



Briefing Note: Reporting on the Delivery Progress of COVID-19 Recovery and Response Funding Initiatives

To:	Hon Chris Hipkins, Minister of Education		
Date:	18 March 2021	Priority:	Medium
Security Level:	Budget Sensitive	METIS No:	1254707
Drafter:	Sarah Monnon	DDI:	6444638901
Key Contact:	Melissa O'Carroll	DDI:	6444637730
Messaging seen by Communications team:	Yes / No	Round Robin:	No

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this paper is to provide updated COVID-19 Response and Recovery Fund (CRRF) information that includes expenditures as at the end of February.

Note that this paper was commissioned following your discussion at the agency meeting on 15 March 2021 to reflect the need for more current data.

Agree that this Briefing **not** be proactively released due to budget sensitivities.

Agree / Disagree

Summary

- 1 The report demonstrates the accomplishments and progress towards delivering the 44 CRRF initiatives in Vote Education and Vote Tertiary Education. The CRRF has been used to maintain education services, support the recovery of international education and urgently respond to regional and local needs.
- 2 Of the initiatives funded by the CRRF, 33 (75%) are currently being implemented and 11 initiatives (25%) were completed prior to 28 February 2021.
- 3 Of the 33 ongoing programmes:
 - a. 5 initiatives (15%) are **red**, which are off track for spending and unlikely to spend full allocation within the financial year
 - b. 5 initiatives (15%) are **amber**, which have delayed expenditure and we are monitoring closely
 - c. 23 initiatives (70%) are **green**, which are on track to spend the full allocation within the financial year.

Recommended Actions

The Ministry of Education recommends you:

- a. **Not proactively release** this report due to the content being budget sensitive.

Release/Not release



Emily Fabling
Deputy Secretary
Strategy, Planning and Governance

18/03/2021



Hon Chris Hipkins
Minister of Education

26/3/2021

Annex 1: February Status of Vote Education and Vote Tertiary Education Ongoing CRRF Initiatives

**Note spend to date is a combination of OpEx and CapEx where applicable.*

STATUS	DEFINITION
● RED	Initiatives that are off track for spending and unlikely to spend full allocation within the financial year.
● AMBER	Initiatives that have delayed expenditure and we are monitoring closely.
● GREEN	Initiatives that are on track to spend the full allocation within the financial year.

