



Bulletin – Tertiary Provider and International Bulletin

31st August, 2020

COVID-19 UPDATE

International Education - Funding for PTEs that are experiencing difficulties due to COVID-19

Applications are now open for the Private Training Establishments (PTEs) [Targeted Assistance Fund \(TAF\)](#).

Applications close at 5pm on 11 September 2020.

The fund will provide assistance to PTEs that attract international students to their region, and have a unique education offering that contributes to skills development and students pathways. This includes those which may be the only provider of that type in the region and/or are a significant employer in the region. This also includes PTEs that support the broader international education sector and the wider economy.

To apply for this funding, PTEs must meet all of the following eligibility criteria:

- be a private training establishment as defined in section 10(1) of the Education and Training Act 2020
- have a Category 1 or Category 2 External Evaluation and Review (EER) rating from the New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA) as at 1 July 2020
- have a 40% decline in revenue between 1 March and 31 December 2020 (actual and projected, with the latter auditable) compared with the same period in 2019. The decline in actual revenue must be related to COVID-19
- have had 50% or more international students enrolled as equivalent full time students (EFTS) in 2019

The PTE TAF, managed by the Tertiary Education Commission (TEC), is part of a long-term recovery plan for the international education sector.

For more details visit the [PTE Targeted Assistance Fund page](#).



Options to help address disruptions to practicums and work placements

We understand that some providers in Auckland are concerned about students not being able to complete their programme of study this year, as a result of the ongoing impact of COVID-19. The disruption may affect a provider's ability to deliver programmes due to class size restrictions and students not being able to undertake practicums and work placements.

There are a number of temporary programme modification options available to providers to help address disruptions to practicums and work placements within their programmes. When considering these options, providers need to be confident that learners can still achieve the appropriate learning outcomes. Potential options include:

- reducing the practical experience hours required and replacing with theory learning.
- temporarily relaxing requirements for work placements, e.g. allowing students to undertake work placements in their own workplace.
- allowing students to continue their work placements from home, via video conferencing.
- rescheduling practical elements of their programmes (pushing back work placements and bringing forward theory learning).

Providers in Auckland requiring temporary programme change approvals to enable students to complete their programme of study are advised to contact NZQA on covid19.enquiries@nzqa.govt.nz.

Note that some regulatory bodies have made temporary changes to their registration criteria or practical requirements already. We encourage providers to continue to work with the relevant regulatory body to establish if further changes are required to the registration criteria or practical requirements of programmes to offset this disruption.

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/>

