

# What the Government's proposals would mean for disabled learners and learners with additional learning support needs

## A vision for NZ

A strong, unified vocational education system that is sustainable and fit for the future of work, delivering what learners, employers and communities need to be successful.

## The proposed changes

There are three changes being proposed:

- » **creating the New Zealand Institute of Skills & Technology.** This would mean bringing together the 16 existing institutes of technology and polytechnics (ITPs) in to one single Institute of Skills & Technology with regional campuses across the country. Students could move around from campus to campus without affecting their studies.
- » **education providers supporting workplace learning and assessment.** This would lead to the introduction of Industry Skills Bodies. These Bodies would take on the role of supporting workplace learning and assessment, a role that is currently done by Industry Training Organisations (ITOs).
- » **redesigning the funding system for vocational education.** It is being proposed that a single funding system would be created. The aim is to make sure learners get the skills, experience and support they need to be successful.

## How would these changes make the system better for disabled learners and learners with additional learning support needs?

- The system would be designed to meet and respond to the needs of all learners, including disabled learners and learners with additional learning support needs.
- Disabled learners and learners with additional learning support needs would get support that is more tailored to their unique needs, including during on-the-job training.
- Stronger connections between providers and schools, and between providers and employers, will help disabled learners and learners with additional learning support needs transition into vocational education and employment.

The proposed changes would mean more support for all learners, including disabled learners and learners with additional learning support needs. We know there are already some great programmes in place and we need to ensure these programmes continue and get the support they need to assist the people they help. These programmes should be easy to access and give disabled learners and learners with additional learning support needs the support they need to learn and succeed.

# Reform of Vocational Education

## Have your say

The changes being proposed are big and we want everyone who has an interest in education to share their views on them. Feedback can be given by:

Visiting the [Kōrero Mātauranga](#) website and completing the online survey or short feedback form

Emailing: [Vocationaleducation.Reform@education.govt.nz](mailto:Vocationaleducation.Reform@education.govt.nz)

Feedback is due by **Wednesday 27 March 2019**.

There are also a number of face-to-face events taking place around New Zealand, where you can share your views on the proposals. Details on when and where these events are taking place can be found on the [Kōrero Mātauranga](#) website.

If you want to find out more information about the proposals, please read the [Reform of Vocational Education consultation discussion document](#) and other supporting information.

## Can students still enrol in vocational education in 2019?

Yes. If you are already studying or enrolled on a course starting in 2019 then nothing will change. You will be able to continue your course and complete it as planned. The Government's policy of a Fees-Free first year of tertiary education and training will also continue.

Whatever the outcome may be of this consultation it will be "business as usual" for the delivery of programmes and courses. Ensuring all learners can complete their study as planned – during 2019 and beyond – will be a top priority throughout any change process.

Specific programmes for supporting disabled learners and learners with additional learning needs (including supported learning qualifications, special education qualifications, the Special Supplementary Grant for Special Education, and Skills Highway) will not be impacted in 2019 by the proposed reform for vocational education.

## Where can I get more information?

You can read about the key reform proposals in the main consultation document (published here: <https://conversation.education.govt.nz/conversations/reform-of-vocational-education/>).

## What happens after I provide feedback?

All feedback will be gathered, reviewed and considered. Once this has been completed The Minister and Cabinet will get a summary and recommendation. This will assist them in their decision on the Reform of Vocational Education. You can expect to hear about their decision around mid-2019.