

Is the Voluntary Bonding Scheme for You?

- Do you want help to repay your student loan (or be paid extra cash) early in your career?
- Are you a new graduate doctor, nurse, midwife, dentist, or sonographer? Or have you commenced General Practice Vocational training (GPEP1-3) in December 2018?
- Are you considering working in a hard-to-staff community or speciality, to help everyone in our communities get health care where they need it?

If you answered YES, then the Voluntary Bonding Scheme could be for you!

The Voluntary Bonding Scheme aims to incentivise health professionals who agree to work in particular hard-to-staff communities or specialties for the first three to five years of their career.

Those who register and are accepted onto the Scheme, and meet the terms and conditions, receive payments to help repay their student loans, or receive cash payments if they don't have a loan.

<i>Profession</i>	<i>After-tax payment (per annum)</i>
<i>Doctors and Dentists</i>	<i>\$10,000</i>
<i>Midwives</i>	<i>\$3,500</i>
<i>Registered Nurses</i>	<i>\$2,833</i>
<i>Sonographers</i>	<i>\$3,932</i>

To be eligible to register for the 2019 intake of the Scheme, you must:

- have completed undergraduate studies for your profession in 2018, or
- have commenced general practice vocational training (GPEP1, 2, or 3) in a listed hard-to-staff NZ community in December 2018,
- intend to work in New Zealand for at least three and up to five years according to the Scheme's terms and conditions for your profession,
- be a New Zealand citizen or permanent resident by the time you apply for payment

How do you register your interest for the Voluntary Bonding Scheme?

- The Registration of Interest (ROI) period is open on the Ministry of Health website for **six weeks** each year. **The 2019 intake will be open 1st May to 11th June 2019**
- Registrations **must** be received within the ROI period (late registrations cannot be considered)
- The registration is an online form that must be completed
- Registering interest does not guarantee a place on the Scheme, as places are limited
- Registrants are informed via email/post whether their registrations are successful
- If confirmed on the Scheme, registrants must meet the scheme's terms and conditions for a bonded period of at least three years to receive payment. Most registrants can become eligible for additional payment(s) for a fourth or fifth bonded year(s)

For more information, including the listed hard-to-staff areas for the 2019 intake and the full Terms and Conditions, please visit our website at <http://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/health-workforce/voluntary-bonding-scheme> or email us at vbs@moh.govt.nz