



Country:	New Zealand
Member/Company	BusinessNZ
Initiative	<i>Strength in Work</i>

## Overview

New Zealand has a scheme for helping young people into the full-time labour force called by the Māori name, Mana in Mahi, which means 'strength in work'. The scheme was introduced in 2018 but expanded in 2020 by increasing the programme's length from 12 up to 24 months, increasing the wage subsidy rate payable to employers to up to \$16,000 for the first year and \$8,000 for the second, supporting employers to pay for industry training fees and paying for any extra education support that might be needed, such as literacy and numeracy training. There are incentive payments for participants and ongoing pastoral care is provided.

A regional apprenticeship scheme invests in new apprenticeships in regional areas and is aimed particularly at helping displaced workers and Māori and Pacific workers into jobs. The scheme is not directed only to young people but also supports people of any age who may need to retrain due to the economic impact of Covid-19.

The Ministry of Social Development administers the scheme which is focused on supporting those most disadvantaged in the labour market to achieve relevant and recognised trade qualifications through industry training, including pre-apprenticeship training and formal level 4 apprenticeship programmes.

Further information about the scheme can be found at:

<https://www.workandincome.govt.nz/employers/subsidies-training-and-other-help/mana-in-mahi.html>

## Key Messages

N/A