Name (Descriptions in Annex)	Total 20/21 Opex Funding	Spend to January 2021	*Spend to February 2021	Forecast Total Spend	Status	Rationale for Status or Variance	Comment
1. Equitable Digital Access	17.9 (plus \$20.2 CapEx)	31.3	31.3	23.6	●	We received provider discounts, found cheaper solutions, and were required to provide fewer connections than originally forecast due to limited provider capacity and service cancellations.	Over 45,000 Internet connections have been allocated to households with learners across the country, and over 37,000 devices have been distributed to learners. As per METIS 1248325, \$10.2 million forecast underspend has been transferred to 2021/22 through three adjustments.
2. Increasing Trades Academy Places and Supporting Secondary Transitions	6.2	0.78	1.1	6.2	●	Funding fully committed for 2021 calendar year (funding covering 2020/21, and first 6 months of 2021/22).	9(2)(g)(i) 1,000 additional Trades Academy places have been fully subscribed for the 2021 calendar year, and are also expected to be fully subscribed in the future.
3. Increasing Wellbeing and mental Health support to Learners and Education Workforce	74.0	34.9	40.5	65.6	●	The URF is tracking well to be fully spent by end of fiscal year. However, the full impact of recent COVID-19 resurgence restrictions has not been realised. Other components of this initiative have been slower to implement.	By the end of the year, some components may not fully spend out. The number is not yet certain enough to return. The exception to this is the Urgent Response Fund, which is responsible for delivering \$35.4 million (87%) of the funds allocated.
4. Mitigating Impacts of Socioeconomic Disadvantage: School Lunches (op)	106.9 (plus \$3.9 CapEx, total \$110.8)	16.0	29.8	99.6	●	There have been some delays due to contractor arrangements in implementing this initiative compared to the initial timeframes. Contracts have now been finalised for the 120+ providers.	The rollout has begun for 77,000 students at the beginning of Term 1. \$25.6 million was transferred by fiscally neutral adjustment approved by Cabinet to Providing Access to Free Period Products in Schools and Kura.
5. 100% Qualified and Certificated Teachers (ECE)	12.24	1.2	1.2	12.24	●	This initiative started as planned on 1 January 2021.	The uptake is ahead of forecast by 19% compared to 16% of services. We expect it to fully spend out this financial year. The next payment is due to be made in March 2021.
6. Early Intervention: Te Kohanga Reo – Learning Support Initiative and Targeted COVID-19 Response	1.1	0.02	0.02	1.1	●	This project has been delayed by outcome agreement negotiations.	The Ministry has employed a Māori learning support educational psychologist as a Kaitohutohu Ārahi to work for the Trust full-time on this project until June 2022.
7. Creatives in Schools	1.6	0.1	0.1	1.6	●	Project is progressing as planned. Project governance is working hard to achieve initiative objectives.	Project is progressing as planned. Additional 23 projects will be funded for 2021 than anticipated, bringing total to 143.
8. Increasing Ongoing Resourcing Scheme Teacher Aide Hours	44.8	17.3	17.9	39.8	●	This initiative has been identified by the Treasury to return \$5.0 million in March 2021. There was a lag in uptake due to the time required to review individual education plans across the whole cohort of 10,000 verified students. Growth in verified numbers was slower than forecast, but numbers continue to rise.	This initiative has three elements: 1) A 3-hour average increase: We have paid two of these by the end of January 2021. The next payment will be made in Term 1, 2021. 2) ORS COVID-Response Fund: In Phase 1, we allocated 60% of the total Response Fund (\$18.6 million) to schools. 3) TAPEC: We estimate that TAPEC payments of \$8.1 million will be made in March and will include backdated payment for all the additional hours provided. Treasury has requested these funds be returned to the centre as offered by the Minister in the 29 January 2021 report back. All verified learners are receiving support. The full funding will be required in outyears. \$5 million in funding can be returned from the departmental appropriation for 2020/21 only. The spend on property remediation is dependent on Te Kōhanga Reo National Trust providing a final plan for their property program.
9. Maintaining Kōhanga Reo Viability during the Post COVID-19 Rebuilding Phase (previously: Sustaining Kōhanga Reo and Revitalising Te Reo Māori)	24.4	12.1	12.1	24.4	●	This initiative is progressing as planned and on track for delivery.	

