



Report

Date: 1 October 2021

Security Level: IN CONFIDENCE

To: Hon Carmel Sepuloni, Minister for Social Development

Training Incentive Allowance - Update

Purpose of the report

- 1 This report and enclosed dashboard provides you with information about the Training Incentive Allowance uptake, client demographics and participant stories for the period 1 July to 28 August 2021.

Recommended actions

It is recommended that you:

- 1 **note** the contents of this report and the accompanying dashboard.

PP

Viv Rickard
Deputy Chief Executive
Service Delivery

1 October 2021

Date

Hon Carmel Sepuloni
Minister for Social Development

3 October 2021

Date

Summary of Notable Activity

- 2 On 1 July 2021 the Training Incentive Allowance (TIA) was expanded to include study for levels 4-7 on the New Zealand Qualifications Framework (NZQF). Eligibility was also expanded for sole parents receiving either Jobseeker Support or the Emergency Benefit.
- 3 The current reporting period covers almost two months since the expansion of the TIA on 1 July 2021 up to 28 August 2021.
- 4 Uptake for the TIA for the reporting period has been strong with 933 participants being approved, including 534 participants in July and 399 in August.
- 5 TIA uptake lessened from late July to August which is likely because semester two for many tertiary institutes started in July and it is also assumed that the change in COVID-19 alert levels contributed to the decrease in uptake. We expect uptake to significantly increase in January/February 2022 when enrolment for the 2022 academic year begins as clients are able to apply for the TIA within 28 days of their course starting.
- 6 There is a small increase between the July total uptake volumes (534) in this update and the total July uptake volumes (528) previously reported to you. This is due to gaining a better understanding of the way uptake is identified and refining the calculation in reporting.
- 7 80% (735) of the TIA grants have been for participants studying at NZQF course levels 4-7 since 1 July. Of those studying at levels 4-7, 40% (300) are studying at level 7 which includes bachelor's degrees, diplomas, graduate diplomas, and graduate certificates.
- 8 40% (375) of grants are to Māori participants and 9% (81) of grants have been made to Pacific Peoples since 1 July 2021.
- 9 TIA has predominantly been taken up by participants receiving Sole Parent Support (75%) followed by participants receiving the Supported Living Payment (20%). A small number of participants are receiving Youth Parent Payment (3%) and Jobseeker Support (2%).
- 10 Participants of the TIA are largely engaged in full-time study (78%) and over 50% have taken out a Student Loan for further financial support.
- 11 Almost 60% of the participants have been receiving a benefit for more than two years, while a fifth (20%) have been receiving a benefit for 1-2 years.

Communication and promotion

- 12 Information about the TIA is also included within the Quarterly Service Culture Report which will be submitted next week.
- 13 To date our promotional activity has included emails and letters to eligible clients, showcasing a teen-parent-unit client video on the Training Incentive Allowance pages on the Work and Income website and Facebook posts (refer to Appendix 1).
- 14 Our intention for November and early December is a brochure/pamphlet for all eligible sole parents, another targeted email campaign, further social media posts, digital signage in service centres, and enhanced Work and Income website copy.

Next steps

- 15 In the next report, we will add more insights to the dashboard including the number of clients with a student loan where study started after the TIA grant.
- 16 In the future we will be able to understand the effect of the TIA by comparing employment outcomes for clients who received TIA to those that did not. We will report this information when the data is available.

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OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT

Appendix 1

Facebook post



Ministry of Social Development NZ Published by Frances Rankin · May 31 ·

You could be eligible for the Training Incentive Allowance

If you're getting Sole Parent Support or Supported Living Payment, then you could get a training allowance. These are to help pay for costs while you're increasing your skills for employment through study – and you don't have to pay it back!

Apply now or up to 28 days before the course starts. For more details bit.ly/2PFnqhE



Training Incentive Allowance

Apply now

MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
TE Kaitiaki Whakaiti Kōwhiri

Video of Caitlin (Teen Parent Unit, Upper Hutt)

Watch our client Caitlin talk about what the Training Incentive Allowance means to her.



Our client Caitlin talks about the Training Incentive Allowance

Copy link

Watch on  YouTube

I'm the first person in my family to do tertiary study and that makes me feel a lot better about myself.