

17 March 2021

Tēnā koe

Voluntary Bonding Scheme 2021 Intake – New Graduate Midwives

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 midwives who register for and are accepted to the Scheme and meet the terms and conditions, **bond payments of \$10,500 (after tax) are available** after the completion of a minimum of three years' service, and up to two **additional payments of \$3,500** after a fourth and fifth year.

The 2021 intake online Registration of Interest period **is now open until Wednesday 31st March 2021**. Registration is via an online web-form available [on the Ministry of Health's website](#).

If you are a new-graduate midwife:

- who completed undergraduate studies in 2020 (or early 2021), **and**
- you intend to work in an eligible hard-to-staff 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 communities for midwives are:

DHB-employed

- Auckland DHB
- Bay of Plenty DHB
- Canterbury DHB
- Capital & Coast DHB
- Counties Manukau DHB
- Dunedin City
- Hutt Valley DHB
- Lakes DHB
- MidCentral DHB
- Northland DHB
- Waikato DHB
- Waitemata DHB

Lead-maternity Carers (LMCs)

- Auckland DHB
- Bay of Plenty DHB
- Counties Manukau DHB
- Dunedin City
- Lakes DHB
- MidCentral DHB
- Queenstown Lakes District
- Waikato DHB
- Waitemata 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.

This communication follows previous communication issued in December 2020.

Nā mātou noa, nā

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