



youth service
ratonga taiohi

ratonga taiohi pānui

what you need to know

Rāpare 8 Whiringa-ā-nuku 2026
Thursday 8 October 2026



MINISTRY OF SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT
TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA



NAU MAI,

HAERE M

TE HĀ @ MĀTAURANGA
FOUNDATIONS... HOW WE KEEP US AND YOU - SAFE

1. PRIVACY
2. IDENTITY
3. BE SAFE
4. CHALLENGE BY CHOICE
5. LISTEN TO UNDERSTAND
6. SOME SHORTS...
7. SOME DOGS...
8. SOCIAL MEDIA AND PHONES...

CONNECT
TALK & LISTEN, BE THERE, FEEL CONNECTED
TAKE NOTICE
REMEMBER THE SIMPLE THINGS THAT GIVE YOU JOY
KEEP LEARNING
GIVE
YOUR TIME, YOUR WORDS, YOUR PRESENCE
BE ACTIVE

ĒTAHI ARA E RIMA KI TE NGĀKĀU ORA
WHAKATŌKA NGĀ RAUTAKI MĀPĀ NEI KI TŌ AO KIA RONGO AI KOE I NGĀ PĀNUIA

ME AKO TONU
ME WHAKAWHĀUNGA
ME KORI TONU
ME ARO TONU

Reheko
Let's go

TE HĀ @ MĀTAURANGA
Learning in Kaikōura

THEORY OF CHANGE

To achieve the vision of our community having the skills and choices to live the life they want...



Reka!
SWEET

Pai to, Pai hinga
guc it a go!!

Youth Service Kaikōura team

new webpage – parental assistance test for 18 and 19 year olds

learn more about the upcoming changes for taiohi applying for a working age benefit

We have created a new webpage on the provider website to support kaimahi in understanding the upcoming changes.

From Monday 2 November, young people aged will need to complete a Parental Assistance Test to be eligible for Jobseeker Support, Jobseeker Support Student Hardship, or the equivalent Emergency Benefit.

The webpage provides an overview of the information being covered in the training sessions running from 5 to 22 October.



Check out the webpage here

[parental assistance test for 18 and 19 year olds | Youth Service providers](#)



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supporting taiohi to enrol to vote

resources to help you to support taiohi to enrol

Not quite 18 yet? (don't fear)

If taiohi are 17, they can fill out an enrolment form now. On their 18th birthday, they'll automatically be enrolled and be ready to vote!

Make sure taiohi are enrolled by 25 October

For taiohi to vote in this year's general election, they'll need to enrol by 25 October.

Enrolled before? It's a good idea to check if their enrolment details are correct – especially if they've moved.

Enrol or check you are enrolled here:

[Enrol or update online](#) | [Vote NZ](#)

There are two roles for taiohi Māori to choose from

Learn more about the Māori role and the General role here:

[What is the Māori Electoral Option?](#) | [Vote NZ](#)



Māori roll or general roll?

If you're of Māori descent, it's up to you!



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drop-in session recap: transition to studylink

missed the drop-in or need a refresh? you're in the right place

StudyLink is the main provider of tertiary student financial support in Aotearoa New Zealand. Taiohi can test their eligibility to receive assistance such as Student Allowance and Student Loan when they study.



Student Allowance is paid weekly to help eligible students with their living costs while they study.

Taiohi need to:

- meet residency requirements
- be studying a recognised programme
- be studying full-time
- meet a parental income test (unless taiohi are granted an **Independent Circumstances Allowance**).
- meet a personal income test.

Taiohi **do not pay this back**.

Student Loan can help taiohi meet the costs of studying.

Taiohi need to:

- meet residency requirements
- be studying a recognised programme
- **pay this back**.

The Student Loan can help pay toward:

- compulsory course fees
- course related costs
- weekly living costs.

Independent Circumstances Allowance is available for students under 24 who are not living with their parents or receiving financial support from them, where exceptional circumstances make it unreasonable for the student to:

- live with their parents, and
- receive financial support from their parents.



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If taiohi are wanting to apply for StudyLink assistance, applications should be submitted by **16 December 2026**.

Applying by 16 December gives taiohi the best chance to have everything sorted before their course starts. Make sure taiohi send in all their information and documents as soon as possible.

tips for youth coaches

- Plan ahead as much as you can for future exits
- Support their application early by helping get documents together (the earlier the better!)
- The Studylink website is very useful for any questions taiohi may have.

Helpful links

[StudyLink](#)

[No relationship with parents – StudyLink](#)

[A - Z of payments - StudyLink](#)



You can't miss it.



Apply before **16 December** for your student allowance or loan.

studylink.govt.nz



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upcoming drop-in sessions

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



wellness

Tuesday 13 October, 10am

As a youth coach, a huge part of your role is looking after the taiohi in your service.

To best look after others it is important that you are looking after yourself.

In this session we will be joined by a workplace wellness expert to learn about some strategies and tools to help you look after you.

[Join the Teams meeting](#)

education spotlight

Tuesday 20 October, 10am

Join us as we welcome a speaker from the Tertiary Education Commission, where they'll discuss the Career Practice Hub on Tahatū Career Navigator.

The hub can help youth coaches with access to resources, activities and professional support to strengthen career practice.

[Join the Teams meeting](#)

programme fund

Tuesday 3 November, 10am

Programme Fund can be used 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.

[Join the Teams meeting](#)

We've added the drop-in sessions for the rest of the year to the Youth Service website.
Have a look at what's coming up: [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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