



## Tertiary Provider and International Bulletin

Thursday 21 October 2021

### COVID-19 Update

- Government announcements relating to senior secondary schools at Alert Level 3
- Email address for all tertiary and international COVID-19 related queries

### Government announcements relating to senior secondary schools at Alert Level 3

Today the Minister of Education announced that onsite learning at schools in Level 3 regions will start from next week for senior secondary schools to prepare for end of year exams. This means students in years 11 to 13 can return to onsite learning from Tuesday 26 October.

The Minister also announced that NCEA and NZ Scholarship exams will proceed as planned, including in areas where Alert Level 3 has been in place.

For students sitting NCEA in Auckland, Waikato and Northland, NZQA has invoked the 'Unexpected Event Grade' process. During the year, teachers gather evidence of students' learning, and send grades to NZQA. These grades have undergone a quality assurance process to make sure they are fair and relate to the standard being assessed.

Where possible, students will be expected to attend exams. However, for students in Auckland, Waikato or Northland, NZQA will calculate a student's final grade based on whichever is higher – the grade supplied by the school, or the grade earned in the exam. If the student did not sit the exam, they receive the grade supplied by the school.

NCEA is the main school-leaving qualification in New Zealand, and each year is an important step to support our senior secondary students into future opportunities. The re-opening of learning onsite to all years 11 to 13 students is a complex undertaking, and involves a large cohort of students, at a critical point in time. From a tertiary perspective, this is an important decision that supports future tertiary students.

While efforts to date have largely focussed on getting these students through their NCEA exams, we are thinking hard about other parts of the education system, including the tertiary sector.

We hope to be able to provide more information on other parts of the education sector soon.

### Email address for all tertiary and international COVID-19 related queries

A central mailbox has been set-up for all queries related to COVID-19 - [COVID19.Tertiary@education.govt.nz](mailto:COVID19.Tertiary@education.govt.nz). Please continue to send your queries to this central mailbox.

We will continue to meet with the sector regularly.

### 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>



Please continue to check the **Ministry of Health's locations of interest page** to find out if you might have been exposed to COVID-19 [COVID-19: Contact tracing locations of interest | Ministry of Health NZ](#)

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/>

Information for schools, services and tertiary providers, as well as parents and whanau can be found on the Ministry of Education website [COVID-19 – Education in New Zealand](#)

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>

Advice for international students in NZ <https://naumainz.studyinnewzealand.govt.nz/help-and-advice/healthcare/the-coronavirus-what-you-need-to-know>

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

