



# Kaupapa Māori | Māori Medium Employment-Based Initial Teacher Education (EBITE) Programme Funding Award Guidance

## Overview

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The Kaupapa Māori | Māori Medium (KM/MM) Employment-based Initial Teacher Education (EBITE) Programme Funding Award is a 2-year teacher training initiative. It is designed to address the critical shortage of qualified teachers in immersion settings and teaching te reo Māori as a subject.

The award supports those working under a Limited Authority to Teach (LAT holders) to train as a teacher while employed at their school | kura.

School | kura staff in the process of becoming a LAT holder or renewing their application can also be included in a funding award application. The LAT holder must be registered with the Teaching Council before starting study or if otherwise agreed upon with the Ministry.

### Benefits

Schools | kura are funded for release time and to mentor LAT student teachers while they train. Your school | kura receives up to \$63,839.08\* (excluding GST) paid in four instalments over two years for release time for the LAT student teacher and mentoring support.

The award funds a maximum of 60 days of release time. 40 days are allocated as one day per week during term time, and 20 days are allocated for practicum release.

Schools | kura must fund additional release time beyond these 60 days.

\*The amount paid to schools | kura over the funding award period is subject to change. It will be based on the outcome of Collective Bargaining negotiations.

## Eligibility and selection considerations

To be eligible, schools | kura must:

- be state or state-integrated
- employ at least one LAT holder who is teaching or intends to teach in a Kaupapa Māori or Māori medium setting, or as a te reo Māori subject teacher in an English medium setting
- employ at least one LAT holder in a teaching role that has been publicly advertised and appointed based on merit
- attest that they can provide a robust mentoring and support programme.

## Selection considerations

If the number of eligible applications exceeds the number of available awards, a selection process using a weighted scoring system will be used to determine successful applications.

Priority for this funding round will be given to LAT holders who are:

- teaching in secondary/wharekura/Kura Tuarua settings
- teaching or intending to teach in STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) subject areas
- teaching or intending to teach in Level 1 or 2 immersion settings
- currently employed in the school | kura full-time, or at least 0.8 Full Time Teacher Equivalent (FTTE).

## Obligations

When making an application, schools| kura must:

- ensure all LAT holders in the application are prepared and committed to meeting the conditions of the award and requirements of their ITE programme.
- ensure all LAT holders in the application have given their permission to be included and understand their personal obligations.
- complete their application in order of their candidate preference when applying for multiple LAT holders. They should consider each LAT holder's preparedness, readiness, and commitment.
- ensure all LAT holders in the application are aware that their personal and contact information will be provided to the Ministry as part of the application process and used to confirm ongoing eligibility for the award.

Schools | kura must evaluate their projected roles and ensure they have sufficient staffing while the LAT student teacher is training. They must consider potential changes or impacts to staffing and operations. Schools | kura should plan for how they will manage the funded release time across the two-year programme, including backfilling teaching responsibilities where required and ensuring ongoing support for LAT student teachers.

During the funding period, schools| kura must:

- provide a robust mentoring programme (provided by a registered teacher) and support for each participating LAT student teacher
- provide regular release time (at least 0.2 FTTE for the LAT student teacher to complete ITE programme requirements, as well as 20 days for practicum requirements)
- work in partnership with the chosen ITE provider to support and mentor the LAT student teacher
- notify the Ministry of any changes to the LAT student teacher's status during the ITE programme. This includes withdrawal from training, leaving employment, or other circumstances affecting their eligibility of participation
- continue to assess and understand school | kura role projections and staffing during the funding award period

- use the funding award provided for relief costs and mentor support in accordance with existing teacher collective agreements
- agree, along with their mentor teachers | kaiako, to complete surveys at least twice during the funding award period
- ensure LAT student teachers complete the surveys.

Contact the EBITE applications team for guidance if you are concerned about meeting the eligibility criteria and completing an application if your school | kura is impacted by:

- timing of staffing entitlements
- your LAT employment agreement conditions (for example, fixed term, not permanent staff)
- timing of making an application for a LAT with the Teaching Council or renewing a LAT
- other timing issues that may exclude legitimate applicants.

## Choosing a suitable Initial Teacher Education (ITE) programme

LAT holders can only enrol in an ITE programme that can be completed over two years, and results in a recognised teaching qualification, leading to teacher registration. These include graduate or postgraduate diplomas, or two-year undergraduate degrees that are reduced from three years because they accredit students their first-year papers through Recognised Prior Learning (RPL). They must be able to complete the programme while working in a school | kura.

Deciding which ITE programme and provider is an important decision for schools | kura and LAT student teachers. We recommend reviewing all suitable programmes available before making an application.

If LAT holders receive an EBITE award, they are not guaranteed acceptance into their chosen ITE programme. They are responsible for confirming their eligibility for their ITE programme and applying with their ITE provider.

Read more about [2-year ITE programmes on the Education Workforce website](#).

## Making an application

Schools | kura apply via an online form on the Education Workforce website. Principals must complete the applications because they must attest they can meet the funding award obligations.

The online application asks for the following information:

- School | kura applicant full name, position, contact number and email address.
- School | kura name and ID.
- LAT holder(s) full name, email address, ethnicity, LAT number (if holding a current LAT), and MOE number.
- Employment details, including FTTE status while studying, immersion levels, and subjects taught (if applicable).
- The name of the chosen ITE programme.

Schools | kura should contact the EBITE applications team for guidance applying if your application is impacted by LAT employment agreement conditions (for example, fixed term, not permanent staff). You may still be eligible to apply for a funding award.

## Payments

Payments to schools | kura are phased over the funding award period, provided that the LAT student teacher remains employed and enrolled in their ITE programme. Payment will be made in four phased instalments. Conditions must be met before each payment is made.

Payments are made via Pourato (the Ministry's Resourcing System) and are typically processed within two-four working weeks. Schools | kura can login to Pourato to track their EBITE funding awards.

Instalments	Payment	Process date	Conditions
1st instalment	Relief costs and mentor support	Upon acceptance of funding award agreement	Processed to schools   kura on acceptance of the funding award agreement by the LAT student teacher.
2nd instalment	Relief costs and mentor support	Expected to be by 1 July of year 1	Ministry confirms LAT student teacher's employment at school   kura in a school payroll check.  Ministry confirms enrolment with ITE provider in an enrolment check.
3rd instalment	Relief costs and mentor support	Expected to be by 1 Feb of year 2	Ministry confirms LAT student teacher's employment at school   kura in a school payroll check.  Ministry confirms enrolment with ITE provider in an enrolment check.
4th instalment	Relief costs and mentor support	Expected to be by 1 July of year 2	Ministry confirms LAT student teacher's employment at school   kura in a school payroll check.  Ministry confirms enrolment with ITE provider in an enrolment check.

## Contact information

If you have any questions, please get in touch. We're here to help.

Email: [EBITE.Applications@education.govt.nz](mailto:EBITE.Applications@education.govt.nz)



**Te Tāhuhu o  
te Mātauranga**  
Ministry of Education



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