

1 November 2021

Tēnā koe

Voluntary Bonding Scheme 2022 Intake – Oral Health Therapists

The Voluntary Bonding Scheme (the Scheme) is a practical initiative run by the Ministry of Health to encourage recently 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 can receive payments to help repay their student loan (or as top-up income for those without a loan).

If you are an oral health therapist:

- whose final year of undergraduate study was 2019, 2020 or 2021, **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 2022 Intake of the Scheme.

If your registration is accepted and you meet the terms and conditions, a **bond payment of \$11,796 (after tax) is available** after the completion of a minimum of three years' service, and up to two **additional payments of \$3,932** after a fourth year and fifth year.

The six-week Registration of Interest period for the Scheme's 2022 Intake **is anticipated to open in mid-February 2022**. Registration will be via an online web-form available on the [Ministry website](#).

The eligible 2022 hard-to-staff communities for oral health therapists 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**
- practices located in rural or remote areas (to be assessed on a case-by-case basis prior to confirmation on the Scheme.) *

* Scheme registrants working for DHB-operated services for Māori and/or rural communities will also be eligible for consideration by the Ministry on a case-by-case basis.

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

Please note that registrations for the 2022 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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