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10. NCEA Online: Transforming Assessment for Learners	14.8	8.6	9.4	14.8	GREEN	Currently tracking with low actual expenditures but are still on track to utilise the entire fund by the end of the financial year.	The eventual roll-out of digital assessments across all schools and to all students is dependent on student access to devices, connectivity and on the voluntary 'opt-in' decision of each school. Any returns would seriously compromise the ability to deliver high-impact initiatives for Māori ākonga.
11. Supporting Māori Learners and Te Reo Māori Post COVID-19	60.0	4.0	4.1	51.0	RED	The majority of this spend is in Te Ahu o te Reo Māori (\$30.6 million), which is dependent on complex procurement negotiations. Providers have been approved, contract negotiations are underway, and we are confident the funding will be committed.	
12. Technology Support for School Children with Learning Support Needs	1.0	0	0	1.0	AMBER	Anticipating a spend of \$0.7 million directly to students and ākonga in schools and kura in Terms 1 and 2, 2021.	Schools will be informed of the application process through the School Bulletin (and other communication channels) on 23 February 2021.
13. Targeted Support for Pacific Learners and Families (operating contingency)	16.2	0.1	0.1	16.2	GREEN	Funding Agreements are being finalised by the end of March 2021 and all funds are expected to be spent by June 2021. Expect to see progress in the March report.	Funding is split by regions to allow local decisions to be made. Positions will be starting in March as a result of the funding.
14. Sustaining the Early Learning Network (operating contingency)	206.0	3.9	3.9	Up to \$30 million	RED	This initiative has been identified by the Treasury to return \$171.4 million in March 2021.	Ministers agreed to extend operating contingency until 31 March 2021 (Metis 1244100 refers) to enable consideration of remaining contingency as part of Budget 2021. The initiative has focused on delivering the Sustainability Grant, which closes 30 April. Some underspend expected from the \$30 million fund.
15. Targeted Support for At Risk Ākonga (operating contingency)	22.9	9.7	10.2	12.3	AMBER	There was lower than expected expenditure due to a smaller than predicted disruption to the market and the impact of other support from government, such as the funding guarantee and wage subsidy. The Ministry's delivery of this initiative is on track. We are liaising with the Ministry of Social Development to obtain an update on their year-end forecast.	This initiative is jointly led by MoE and MSD. The Ministry's At Risk Intervention programme has spent 57% of the funding to December 2020. There will be further expenditure over end of February/March, as initiatives under the fund are implemented further.
16. Careers System Online: Tiro Whetū	1.2 (plus \$15.0 CapEx, total \$16.2)	6.8	6.8	7.3	GREEN	This initiative is on track.	TEC remain on track for 2020/21.
17. Adult and Community Education (ACE)	2.2	0.8	0.8	1.8	GREEN	Most funding is expected to be committed for 2021.	There may be some additional learner needs over 2021 that will be utilised from small portion unallocated as at February.
18. Establishing Workforce Development Councils To Support COVID-19 Recovery	46.0	0.0	0	16.0	RED	This initiative has been identified by the Treasury to return \$30.0 - \$42.0 million in March 2021. There have been some delays in this initiative compared to the accelerated timeframes. These were exacerbated by the resurgence of COVID-19 and the highly consultative process involved in the establishment of WDCs.	The establishment unit will spend \$4 million in 2020/21. Minister agreed to timeline for establishment of WDC by June. TEC will release \$12 million on delivery of the WCD 90-day establishment plans. With Cabinet approval, these funds could be transferred to support meeting additional demand for tertiary education and training.
19. Maintaining Support for Onshore International Students and International Education	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	GREEN	Require contingency to be held to cover reimbursements for students where private providers fail as a result of COVID-19.	Administration of the Code of Practice and Disputes Resolution Scheme, Policy development and advice to support the sector are underway. Promotion, marketing and strategy development, International digital media campaigns, long-term retention strategy development and engagement planning for the regions are all underway.
20. Meeting Increased Learner Need for Tertiary Education	79.5	49.8	49.8	79.5	GREEN	This is demand-driven funding and the size of the variance cannot be confirmed until enrolment data	Funding confirmation letters have been issued to TEOs that agree the volume and value of delivery. TEC will continue to monitor

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						has been received in April 2021. There is a possibility that demand will be higher than the level able to be funded.	delivery to funding allocations and make additional payments where increased demand is evidenced. To help match funding to demand from learners, TEOs can continue to apply for additional funding over 2021. Any potential overspend on provider-based and/or workplace-based enrolment expenditure may be able to be covered by transferring other funding available within the Tertiary Tuition and Training MCA and/or the TEC's balance sheet funding mechanism. The Minister of Finance would need to approve any transfer within the MCA greater than \$10 million . If MCA transfers are not available, 9(2)(f)(iv), 9(2)(g)(i) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] to fund enrolments could only be done with Cabinet approval. Any potential underspends will likely be returned to the centre. Likely to be fully committed to maintain apprentices in training, fund extended wage subsidies for apprentices and waive employer fees during COVID-19 restrictions.
21. Support For Group Training Schemes To Retain Apprentices In Preparation Of Post-COVID-19 Economic Recovery	16.1	12.2	13.5	16.1	●	This initiative is on track.	
22. Targeted Training and Apprenticeship Fund	160.0	72.2	72.2	252.0	●	This initiative is on track.	We expect this full amount of CRRF funding to be utilised and some of the existing baseline funding to be used to meet fee payments.
23. Transitional Industry Training Organisation And Workforce Development Council-Led COVID-19 Response Projects	10.3	5.3	5.3	10.0	●	This initiative is on track.	We will assess this later in 2021 after further WDC developments, but half of current financial year funding has been committed by existing entities. The expected profile of expenditure is affected by the current timeline for establishing WDCs, as WDCs will have a core role of skills leadership and planning in the new vocational education system.
24. Critical Funding to Address Supplier Contractual Obligations Arising From The Impact Of COVID-19	18.0 (plus \$89 CapEx, total \$107.0)	Funded through baseline (METIS 1245468)	Funded through baseline (METIS 1245468)	0	●	This initiative has been identified by the Treasury to return \$56.0 million in March 2021. There was lower than expected expenditure due to a smaller than predicted disruption to the market.	This initiative includes \$89 million in CapEx. Based on updated financial risk model for potential impacts of COVID-19 on the Education construction market, it is recommended contingency funding is revised to \$51 million total (reduced from \$107 million , returning \$56 million to centre), and the timeline for contingency is revised to 30 June 2022.
25. Enable providers to deliver education offshore and develop quality assurance	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.5	●	Expenditure is tracking as planned.	Expenditure is tracking as planned.
26. Te Mana Tuhono (Network-As-A-Service and Cybersecurity For Schools)	5.8 (plus \$21.5 CapEx, total \$27.4)	2.7	3.2	8.0	●	This initiative is on track for the final end date over a 4-year period.	This initiative includes \$21.5 million in CapEx. The Ministry is progressively installing active ICT network management and monitoring for all opted-in state and state-integrated school. As at 3 February, 152 installs had been completed with high levels of satisfaction.
27. Ongoing Resourcing Scheme Cost Pressure for Teacher Aide Hours	19.0	11.7	12.5	15.2	●	This initiative has been identified by the Treasury to return \$3.8 million in March 2021. There were fewer than expected applications initially for funding to help children get back to school. It is hard to apply fixed term, one-off funding to an ongoing need.	At present we are assessing applications for Phase 2 of the Response Fund, which makes \$12.4 million available for schools to apply for additional Teacher Aide support for students who need more help on their return to school. Treasury has requested \$3.8 million of the fund be returned to the centre as offered by the Minister in the 29 January 2021 report back. Regions are, however, continuing to assess applications and are expected to spend \$15.2 million this year. This would potentially allow a \$3.8 million return in 2020/21 only.

