



## MP for Remutaka

Minister of Education

Minister of Health

Minister of State Services

Leader of the House

Minister Responsible for Ministerial Services

14 August 2020

Jenn Bestwick  
Chair  
Tertiary Education Commission  
PO Box 27-048  
Wellington 6141

Dear Jenn

### **Delegation to provide increased provision of English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)**

I am writing to advise you of my delegation of responsibility to the Tertiary Education Commission (TEC) to administer funding to provide increased provision of English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL).

This funding has a dual purpose. The funding will help increase demand for English language training, to be met by English Language Schools currently struggling as a result of the border closure to international students. The funding will also help with upskilling and improving the employability of migrant partners and dependants of New Zealand citizens and residents.

There are two categories of learners eligible to be funded through of this mechanism. All learners must be in New Zealand.

Category A is comprised of people who:

- a. identify as having English language needs; and
- b. hold one of the following visas:
  - i. Partner of a New Zealander Work Visa
  - ii. Partner of a New Zealander Visitor Visa
  - iii. Child of a New Zealander Visitor Visa; and
- c. are 16 years of age or over and not a full-time secondary school student.

Category B is comprised of people who:

- a. identify as having English language needs; and
- b. are a domestic student as defined under section 159 of the Education Act 1989
- c. are 16 years of age or over and not a full-time secondary school student.

Provision should be in line with ESOL provision funded through the Adult and Community Education funding determination. Provision may be online or in person.

Provision must be ESOL, intended to (but not limited to):

- meet the everyday English language needs of people living and working in New Zealand,
- prepare learners for further education or training, or employment, and
- support achievement of the New Zealand Certificate in English Language (NZCEL) or other recognised English tests.

There are two types of eligible providers that may apply to receive funding under this mechanism:

1. Private Training Establishments (PTEs) who:
  - a. are experienced in providing ESOL tuition;
  - b. did not receive funding from Vote Tertiary Education administered by the TEC in 2019; and
  - c. hold a Category 1 External Evaluation and Review (EER) rating from the New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA), as at 1 July 2020.
2. Organisations eligible for Adult and Community Education funding who deliver ESOL provision.

PTEs who meet the criteria outlined in (1) above may receive funding for Category A and Category B learners. I expect the TEC to prioritise these PTEs when allocating funding.

Organisations who meet the criteria outlined in (2) may receive funding for Category A learners only.

The TEC must determine the appropriate total amount of funding for ESOL provision delivered by an organisation under this delegation. The 'per learner hour' amount must be similar to the amount provided to PTEs and community organisations for similar ESOL provision funded under the Adult and Community Education funding determination.

The TEC must attach to funding a condition that an organisation that receives funding under this delegation:

- a. must charge the fees at the level indicated in their application unless otherwise approved by the TEC; and
- b. must charge the same fee to all learners participating in an ESOL programme of study or training funded under this delegation.

Organisations must include the level they intend to set fees at in their application for this funding.

This delegation will utilise funding appropriated within the Community Education category of the Tertiary Tuition and Training Multi-Category Appropriation in Vote Tertiary Education. Funding may be paid for the 2020/21 financial year.

Funding of \$1.5 million, appropriated as part of the International Education Strategic Recovery Plan, can be allocated through this delegation only to PTEs who meet the criteria outlined in (1) above.

I delegate to the Tertiary Education Commission (under section 159F(1)(e) of the Education Act 1989) authority to pay funding:

- to providers who meet the eligibility criteria above;
- to support the ESOL learning needs of Category A and Category B learners;
- in the 2020/21 financial year.

I expect the TEC to:

- place such conditions or other constraints as necessary on the funding given to providers to ensure that this funding is only used for eligible students, and is not used to subsidise students who are not eligible under this delegation;
- place such conditions or other constraints as necessary on the funding given to provider to ensure that provision is appropriate to the English language development needs of the learners;
- develop and publish funding conditions that include a condition or conditions that funding may be recovered from a provider if it has not been, or is not being, used or used appropriately;
- report to me regularly on the provision that has been funding, including number of learners and types of provision accessed;
- publish information on the organisations it has funded, including a public list that itemises each organisation that is funded, and how much funding they have received.

This delegation applies from the date of this letter until 30 June 2021.

The TEC may exercise any of its administrative functions as required to give effect to this delegation outside of those dates.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'CH', written in a cursive style.

Hon Chris Hipkins  
Minister of Education