

10 December 2020

Tēnā koe

Voluntary Bonding Scheme 2021 Intake – General Practice Trainees

The Voluntary Bonding Scheme (VBS) is a practical initiative run by the Ministry of Health (the Ministry) to encourage health professionals to work in the communities and specialties that need them most, and to retain essential health professionals throughout New Zealand. Those on the scheme receive payments to help repay their student loan (or as top-up income for those without a loan).

If you will commence General Practice vocational training (GPEP 1, 2, or 3) in early 2021 in an eligible hard-to-staff training community, you may be eligible to register for the 2021 Intake.

For those who register for and are accepted to the Scheme and meet the terms and conditions, a **bond payment of \$30,000 (after tax) is available** after the completion of a minimum of three years' service.

The six-week Registration of Interest period for the Voluntary Bonding Scheme (the Scheme) 2021 Intake **is anticipated to open in mid-February 2021**. Registration will be via an online web-form available [on the Ministry of Health's website](#).

The eligible training communities for 2021 for General Practice trainees are:

- Bay of Plenty DHB (excluding Tauranga and Whakatane urban)
- Canterbury DHB (excluding Christchurch other than Banks Peninsula)
- Capital & Coast DHB (excluding Wellington and Porirua)
- Hawke's Bay DHB
- Lakes DHB
- Midcentral DHB
- Nelson Marlborough DHB (excluding Nelson/Richmond)
- Northland DHB
- South Canterbury DHB
- Southern DHB (excluding Dunedin, Mosgiel and Invercargill)
- Tairāwhiti DHB
- Taranaki DHB
- Waikato DHB (excluding Hamilton)
- Wairarapa DHB
- West Coast DHB
- Whanganui DHB

For more information, and to register, please visit our website:

<https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/health-workforce/voluntary-bonding-scheme/voluntary-bonding-scheme-2021-intake>

Please note that registrations for the 2021 Intake must be received within the 6-week Registration of Interest period – late registrations cannot be considered.

Nā mātou noa, nā

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