harm
- Allergies
- Any medical or psychological condition which may require support during the year
- Any injury/physical impairment that may affect participation in the outdoor pursuits programme

If you have answered 'Yes' to any of the above, please give details, especially in regard to how this may affect the applicant in the hostel and on outdoor activities in the following school year – continue overleaf if necessary:

Name of Medical Practitioner:

Address:

Signature of Medical Practitioner:

Signature of applicant

Signature of parent/caregiver

Date signed

We confirm that the information given above is correct and that we have not omitted any medical information that may be relevant to my application to the hostel programme.

This page to be used for further medical information if required.

MOUNT ASPIRING COLLEGE 2027 Year 13 Hostel Programme

Confidential School Reference *to be completed by your school Dean*

Please email directly to: learn@mtaspiring.school.nz (Jo-Anne Cooper, PA to the Principal)
by: 9.00am Friday 3 July (application closing date).

Name of student:	
Name of school:	

****Please circle****

Academic ability and performance	Poor	1	2	3	4	5	Excellent

Level of motivation / ability to work independently	Poor	1	2	3	4	5	Excellent

Relationship with others (peers, staff etc)	Poor	1	2	3	4	5	Excellent

****Please circle****

Maturity level / behaviour	Poor	1	2	3	4	5	Excellent

Has this student had any negative pastoral entries on your SMS, if so please describe:

Other relevant Information:

Name: _____ (printed clearly)

Position: _____ Contact phone: _____

Email: _____ Date: _____