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28. Providing Digital Identity Required for Online Assessment And Learning	2.6 (plus \$6.9 CapEx, total \$9.5)	0.2	0.2	2.2	RED	This initiative could return \$0.7 million to the centre.	The project is forecasting less expenditure in 2021 (\$0.7 million) due to a longer planning cycle through to June
29. International Education Strategic Recovery: Communications, marketing and brand awareness	2.0	0.5	0.5	2.0	GREEN	This initiative is on track.	This initiative is required to position NZ competitively for international education amongst high quality student audiences and ensure conversion to study across all modes of education delivery.
30. International Education Strategic Recovery: Diversification of International Education Products and Services	1.8	0.7	0.7	1.8	GREEN	This initiative is on track.	TEOs gave feedback that they are seeing an increased number of ESOL learner enrolments since the initiative started and that the funding allocated is not enough for them to meet increased learner demand.
31. International Education Strategic Recovery: Recovery Funding For NZ-Based Learners to Access English Language Courses	1.5	0.5	0.5	1.5	GREEN	This initiative is on track.	Remaining allocated funding will be paid out to TEOs in six instalments from January to June 2021.
32. International Education Strategic Recovery: Immediate Targeted Support for Private Training Establishments	10.0	4.0	4.0	8.0	GREEN	This initiative is on track. This initiative has been identified by the Treasury to return \$1.8 million in March 2021. These funds are surplus due to the TEC not funding L3 CTS Airline Academy as expected. The funding panel deemed there was a significant risk of the provider closing down, so there would be no benefit to distributing this funding.	\$8.1 million has been contracted, and there is \$1.8 million unutilised due to the TEC not providing funding to L3 CTS Airline Academy earlier in the year. The underspend could be returned.
33. Maintaining Support for International Education (Export Education Levy funded activities)	0	0	0	0	GREEN	This initiative is on track to start in 2021/22.	Note: this relates to 2021/22 only.

Annex 2: Completed CRRF Initiatives

- 1 Establishing A Student Hardship Fund For 2020
- 2 Support to learners for distance learning while schools, kura and services were closed under COVID-19 Alert Levels 3-4
- 3 Support to schools for online learning: Additional support to learners for distance learning while schools, kura and services were closed under COVID-19 Alert Levels 3-4
- 4 Wage support for school hostel employees due to COVID-19
- 5 Extension of emergency payment for casual staff in the school sector
- 6 Supporting At-Risk Ākonga To Re-Engage and Attend School During The Covid-19 Recovery
- 7 Transition Support for State And State Integrated Schools That Have Lost International Revenue As A Result Of Covid-19
- 8 Continuation of Support for the Casual Schooling Workforce Unable to Work Due to COVID-19
- 9 Funding to support schools to manage the immediate costs of COVID-19
- 10 Support for Schools Payroll
- 11 Ensuring continuity and adequacy of student support – increase in student loans. (Treasury confirmed no need to report on this initiative.)

