

## **Employment and Work Readiness Assistance Amendment 2020**

This instrument is made under section 101(1) of the Social Security Act 2018 by the Minister for Social Development.

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### **Instrument**

- 1 Title**

This instrument is the Employment and Work Readiness Assistance Amendment 2020.
- 2 Commencement**

This instrument comes into force on 5 August 2020.
- 3 Programme amended**

This instrument amends the Employment Work Readiness Assistance Programme<sup>1</sup> (as established and approved on 6 March 2014).
- 4 Clause 4 amended (Interpretation)**
  - (1) In clause 4(1), insert the following definitions in their appropriate alphabetical order:

**Mana in Mahi** means a programme of that name operated by MSD
- 5 Schedule amended**

Amend the Schedule of the principal programme in the manner set out in the Schedule.

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### **Schedule**

Clause 5

#### **Amendments to Schedule of principal programme**

##### **Clause 2**

In clause 2, after “obtain”, insert “or retain”.

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<sup>1</sup> New Zealand Gazette, 13 March 2014, page 837

**Clause 3**

After clause 3(b), insert:

*“(c) Education or training courses for Mana in Mahi*

The purchase for an eligible person who has been accepted in Mana in Mahi of a place in an educational course or a course of employment-related training being a course level 7 or below on the New Zealand Qualifications Framework (or equivalent international qualification)

A total amount not exceeding \$16,000 over two years (and not more than \$8,000 within a 52-week period)

**New clause 5A**

After clause 5, insert:

**“5A Additional assistance associated with Mana in Mahi**

Financial assistance to assist an eligible person who has been accepted in Mana in Mahi with additional educational support costs (including but not limited to literacy and numeracy training or equipment to work or study from home)

The actual and reasonable costs for that purpose (as determined by MSD) but not exceeding \$4,000 in total over two years (and not more than \$2,000 within a 52-week period)

**Clause 6A**

Replace clause 6A with:

**“6A Incentive payments**

*“(a) Incentive payments*

A payment to an eligible person as an incentive for that person to do one or more of the following activities:

- (i) enter or retain employment:
- (ii) take up an offer of suitable employment:
- (iii) relocate his or her place of residence to enable the person to

A lump sum payment not exceeding \$5,000.00

take up an offer of suitable employment:

- (iv) relocate his or her place of residence to a location where there are better employment opportunities:
- (v) gain employment skills:
- (vi) enter into study or employment-related training

“(b) *Incentive payments for Mana in Mahi*

Payments to an eligible person who has been accepted in Mana in Mahi as an incentive for that person to continue in that programme

An amount or amounts not exceeding \$6,000 in total over two years (and not more than \$3,000 within a 52-week period)



Minister for Social Development

At Wellington this 27<sup>th</sup> day of July 2020

#### Explanatory Note

*This note is not part of the instrument, but is intended to indicate its general effect.*

This instrument, which comes into force on 5 August 2020, amends the Employment and Work Readiness Assistance Programme.

This instrument inserts a new definition for Mana in Mahi. It also amends the Schedule by inserting new kinds of assistance for Mana in Mahi for:

- education and employment-related training;
- additional costs for education or working or studying from home; and
- incentive payments.

This instrument also amends clause 2 of the Schedule to allow wage subsidies to be used to help people at risk of long-term benefit receipt to

retain unsubsidised employment (in addition to obtaining unsubsidised employment).