

ratonga taiohi pānui

what you need to know
Rāpare 3 Whirina-ā-nuku 2024



Head Teen Parent Unit teachers attending the
annual Association of Teen Parent Educators
New Zealand.

spotlight on education for young parents



part one: education obligations for young parents

Young parents need to be enrolled and attending school, tertiary education, training or work-based learning full-time **from the earliest of:**

- **the youngest child being 6 months old:**
 - if there is a [suitable place](#) in a Teen Parent Unit, and
 - there are no [special circumstances](#) (like post-natal depression or the child has a health condition).
- **the youngest child being 12 months old.**

Nationally, the number of young parents engaged in education is low – **at 34% nationally (over 500 young people)**. This percentage excludes young people with an exemption or with a child under 12 months.

If a young parent has a good reason for not meeting their education obligation you should apply for [an exemption](#). Otherwise, they are not meeting their [Youth Activity Obligation](#).



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part two: getting young parents into teen parent units

There are [25 Teen Parent Units](#) across the motu – many of which have placements available.

Tips on how to support young parents to get excited about Teen Parent Units

- **Get another teen parent to take them on a tour of the Teen Parent Unit**

They'll know someone there, and can ask questions and get answers from someone like them

- **Let them know it's not like a normal school**
TPUs offer wraparound support, including: classes for young parents, on-site childcare, and community support (like doctors and Plunket nurses)

- **Remember: Teen Parent Units are for young fathers too**

Check out the video of Michael who went to a Teen Parent Unit while he was in Youth Service



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accommodation supplement check-in

getting evidence right means young people won't miss out on payments they are eligible for

In their quality checks the team at YSSU have noticed some areas that could be improved in Accommodation Supplement tasks.

Make sure you:

- **understand the difference between rent and board**
This affects the rate of Accommodation Supplement the young person can receive.
- **If it doesn't include food**, it should generally be considered to be renting.
Learn more here: [accommodation costs | map](#)
- **check that the information is consistent**
Where the information is inconsistent, young people may get less than they need. For example, the Accommodation Supplement form say \$200 including food and utilities, and the Board Breakdown Letter says \$200 for the room.



eLearning

[accommodation supplement –
extra assistance | youth service
elearning](#)



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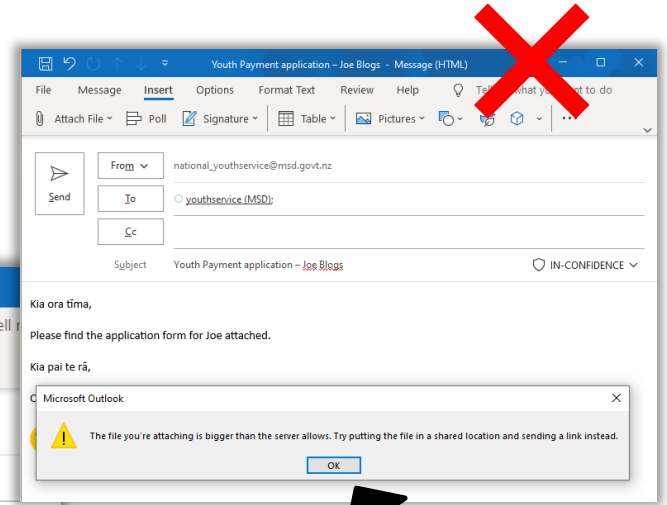
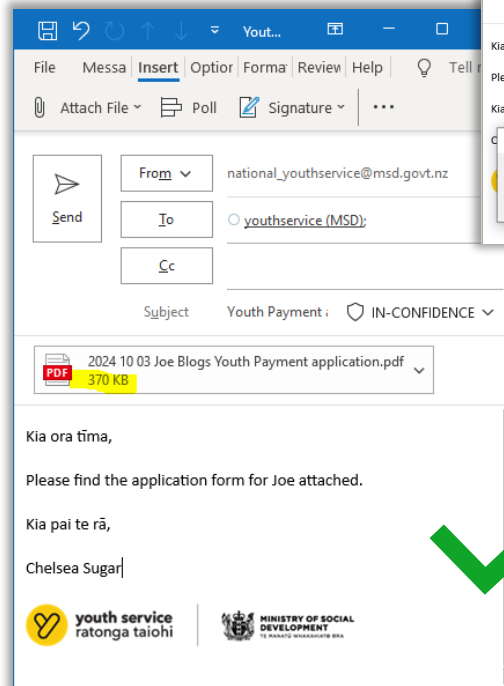
a message from yssu – check the size of your attachments

if you email an attachment over 15mb yssu won't receive it

When you email a Youth Payment or Young Parent Payment application to the Youth Service inbox make sure it's 15MB or smaller. Otherwise, the email won't be delivered.

If the file is larger than 15MB you can split it and send it over two emails.

YSSU will acknowledge receipt of an application within 24 hours – if they don't, contact them immediately.



When we try to attach a file over 15MB we get an error message, but your organisation might not. Take care to check the attachment size.

winter energy payment has ended

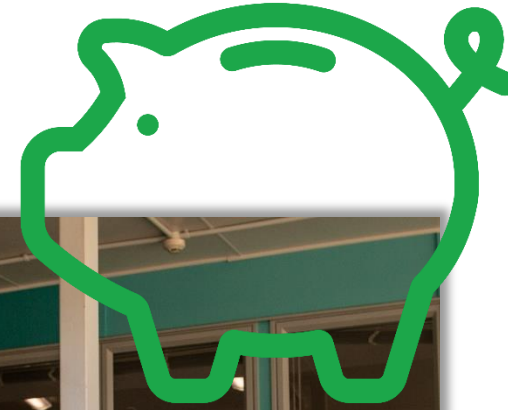
the winter energy payment ended on sunday 1 october

If any of the taiohi you're working with are concerned about how they'll manage, please explore other ways we may be able to help them.

