

15 December 2022

Tēnā koe

Voluntary Bonding Scheme 2023 Intake – Dentists

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

If you are a dentist:

- whose final year of undergraduate study was 2020, 2021 or 2022, **and**
- you intend to work for eligible hard-to-staff providers/practices for at least three and up to five years, you may be eligible to register for the 2023 Intake of the Scheme.

If your registration is accepted and you 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, and up to two **additional payments of \$10,000** after a fourth year and fifth year.

The six-week Registration of Interest period for the Scheme's 2023 Intake **is anticipated to open in mid-February 2023**. Registration will be via an online web-form available on the [Te Whatu Ora website](#).

The eligible 2023 hard-to-staff communities for dentists are:

Any of the following Māori Oral Health Providers:

- Te Hiku Hauora - Kaitaia
 - Ngāti Hine Health Trust - Kawakawa
 - Raukura Hauora o Tainui - Kirikiriroa / Hamilton
 - Te Manu Toroa - Tauranga
 - Tipu Ora - Rotorua
 - Ngati Porou Hauora - Te Puia Springs / Ruatoria
 - Te Taiwhenua o Heretaunga – Heretaunga / Hastings
 - Ora Toa PHO - Porirua
- OR**
- Māori Oral Health Providers (to be assessed on a case-by-case basis) *
 - Pacific Oral Health Providers (to be assessed on a case-by-case basis) *
 - practices located in rural or remote areas (to be assessed on a case-by-case basis) *

** prior to a registrant's confirmation on the Scheme*

For more information, and to register, please [visit our website](#).

Please note that registrations for the 2023 Intake must be received within the 6-week Registration of Interest period – late registrations cannot be considered.

Nāku noa, nā

Daniel Bilson

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[TeWhatuOra.govt.nz](https://www.TeWhatuOra.govt.nz)

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