

Apprenticeship Boost Initiative Amendment 2024

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

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Instrument

1 Title

This instrument is the Apprenticeship Boost Initiative Amendment Programme 2024.

2 Commencement

- (1) Clauses 9,10, 12 and 13 of this instrument come into force on 31 December 2024.
- (2) The rest of this instrument comes into force on 1 January 2025.

3 Programme amended

This instrument amends the Apprenticeship Boost Initiative Programme (established and approved on the 28th day of July 2020) (the **principal programme**).

4 Clause 3 amended (Purpose)

Replace clause 3 with:

The purpose of this programme is to provide financial assistance to employers to assist them to retain apprentices.

5 Clause 4 amended (Interpretation)

In clause 4(1), revoke the definition of MBIE.

6 Clause 6 amended (Eligibility)

In clause 6, replace subclause (2) with:

- (2) For the purpose of this programme, an eligible apprentice means a person who MSD is satisfied—
 - (a) is enrolled in and engaged in a programme of study that is in one or more of the eligible narrow field codes listed in the Schedule; and
 - (b) has not had their enrolment withdrawn or put on hold; and
 - (c) is in paid employment or a paid contracting arrangement with the applicant; and
 - (d) has completed no more than 12 months of the programme of study.

7 Clause 7 amended (Conditions of grant of assistance)

- (1) In the heading to clause 7, replace “grant” with “payment”.
- (2) In clause 7(1) replace “grant” with “payment”.
- (3) In clause 7(1)(b), after “study” insert “referred to in clause (6)(2) (a)”.
- (4) In clause 7(2), replace “grant” with “payment”.

8 Clause 8 amended (Amount of assistance)

- (1) In clause 8(1), replace “24” with “12”.
- (2) In clause 8(1), replace “12,000” with “6,000”.

9 Clause 9 amended (Application process)

Revoke clause 9(3).

10 Clause 11 amended (Payment of assistance)

- (1) In clause 11(1)(b) replace “full” with “per month”.
- (2) In clause 11, replace subclause (3) with:
 - (1) If a monthly payment is not paid due to non-compliance with clause 7(1)(d) when required by MSD, payment may be made subsequently if the applicant is or was otherwise eligible to receive the payment.

11 New clause 11D inserted

After clause 11C insert:

11D Transitional provisions from 1 January 2025

- (1) MSD must assess any applications for assistance under this programme received but not yet granted before 1 January 2025, in accordance with the terms of clause 6 as they existed before 1 January 2025 if that assistance would commence prior to 1 January 2025 under clause 10.
- (2) Applicants granted assistance under the terms of the programme as they existed before 1 January 2025 will continue to be eligible for assistance under this programme after 1 January 2025 if they meet the

eligibility criteria in clause 6 that applies from 1 January 2025, however MSD must reduce the applicants 12-month maximum programme of study entitlement by the number of months they have already completed and received assistance for under this programme prior to 1 January 2025.

- (3) Applicants who are no longer eligible for assistance on or after 1 January 2025 will not be deemed to have failed to meet the eligibility criteria in clause 6(1)(b), or failed to comply with the conditions in clause 7(1)(b), 7(1)(d) and 7(1)(e), in respect of any monthly payments they receive in December 2024, if-
- (a) MSD considered, at the time the monthly payment was made, that the requirements of clause 6 and clause 7 as they existed at that time were met; and
 - (b) the applicant retains their apprentice for the period the payment was made for.

12 Clause 12 amended (When assistance ends)

In clause 12, replace subclause (1) with:

Assistance under this programme ends when the applicant ceases to be eligible under clause 6.

13 Clause 13 revoked (When this programme expires)

Revoke clause 13.

14 New Schedule inserted

The programme is amended by inserting the following Schedule:

“Schedule”

Cl 6(2)(a)

Eligible Narrow New Zealand Standard Classification of Education Codes (as published online by the Ministry of Education)

Code	Narrow Field Classification
0403	Building
0501	Agriculture
0503	Horticulture and Viticulture
0505	Forestry Studies
1101	Food and Hospitality
0905	Human Welfare Studies and Services

0303	Process and Resources Engineering
0305	Automotive Engineering and Technology
0301	Manufacturing, Engineering and Technology
0313	Electrical and Electronic Engineering and Technology
0315	Aerospace Engineering and Technology
0317	Maritime Engineering and Technology
0399	Other Engineering and Technology

At Wellington this 18th day of November 2024



Minister for Social Development and Employment

Explanatory Note

This note is not part of the Instrument but is intended to indicate its general effect.

This instrument, the majority of which comes into force on 1 January 2025, makes various changes to the principal programme. The instrument removes the expiry date to make the programme permanent and amends the eligibility criteria so that assistance can only be provided to eligible apprentices who have completed no more than 12 months of their programme of study (a reduction from 24 months) in an apprenticeship associated with certain targeted areas of study. There have also been minor technical amendments to the programme.