



Bulletin – Tertiary Provider and International Bulletin

21st September, 2020

COVID-19 update – change in Alert Levels

The government has today announced that;

- **Auckland** will move to **Alert Level 2** from **11.59pm, Wednesday September 23rd 2020**. Cabinet will meet again on **Monday 5th October 2020** to review the Auckland settings, with any changes in Alert Levels taking effect **at 11.59pm on Wednesday 7th October 2020**.
- The **rest of New Zealand** will move to **Alert Level 1** from **11.59pm, Monday 21st September 2020**.

You will be familiar with guidance for tertiary education organisations (TEOs) on how to operate under different Alert Levels. This detailed guidance can be [found here](#).

The main points for teaching and learning at Alert Level 2 in Auckland are;

- **At Alert Level 2, there are no size restrictions for lectures and classes**, though TEOs should limit capacity to enable physical distancing of one metre, where possible
- **Gatherings that are not directly education-related**, such as speaking events open to the public, cultural events, social events, etc. should follow the public health control measure that apply to that type gatherings, including any restrictions on number of attendees.



International students remaining in New Zealand over summer 2020/2021

With the current border restrictions on movement in and out of New Zealand, tertiary-level international students will need to make careful and informed decisions about their plans for the summer period.

International students facing hardship will need to reconsider whether they should continue to stay in New Zealand or are better to return home.

Any international student who chooses to return home (or otherwise leave New Zealand) over the summer break needs to be aware that they are not eligible to re-enter the country to continue study in early 2021 under current border settings.

Options for students currently studying in New Zealand

International students studying in New Zealand who intend to continue study in 2021 have the following options at the end of this academic year. They can:

- remain in New Zealand over summer break and continue their New Zealand study in 2021.
- return home and continue their New Zealand study online in 2021, if their institution has been approved to support this option
- return home and cease their New Zealand study

TEOs are asked to ensure they are familiar with their ongoing [International Code obligations](#) over the summer period, and to assist students to understand their options.

There is some important information you need to be aware of if your international students choose to remain in New Zealand over summer. You can find it at www.education.govt.nz.

Additional support for NCEA students whose learning has been disrupted by COVID-19

The government has announced additional support for NCEA students to help mitigate the impact of the continuing disruption from COVID-19.

Auckland-based students working towards NCEA can now earn up to six extra Learning Recognition (LR) Credits at Level 1, and up to four extra LR credits at Levels 2 and 3. The credits required for these students to be awarded a Certificate Endorsement have been reduced by two further credits, from 46 credits to 44 credits at Merit or Excellence level.

Students who are enrolled this year in a tertiary Vocational Pathway or NCEA programme, such as a Youth Guarantee Fees Free programme, are also eligible for the LR credits.

TEOs should be proactively communicating to students what the requirements are for limited entry programmes this year.

Find out more about the changes and what they mean for TEOs at www.youthguarantee.education.govt.nz.



Things change quickly so stay up to date by following the links below:

For health advice, please refer to the Ministry of Health's website.

<https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus>

For cross-agency information about COVID-19, including what support is available, health advice, and travel restrictions visit the All-of-Government website <https://www.govt.nz/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/>

For resources in Te Reo Māori, visit <https://covid19.govt.nz/updates-and-resources/translations/te-reo-maori/>

For information to support Pacific communities, visit <https://www.facebook.com/MinistryforPacificPeoples/>

For resources in [sign language and easy read formats](#).

To keep updated on travel restrictions and visa information visit <https://www.immigration.govt.nz/about-us/media-centre/news-notifications/coronavirus-update-inz-response>

For additional advice for tertiary providers/whare wānanga visit the Ministry of Education website <http://www.education.govt.nz/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov-3/>

