



# Go Rural: Isolated Placements Fund Application Guide

## About Go Rural

Go Rural helps student teachers undertake block placements in rural and isolated schools while completing their Initial teacher education (ITE) programme. It gives them experience in rural settings and helps them build relationships with rural schools.

Go Rural provides a one-off grant of \$4,000 (tax-exempt with no student loan or KiwiSaver deductions) direct to the student teacher to reduce the financial barriers of taking up a rural/isolated placement. Go Rural is open for the duration of the academic year or until all grants have been allocated. There are up to 123 grants available in 2026.

Grants are awarded on a first-come first-served basis and once the placement has been verified by the ITE provider and with an eligible school. All the information needed to make an application, including the application form and list of eligible Go Rural schools, is available here:

[Go Rural: Isolated Placements Fund | Education Workforce](#)

## Eligibility

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To be awarded a Go Rural grant, you must:

- be completing a Teaching Council approved ITE programme this year
- have a confirmed placement in one of the 454 eligible Go Rural schools
- have a confirmed placement length of five weeks or more
- be a New Zealand citizen or permanent resident.

You can only receive one Go Rural grant during your study. You may also participate in or be awarded another Ministry of Education initiative or scholarship and hold a Go Rural grant. This includes TeachNZ scholarships or the School Onsite Training Programme (SOTP).

## Payment information

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- We will pay student teachers directly into a verified bank account prior to, or during your placement.
- Student teachers who do not complete their placement may have funding reclaimed.

## Complete the online application

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In the application we ask you to provide some identifying information, including the status of your residency, if you have received financial support from us in the past, and details about your ITE provider and course.

We then ask for the start date of your placement, the number of weeks you will be on placement, and the location of your placement school or kura. You will then need to select the geographical region and then the name of your placement school | kura from the list provided.

The application form also includes some optional questions about your interest in rural placements, barriers, and thoughts about the support a Go Rural grant would provide. Please note these are optional and have no impact on the success of your application.

Finally, tick the boxes to agree to the declaration at the end of the application.

## Actions for successful applicants

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You will need to submit your bank details, proof of New Zealand citizenship or permanent residency and agree to the Go Rural terms and conditions to complete the application process.

Submission of the documents and terms and conditions agreement will be via an online **grant acceptance form**. A link to the form will be sent to you once your ITE provider has verified your placement.

You will need to provide certified bank account details and certified proof of citizenship or permanent residency documents. To be certified, each page must be stamped and endorsed as true copies of the originals by an approved person. Here is a list of approved people:

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| ✓ StudyLink or Work and Income staff member  | ✓ Registrar or officer of your tertiary education provider |
| ✓ School principal, teacher, careers advisor or guidance counsellor                    | ✓ Notary public  |
| ✓ Doctor   | ✓ Police officer   |
| ✓ Church minister or rector  | ✓ Kaumatua   |
| ✓ Court registrar or officer   | ✓ Solicitor or lawyer                                      |
| ✓ Justice of the peace   | ✓ Member of a board of trustees                            |
| ✓ Local authority employee designated for the purpose of taking oaths and declarations | ✓ Member of Parliament                                     |

## **Certified bank account details**

We will process payment when we receive confirmation of your New Zealand address and bank generated evidence of the bank account we will pay the grant to.

We recommend you prepare this in advance to avoid delays. Acceptable bank account proof is:

- A bank statement showing the account holder's name, bank account number, and at least one deposit or withdrawal transaction with a corresponding date.
- A pre-printed deposit slip including the full bank account number (bank, branch, account number, suffix) and the account holder's name.
- An ATM printout showing the bank logo, full bank account number, and the account holder's name.
- A bank teller account confirmation, dated and stamped by the bank, showing the full bank account number and the account holder's name.
- An internet banking printout that includes the full bank account number, the account holder's name, and the web address at the top or bottom of the page.

Your bank account proof must be less than 6 months old. The name on your application must match the bank account name, or you will need to provide supporting documents as verification (such as a marriage certificate).

Third-party accounting systems' bank account proofs are not acceptable, for example, Hnry, Xero, or other payroll system screenshots.

## **Certified proof of citizenship or permanent residency**

If you're a New Zealand citizen, you must provide a certified copy of:

- your New Zealand passport, or
- your New Zealand birth certificate, or
- your certificate of New Zealand citizenship.

If you're a permanent resident, you must provide certified copies of two pages in your passport:

- the main identification page, and
- the page showing your indefinite New Zealand permanent residency stamp or sticker.

## **Contact us**

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If you have any questions, we're here to help.

Email: [teacher.supply@education.govt.nz](mailto:teacher.supply@education.govt.nz)