



Bulletin – Tertiary Providers and International

11th July, 2020

More support for mental health and wellbeing services for domestic tertiary students

The lockdown has been hugely disruptive for students. Many of them had to relocate and move to online learning, isolating them from their peers. Students who feel safe and confident in themselves and in their learning environments are also those who best engage and achieve in education, in work, and in life.

To support tertiary students to remain engaged in their learning and to help them manage the ongoing stresses related to COVID-19, the Government has announced an additional \$25 million to expand and accelerate frontline mental health and wellbeing services for all domestic students studying at tertiary education institutions (TEI's).

The funding builds on the existing roll out of free primary mental health and wellbeing services for 18-25 year olds, such as the Piki programme in Wellington and support programmes at Auckland and Canterbury Universities. For more information about the Piki programme, visit <https://www.beehive.govt.nz/release/free-youth-mental-health-pilot-expands-coverage>.

The Ministry of Education will work closely with the Ministry of Health to accelerate the Ministry of Health's roll-out of youth-specific wellbeing and addiction initiatives that will be available to all domestic tertiary students through their TEI.

This will be implemented via a Request for Proposals (RFP) process led by the Ministry of Health. The Ministry of Health will be in touch with individual tertiary institutions in the coming months and will be involved in the RFP process. Tertiary institutions and health providers (District Health Boards, Primary Health Organisations, and non-governmental organisations) will partner to deliver the health services through a TEI.

The RFP process will get underway in November. The expansion of these services will start next year and continue over the following four years. We expect that students will begin to notice an expansion in services and increased choices from 2021, though exactly when students will be able to access these services will depend on when they are established in their tertiary education provider.

For more information and frequently asked questions, visit <https://www.education.govt.nz/covid-19/advice-for-tertiary-providerswhare-wananga/>.

Things change quickly so stay up to date by following the links below:

For health advice, please refer to the Ministry of Health's website.

<https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus>

For Cross-agency information about COVID-19 (novel coronavirus), including health advice and travel restrictions visit the All-of-Government website <https://www.govt.nz/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/>

To keep updated on travel restrictions and visa information visit

<https://www.immigration.govt.nz/about-us/media-centre/news-notifications/coronavirus-update-inz-response>

For additional advice for tertiary providers/whare wananga visit the Ministry of Education website

<http://www.education.govt.nz/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov-3/>