Annex 3: Full description of appropriation

1	Equitable Digital Access Provision of devices to students, and provision of internet service to student's households.
2	Increasing Trades Academy Places and Supporting Secondary Transitions This initiative provides funding for two components: 1) Increase in the volume of Trades Academy places by 1,000 places a year from 2021 ongoing. This is intended to give schools more options to meet the needs of their students during the expected economic downturn and it will ultimately help with our recovery by building up our skilled workforce. 2) Continue funding for the network of Ministry regionally-based staff to provide specialist support for schools and tertiary education organisations, focusing on learner achievement, retention and transition, and those not in education, employment or training. Led by the Minister of Education.
3	Increasing Wellbeing and mental Health support to Learners and Education Workforce. This initiative will provide funding to increase the provision of wellbeing and mental health support to learners and the education workforce in response to COVID-19. Led by the Minister of Education.
4	Mitigating Impacts of Socioeconomic Disadvantage: School Lunches (op) This initiative provides funding to relieve food insecurity and improve educational outcomes for students through expanding the Free and Healthy School Lunch Programme to up to 190,000 more Year 1-13 students. Delivery targets schools with the highest disadvantage using the Equity Index. Before the pandemic around one in five children lived in households with severe or moderate food insecurity. This initiative will help cushion the blow of Covid-19 impacts on students in already socio-economically disadvantaged households who will now be experiencing heightened financial stress, job and income losses. In Term 3 recruitment, planning and systems development will support the scaled-up programme, with expansion of school lunches starting in Term 4.
5	100% Qualified and Certificated Teachers This initiative provides funding to reinstate a higher funding band for teacher-led, centre-based services (i.e. kindergartens and education and care centres) that employ a 100% qualified and certificated teaching workforce. This is expected to improve the quality and frequency of teacher-child interactions, and lead to better learning and developmental outcomes for children in services employing a 100% certificated workforce. COVID-19 is likely to lower demand for early learning services. This initiative maintains employment opportunities for qualified ECE teachers in an environment when fewer services are likely to be operating.
6	Early Intervention: Te Kohanga Reo – Learning Support Initiative and Targeted Covid-19 Response The Ministry of Education (the Ministry) will partner with Te Kōhanga Reo National Trust (the Trust) to co-design and co-deliver targeted strategies and support for the kōhanga whānau (kaiako, parents, whānau) to support tamariki with learning support needs to recover from COVID-19 and reduce the gap in access to learning support. With an emphasis on keeping Kōhanga whānau connected during alert levels enabling a safe return of all tamariki and whānau to Kōhanga.
7	Creatives in Schools This initiative seeks to expand the Creatives in Schools programme, in which professional artists and creative practitioners partner with schools and kura to share specialist artistic knowledge and creative practice. This is an expansion of an existing initiative, funded through Budget 2019, with the new funding enabling the Ministry of Education to increase the total number of projects from 304 to 510 over the first four years of the programme.
8	Increasing Ongoing Resourcing Scheme Teacher Aide Hours This initiative delivers an increase in teacher aide hours for over 10,000 students in the Ongoing Resourcing Scheme (ORS). This initiative means schools with ORS students will receive increased funding to employ teacher aides for more hours to help with the transition back to school. Initially this will support high and very high needs students with physical distancing and hygiene practices, however it will also allow schools to respond to the individual needs of the student upon their return to school. Parents will experience greater wellbeing as a result of their children receiving the support they need to return to school safely. Led by the Minister of Education.
9	Maintaining Kōhanga Reo Viability during the Post-Covid 19 Rebuilding Phase (previously: Sustaining Kōhanga Reo and Revitalising Te Reo Māori) The initiative provides funding to improve the sustainability, capacity and capability of Kōhanga Reo. This will assist the Crown to revitalise te reo Māori and help integrate it into the learning of children by 2025. The initiative will increase the funding rates for each Kōhanga reo and the annual funding the Ministry provides the Kōhanga reo National Trust (the Trust) to support the Kōhanga reo network. The support for the Trust includes funding to assist with assessment of, and associated remedial and rehabilitation work on, Kōhanga reo properties. Led by the Minister of Education and the Associate Minister of Education, Hon Kelvin Davis.
10	NCEA Online: Transforming Assessment for Learners This initiative will provide funding to continue to implement digital National Certificate of Education Achievement (NCEA) examinations. Access to digital external examinations is a critical component of the response to COVID-19 and reflects today's expectations for digitally supported teaching and learning. Building on significant investments already made and progress so far, a flexible sector technology asset will enable digital assessment across all appropriate NCEA subjects and levels. It will support the further development of resilient operating models for assessment undertaken by the New Zealand Qualifications Authority, including supporting the implementation of the proposed NCEA changes. Led by the Minister of Education.
11	Supporting Maori Learners And Te Reo Maori Post Covid-19 This initiative will: Support Māori learners and whānau to reconnect with education services following COVID-19 to ensure they access the full range of education and wellbeing services and achieve successful outcomes by engaging Iwi and Māori organisations to provide facilitation and brokerage services; It will also strengthen the delivery of Māori Language in Education through enhanced distance- and place-based blended approaches, including targeted support for the education workforce, resource development and information to learners and whānau. Led by Associate Minister of Education, Hon Kelvin Davis.
12	Technology Support for School Children With Learning Support Needs This initiative will provide funding for school children with learning support needs to access devices or assistive technology to enable them to fully participate in learning, either at home or at school. Led by the Minister of Education.
13	Targeted Support for Pacific Learners and Families (operating contingency) Tautai o le Moana– Navigators of the Ocean is a professional learning and development initiative designed to strengthen the capabilities of those in leadership, to improve outcomes and support the wellbeing of Pacific learners.
14	Sustaining the Early Learning Network (operating contingency) This contingency provides support for the viability of early learning services.
15	Targeted Support for At Risk Ākonga (operating contingency) This contingency provides targeted support for at-risk ākonga.
16	Careers System Online: Tiro Whetū This initiative enables TEC to develop a free, consistent, accessible, high quality tool for learners and workers to use throughout their lifetime to plan and manage their careers. It will help New Zealanders to understand their transferrable skills and develop a personalised career plan targeting the vulnerable and supporting key government agencies. The tool will help New Zealanders understand the skills they have and their transferability to other jobs; it clarifies job-to-job flows, and raises confidence that their experience has given them

