

10 December 2020

Tēnā koe

### Voluntary Bonding Scheme 2021 Intake – New Graduate Registered Nurses

The Voluntary Bonding Scheme (VBS) is a practical initiative run by the Ministry of Health (the Ministry) to encourage newly qualified 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).

For new-graduate registered nurses who register for and are accepted to the Scheme and meet the terms and conditions, **bond payments of \$8,499 (after tax) are available** after the completion of a minimum of three years' service, and up to two **additional payments of \$2,833** after a fourth and fifth year.

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](#).

If you are a new-graduate registered nurse:

- whose final year of undergraduate study was 2020, **and**
- you intend to work in an eligible hard-to-staff specialty **or** community for at least three and up to five years,  
you will be eligible to register for the 2021 Intake of the Scheme.

The eligible 2021 hard-to-staff specialties and communities for registered nurses are:	
Specialties	Communities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aged Care (aged residential care and older persons' health services)</li> <li>• Mental Health (hospital and community, including addiction services)</li> <li>• District Nursing</li> <li>• Well Child/Tamariki Ora</li> <li>• Primary/Practice Nursing - Māori <b>or</b> Pacific Providers</li> <li>• Primary/Practice Nursing within the following DHB areas:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Auckland DHB</li> <li>○ Counties Manukau DHB</li> <li>○ Taranaki DHB</li> <li>○ Waitemata DHB</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• South Canterbury DHB</li> <li>• Wairoa District</li> <li>• West Coast DHB</li> </ul>

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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