



Bulletin – Tertiary Provider Bulletin

14th May, 2020

Budget 2020 - “Re-building Together”

Getting NZ Working again

Today the government has announced a number of budget initiatives that will both support our tertiary education sector and contribute to our national recovery from COVID-19. We have provided a high level summary of the initiatives below, with a view to working through the finer details with you over the coming weeks. For more information, visit [Budget 2020 highlights](#).

There will be an investment package of **\$1.6 billion in Trades and Apprenticeships Training** which will provide opportunities for New Zealanders of all ages to receive trades training. There are a number of initiatives within this package and these include:

✓ ***\$334m funding for additional tertiary education enrolments***

Provides funding for additional places within tertiary education between 2021 and 2023 to meet the increased demand from learners during the expected economic downturn from COVID-19.

✓ ***\$320m targeted investment support for free trades training in critical industries***

This new fund will make a range of training and apprenticeship programmes free for learners – for all ages, not just school leavers – over the next two years. This will be in addition to any fees-free support the learner has accessed, and will help learners of looking to gain skills or re-train in these targeted areas.

The fund will be available from 1 July 2020, and it will be targeted at specific vocational areas where demand from employers is already strong or expected to grow over the coming years. It will include courses linked to industry skills needs, in building and construction, agriculture, and manufacturing, and also vocational courses like community health, counselling and care work.



The details of what specific areas this fund will target and how it will operate are currently being finalised, and more information will be made available to learners and tertiary providers shortly.

✓ ***Up to \$412m support for employers to retain and keep training their apprentices***

This funding is intended to support employers and apprentices to continue training.

Details about how the scheme will operate are being developed. Further announcements will be made in the next month.

✓ ***\$19m for group training schemes to support apprentices***

This initiative will support group training schemes to retain and keep training their apprentices. The last thing we want to see is apprentices and trainees having to be let go when we need really them.

✓ ***\$230m funding for Workforce Development Councils and \$46m for Regional Skills Leadership groups***

Industry skills leadership will be vital in order to address the profound impact of COVID-19 on the labour market and education systems. The intention is to establish the Councils in the second half of 2020 so that they can begin to provide the crucial industry leadership to support the COVID-19 recovery.

The establishment of 15 Regional Skills Leadership Groups will provide a valuable source of on-the-ground, timelier intelligence about regional labour market disruption resulting from COVID-19.

✓ ***\$141m to increase tertiary education tuition and training subsidies by 1.6%***

This will support providers to maintain the quality of the learning opportunities accessed by hundreds of thousands of New Zealanders each year, and ensure they remain relevant to students' and employers' needs, whether it be a Wānanga, the NZIST and its subsidiaries, Universities, Transitional Industry Training Organisations and Private Training Establishments.

✓ ***\$32m for increased funding to meet demand in Trades Academies and specialist support for schools and tertiary education organisations***

We are increasing the volume of Trades Academy places in secondary schools by 1,000 places a year from 2021. This will help with our recovery by building up our future skilled workforce.

✓ ***\$16 million boost to Adult and Community Education***

This will restore funding and help providers to meet the increased needs for training and upskilling in the wake of COVID-19.

✓ ***\$50 million to support Māori trades training***

This initiative is led by the Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment. They will manage the disbursement of funds. This fund will enable Māori Crown partnerships to support trades training through establishment of group training schemes. Māori community groups will partner with the Crown to establish and design group training schemes that employ Māori as apprentices and support the placement of apprentices across a range of workplaces. It will work by providing tailored support for Māori employers to take on Māori apprentices.

✓ ***\$11 million, plus \$15 million of capital investment, for Tiro Whetū, a new online careers advice system.***

The new online careers system will support learners and workers throughout their lifetime to plan and manage their careers. It will help all New Zealanders to understand their transferrable skills and will be particularly valuable for those who can't easily show a clear work history.

✓ ***\$6.1 million to administer a code of pastoral care for domestic tertiary students.***

This initiative will provide funding to administer a domestic code of pastoral care for domestic tertiary students, and an associated disputes resolution scheme, with effect from 2021.

In addition to the new initiatives outlined above, the government has announced a ***\$20 m Hardship fund for Learners***. Students are facing additional costs associated with studying in a different way because of the disruption caused by Covid-19, while having fewer opportunities to work to support their study.

The \$20 million 2020 Hardship Fund for Learners recognises that there is not a one-size fits all approach to meeting the financial needs of students so we need to provide a safety net for learners, including those studying part-time, who don't benefit from the initial support package. This fund will be available at the end of May through tertiary education organisations. International PhD students paying domestic fees can access this fund. MSD support is also available for students needing help with urgent costs.

Other support for international students will be made available.

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 (novel coronavirus), including health advice and travel restrictions visit the All-of-Government website <https://www.govt.nz/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/>

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 wananga visit the Ministry of Education website <http://www.education.govt.nz/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov-3/>