Annex 3: Full description of appropriation

skills relevant to jobs in demand. It will help secondary school students to gain line of sight to career opportunities and learning pathways needed, broadening their options to enable good decision-making. Led by the Minister of Education.

17 Adult and Community Education (ACE) - a modern approach to night classes

This initiative provides funding for building the capability of providers and expanding the range of Government-funded Adult and Community Education (ACE) to better meet the learning needs of New Zealanders in the post COVID-19 21st century. Led by the Minister of Education

18 Establishing Workforce Development Councils To Support Covid-19 Recovery

This initiative provides funding to accelerate the establishment of Workforce Development Councils (WDCs) to give industry greater leadership across the vocational education and training system, and help ensure the delivery of the skills industries need to recover from the impact of COVID-19. WDCs are a foundational component of the Government's Reform of Vocational Education. Led by the Minister of Education.

19 Maintaining Support for Onshore International Students and International Education

This initiative provides funding to offset the shortfall in revenue from the Export Education Levy (EEL). The EEL is paid by providers with international students and the funds are used to deliver services to support international education and international students. As far fewer students are able to study in New Zealand due to COVID-19, the projected EEL revenue is lower than needed to fund the pastoral care services, marketing and promotion activities. We propose to lessen the financial impact on education providers by 'freezing' EEL payments for the last trimester of 2019 and not collecting them for 2020. We are also seeking funding to hold in contingency to cover reimbursements for students where private providers fail as a result of COVID-19.

