



**youth service**  
ratonga taiohi

# ratonga taiohi pānui

what you need to know

**Rāpare 18** Hakihea 2025

Thursday 18 December 2025



**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL  
DEVELOPMENT**  
TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA



**KI TE RTARINGA WHAKARONGO!  
KI TE REO O NGĀ TAIOHI**

**OUR VOICES MATTER!  
WE DESERVE TO BE HEARD**

[Youth Week grants is open](#)



**youth service**  
ratonga taiohi



**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL  
DEVELOPMENT**  
TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA

# refresher: accommodation supplement

## let's recap accommodation supplement (ASUP)

Accommodation Supplement is a weekly payment which helps young people with their rent, board or the cost of owning a home. If a young person changes their address, housing or accommodation costs, they need to tell us right away, as it could affect how much they're paid.

Supporting documents required:

- Accommodation Supplement application form (NEW applications)
- **ONLY** if costs are exceptionally high for the area, proof of what they pay for Rent or Board (**board costs DO NOT need to be itemised**)
- If the young person owns the home they live in:
  - proof of their home ownership costs, receipts for any repairs and maintenance costs and rates rebate.

**NOTE:** You'll need to complete a Redirection TASK if the young person is currently under Money Management



**Want to know how much a young person might be able to receive on ASUP?**

Give YSSU a call and ask them to complete a DREW assessment. YSSU can provide an estimate over the phone!



**youth service**  
ratonga taiohi



**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL  
DEVELOPMENT**  
TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA

# youth week grants open

**you may be able to get \$1000 grants to run events for youth week**

The Ara Taiohi Youth Week aims to amplify young people's valuable contributions to their communities by supporting them in designing, delivering, and evaluating all aspects of the week.

This year, the theme is **'Whai Wāhitanga Take Our Place'**. Ara Taiohi offers funding for Youth Week events up to the value of \$1,000 + GST.

These funded events need to be organised by young New Zealanders to celebrate the talents, passion and success of local young people and designed to encourage young people to take on challenges, share ideas and focus on the positive aspects of being young.



If you work with taiohi who may be interested in running a Youth Week event, encourage them to apply.

[Youth Week grants is open now! Ara](#)



