

8 December 2017

Dear Colleague

Voluntary Bonding Scheme 2018 Intake – New Graduate Dentists

The six-week Registration of Interest period for the Voluntary Bonding Scheme (the Scheme) 2018 Intake is **anticipated to open the first week of February 2018 and close mid-March 2018**. Registration will be via an online web-form available [on the Ministry of Health's website](#).

If you are a new graduate dentist:

- whose final year of undergraduate study was 2017, **and**
- you intend to work for listed hard-to-staff providers/practices for at least three and up to five years

you may be eligible to register for the 2018 Intake of the Scheme.

Bond payments of \$10,000 (after tax) per annum are available for up to five years, with payment for the first three years made after the completion of a minimum of three years' service, and additional payments after a fourth and fifth year. These payments will be made against your student loan or directly to you if you do not have a student loan.

The 2018 Intake Hard-to-staff communities for dentists are:

Any of the eight Māori Oral Health Providers listed below:

- Te Hiku Hauora - Kaitiaki
- Ngāti Hine Health Trust - Kawakawa
- Raukura Hauora o Tainui - Hamilton
- Te Manu Toroa - Tauranga
- Tipu Ora - Rotorua
- Ngati Porou Hauora - Te Puia Springs
- Te Taiwhenua o Heretaunga - Hastings
- Ora Toa PHO - Porirua

OR

- practices located in rural or remote areas (to be assessed on a case by case basis prior to a registrants confirmation on the Scheme.)

If accepted on the Scheme, dentists have until 30 June 2019 to secure employment for an approved provider/practice, and can move between them whilst participating.

More detailed information on the Scheme, including the 2018 Terms and Conditions, can be found on our website. You can also contact us at vbs@moh.govt.nz for more information.

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

Please note that the 2018 Intake is the only point that 2017 graduates will be eligible to register for the Scheme, and registrations must be received within the 6 week Registration of Interest period.

Yours sincerely

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