20 Meeting Increased Learner Need For Tertiary Education

This initiative provides funding to manage the cost of funding additional tertiary education enrolments from 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2023 resulting from the impact of COVID-19, Led by the Minister of Education

21 Support For Group Training Schemes To Retain Apprentices In Preparation Of Post-Covid-19 Economic Recovery

This Supporting Learners and Providers initiative funds Group Training Schemes to continue to employ apprentices whose host employers (primarily small construction businesses) are unable to support them and provide on-the-job opportunities. Retaining these apprentices through the COVID-19 restrictions will enable a quick restart of training once the restrictions are lifted and business opportunities improve for host employers. This will ensure apprentices can continue with their training and become work-ready sooner. Led by the Minister of Education.

22 Targeted Training and Apprenticeship Fund

Funding vocational learning options fees-free over the immediate period of the economic recession, 2020-2022, to support people to upskill during the economic downturn, within the workplace, or at providers. It would support education and training towards qualifications to meet industry skill needs, and vocational learning for roles that support community wellbeing. It would also include training in smaller learning blocks, which support more flexibility around delivery during the pandemic alert levels and gaps in learners' employment. Led by the Minister of Education.

23 Transitional Industry Training Organisation And Workforce Development Council-Led Covid-19 Response Projects

This Enabling the System to Respond initiative provides funding for projects led by Transitional Industry Training Organisations (TITOs) and Workforce Development Councils (WDCs), involving industries, industry groups and training providers, to:
develop local and industry training responses to COVID-19,
design alternative arrangements for apprentices who have lost jobs,
design with providers learning pathways that work for industries, and
review existing training standards and programme components so they are fit for purpose as short packages of learning or as part of changed pathway designs.
Led by the Minister of Education.

24 Critical Funding to Address Supplier Contractual Obligations Arising From The Impact Of Covid-19

This contingency provides funding to reimburse school property contractors who have incurred additional unavoidable costs as a result of COVID-19.

25 Enable providers to deliver education offshore and develop quality assurance

26 Te Mana Tuhono (Network-As-A-Service And Cybersecurity For Schools)

This initiative provides essential funding to strengthen the resilience of delivering online learning systems, including NCEA Online. It ensures that schools' aging network hardware is upgraded and cybersecurity protection is installed to tackle the increasing risk of phishing scams, data leaks, and exposure to harmful websites.

27 Ongoing Resourcing Scheme Cost Pressure for Teacher Aide Hours

This initiative provides funding to address cost pressures arising from the urgent need for an increase in teacher aide hours for more than 10,000 high and very high needs students in the Ongoing Resourcing Scheme (ORS). The level of student need and resulting demand for teacher aide hours has been higher over the past year than is currently funded, creating an ongoing baseline cost pressure.

28 Providing Digital Identity Required For Online Assessment And Learning

This initiative provides funding to add functionality and identity records to the Education Sector Logon system for secondary schools students so that they can sit NCEA online securely. This logon system could be rolled out across the remaining student cohorts in the school sector in the future at marginal cost to support online enrolment and learning.

29 International Education Strategic Recovery: Communications, marketing and brand awareness

This initiative provides funding to support international education communications, marketing and brand awareness so that we can drive and convert demand when circumstances allow, and ensure that NZ's education brand and reputation do not diminish while borders are closed.

30 International Education Strategic Recovery: Diversification Of International Education Products And Services

31 International Education Strategic Recovery: Funding For NZ-Based Learners To Access English Language Courses

The PTE ESOL Fund has a dual purpose. The funding will help increase demand for English language training, to be met by English Language Schools. In addition, this fund will also help with upskilling and improving the employability of New Zealanders with English language needs, including migrant partners and dependents of New Zealanders.

32 International Education Strategic Recovery: Immediate Targeted Support For Private Training Establishments.

PTE TAF aims to support the stability of PTEs that contribute to regional significance or skill development needs. The providers can then in turn support their regions when international students return.

33 Maintaining Support For International Education (Export Education Levy Funded Activities)

This initiative provides funding to partially offset the shortfall in revenue for the Export Education Levy (EEL). The EEL is paid by providers with international students, and fund key international education pastoral care and promotion services. To support providers, planned legislative changes propose suspending collecting the EEL for 2021 (in addition to 2020, covered by Budget 2020). COVID-19 has seen a significant drop in international student numbers.
Led by the Minister of Education.