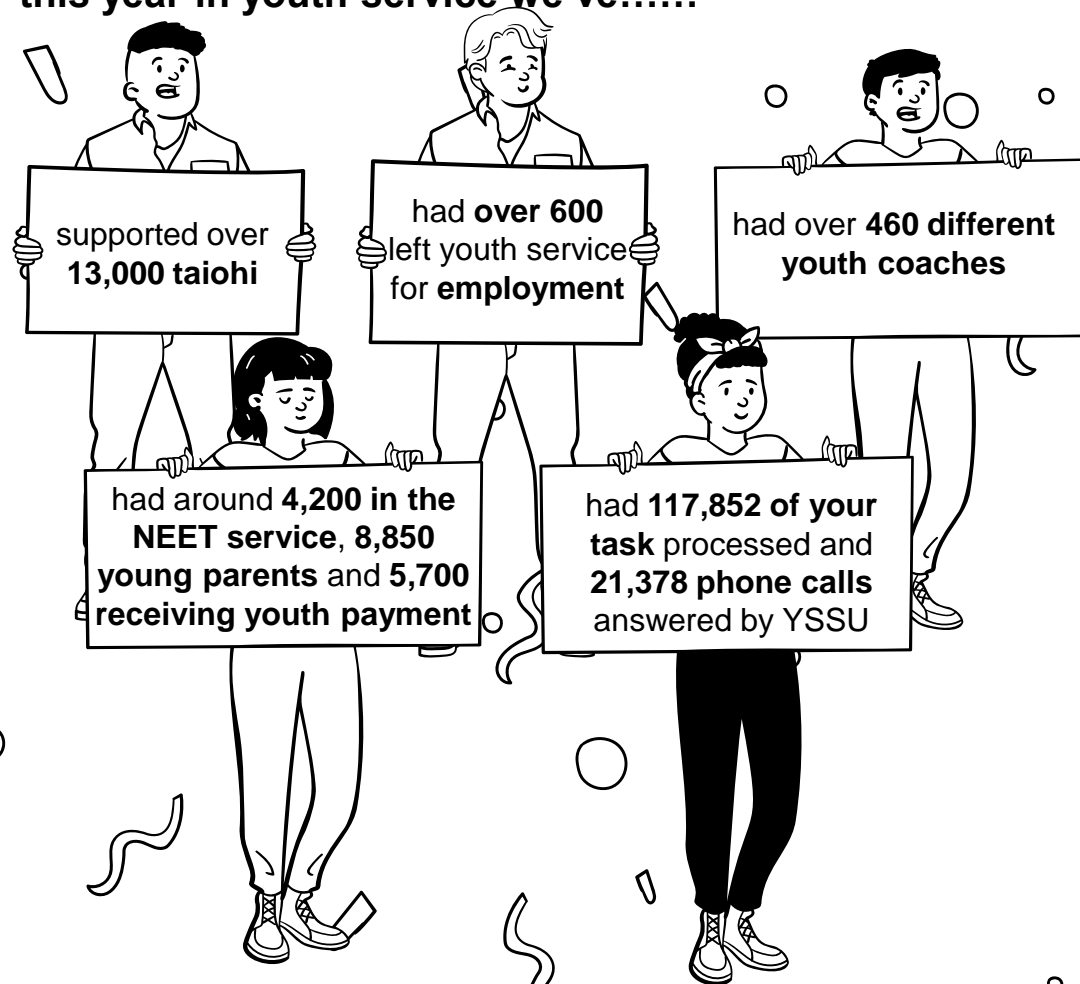
**youth service**  
ratonga taiohi



**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL  
DEVELOPMENT**  
TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA

# youth service in 2025

this year in youth service we've.....



## Our taiohi said...



... "I've loved the support my youth coach has given me, and she has helped me and my nana a lot. I am very happy with everything she has helped me with, and I'm very happy that I'm able to do things more and actually move along in my life."

... "I feel like my youth coach really supported me because they've given me the resources to achieve each of my goals and helped me accomplish so much! I was able to get my NCEA Level 1, 2, and 3 in one year, and they helped me improve my attendance so I could go to my Year 13 ball. I couldn't have done it without the support of my youth coaches!"

... "My youth coach made me feel heard and respected by being engaged when I was talking. She kept me on track towards my goals and helped guide me to make the right choices"



**youth service**  
ratonga taiohi



**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL  
DEVELOPMENT**  
TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA

# youth service performance module



**We've developed an exciting new learning module about performance standards to help you deepen your understanding!**


Youth Service is here to prepare young people to have safe, strong, and independent lives.

The performance measures are designed to make that happen through education, personalised support, improved wellbeing, planning, and goal setting.


In this module, you'll learn about the outcomes of Youth Service and how these are measured.


**[Click here to see module](#)**


## OVERVIEW


 **outcomes for youth service**


## YOUTH SERVICE PERFORMANCE STANDARDS


 **enrolled and engaged**

 **in full-time education, training or work based learning**

 **achieved ncea qualification**

 **not on benefit 3 months after exit**

 **youth satisfaction**

 **test your knowledge!**



**youth service**  
ratonga taiohi



**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL  
DEVELOPMENT**  
TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA



# youth service neet evaluation now published

The Youth Service NEET evaluation has now been published and can be viewed here: [YS NEET evaluation report](#). The evaluation looked at the changes made in 2020 to increase support and focus on young people with higher needs.

The findings show that while Youth Service NEET continues to have mixed impacts, the service is now successfully reaching a more vulnerable group of young people with more complex needs. Investment per person has also increased to reflect the higher level of support being provided.

Please refer to the link for the key findings and further information. If you have any questions, feel free to get in touch.



**youth service**  
ratonga taiohi



**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL  
DEVELOPMENT**  
TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA

# meri kirihimete me ngā mihi o te tau hou!

2025 has been another big year, and our youth coaches (and all the other kaimahi throughout the country) have once again risen to the fantastic challenge of supporting taiohi to work towards living safe, strong and independent lives.

We're so grateful for the work you do to bring our whakatauākī (tau awhitia te taiohi, ka puta ki te wheiao – realising the dreams and aspirations of youth) to life by supporting taiohi to do the work they need to do now to get to where they want to be.

As the year draws to a close, we want to wish you and your whānau a restful and happy Christmas. May the New Year bring new opportunities, joy, and success for us all as we continue to work together to support our taiohi to thrive.

**The Youth Service National Office team**  
Scott, Helen, Sa, Ngaire, Sara, Aislin, Javan,  
Rosalie and Dana



If anything comes up over the break, you'll still be able to reach us at  
[national\\_youthservice@msd.govt.nz](mailto:national_youthservice@msd.govt.nz)



**youth service**  
ratonga taiohi



**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL  
DEVELOPMENT**  
TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA

# regular youth service update break

this is the last regular youth service update for the year

This will be the final regular Youth Service update for 2025.

If anything comes up over the break, there will be a 'special edition' to make sure you have the information you need.

As always, you'll still be able to reach us at [national\\_youthservice@msd.govt.nz](mailto:national_youthservice@msd.govt.nz) if you have any questions, comment, concerns or if you just want to say hello.

So it's mā te wā from us – we will be back in late January 2026.



**youth service**  
ratonga taiohi



**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL  
DEVELOPMENT**  
TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA



# realising the dreams and aspirations of youth

tau awhitia te taiohi, ka puta ki te wheiao

[providers.youthservice.govt.nz](https://providers.youthservice.govt.nz)

[national\\_youthservice@msd.govt.nz](mailto:national_youthservice@msd.govt.nz)