Use the [Check what you might get](#) tool or complete a Full and Correct Entitlement check to ensure young people are getting the correct payments. Go to 'steps to check FACE' on this page to learn more: [hardship assistance | Youth Service providers](#)

This continues to be a very tough time for a lot of young people.

The Winter Energy Payment restarts on 1 May 2024.



vaiaso o te gana tuvalu – tuvalu language week

talofa! – it's tuvalu language week!

The theme for Tuvalu Language week this year is '*Taofi mau ki tau 'gana, mo tou gaugaleo, me ko tou iloga tena*' which means 'Uphold your language and dialect, for it is your identity'.

Here are some words to try this week:

Talofa – Hello

Fakamolemole – Please

Fakafetai – Thank you

Toku igoa ko... – My name is...

You can find more words and phrases [here](#).

[For more information, visit the Ministry of Pacific Peoples page](#)



29 September - 5 October

**TE 'GANA TUVALU
EVERYDAY**

Vaiaso o te 'Gana Tuvalu

Tuvalu Language Week

Taofi mau ki tau 'gana,
mo tou gaugaleo,
me ko tou iloga tena

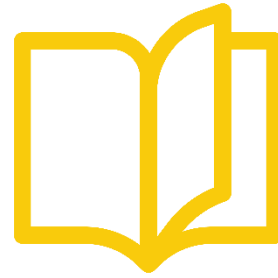
Uphold your language
and dialect, for it
is your identity

2024 PACIFIC LANGUAGE WEEKS

Vaiaso o te 'Gana Tuvalu

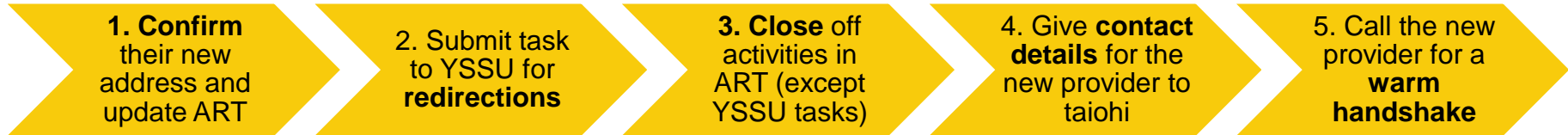
Ministry for Pacific Peoples

drop-in recap: transferring between providers



tips for seamless support to taiohi when they switch providers

If you know a young person is moving, you should:



Quick tips:

- **use ART alerts**
learn more: [art alerts | Youth Service providers](#)
- **keep good notes and up-to-date youth plans**
make sure another youth coach has the information they need to work with the young person
- **activity not finished?**
Use the Transferring or Exiting Youth Service activity outcome
- **make sure they have their accommodation sorted**
If they move without a good and sufficient reason and apply for emergency housing it will be declined

“Sometimes taiohi move areas without warning. Other times you have time to prepare for their transition.

Either way staying connected and keeping records updated can help with making the transition easier for everyone”



Learn more about the transfer process
[transferring to another provider | youth service eLearning](#)



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fetal alcohol spectrum disorder resources



last month was fasd awareness month – a good reminder to learn more about it

FASD is a diagnostic term used to describe impacts on the brain and body of individuals prenatally exposed to alcohol

- FASD is a lifelong disability
- individuals with FASD will experience some degree of challenges in their daily living, and need support with motor skills, physical health, learning, mobility attention, communication, emotional regulation, and social skills to reach their full potential
- it is a hidden disorder - less than 10% of people with FASD have the facial features that are associate with the disorder

top tips for working with taiohi with fasd

- Thinking of multiple things at the same time can be a challenge, making decision making is difficult – Take time to go over choices one at a time, and to outline the possible outcomes.
- Self-management is often difficult – try timetables and visual cues with lots of repetition.



resources for professionals

FASD-CAN has a range of useful resources for professionals working with young people affected by FASD, including a [short guide](#) on how you can help young people with FASD and the video above. Check out their full resource page here: [FASD-CAN resources](#)



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upcoming drop-in sessions

drop-in to meet other youth coaches and learn about youth service



emergency housing Tuesday 8 October, 10am

A few months ago, MSD introduced a rules-based system for emergency housing which requires people to actively work towards improving their housing situation to keep qualifying for emergency housing.

We'll go over the emergency housing changes and answer any questions you have.

Join via [Teams](#)

he poutama rangatahi Tuesday 15 October, 10am

He Poutama Rangatahi is a work-readiness and skills initiative. It's for young people who are hard to reach and most at risk of long-term unemployment. Providers run programmes tailored, designed for 15-24 year olds in their region.

In this session we will talk about how you can access the programme to support taiohi.

Join via [Teams](#)

programme fund and hardships Tuesday 22 October, 10am

The Programme Fund is here to help taiohi pay for things that will improve their employability, education or wellbeing. It's for things that will help them reach their goals in their Youth Service plan that can't be accessed through other payments, like hardships. Bring examples of creative ways you've used the fund to inspire other coaches.

Join via [Teams](#)

You can find the full drop-in session schedule on our provider site
[drop-in sessions | Youth Service providers](#)



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realising the dreams and aspirations of youth

tau awhitia te taiohi, ka puta ki te wheiao

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