



WHERE TO FROM SCHOOL?

Make your way to employment
through education and training

MANY PATHS

to education, training
and employment.

Everyone can continue learning after they leave school. The diagram shows the typical *next steps* for students – but these are not the only possibilities.

SECONDARY EDUCATION

*High schools, colleges,
trades academies*

Leaving school with
**NCEA
LEVEL 1**
or less, can lead to:

Leaving school with
**NCEA
LEVEL 2**
can lead to:

Leaving school with
**NCEA
LEVEL 3**
can lead to:

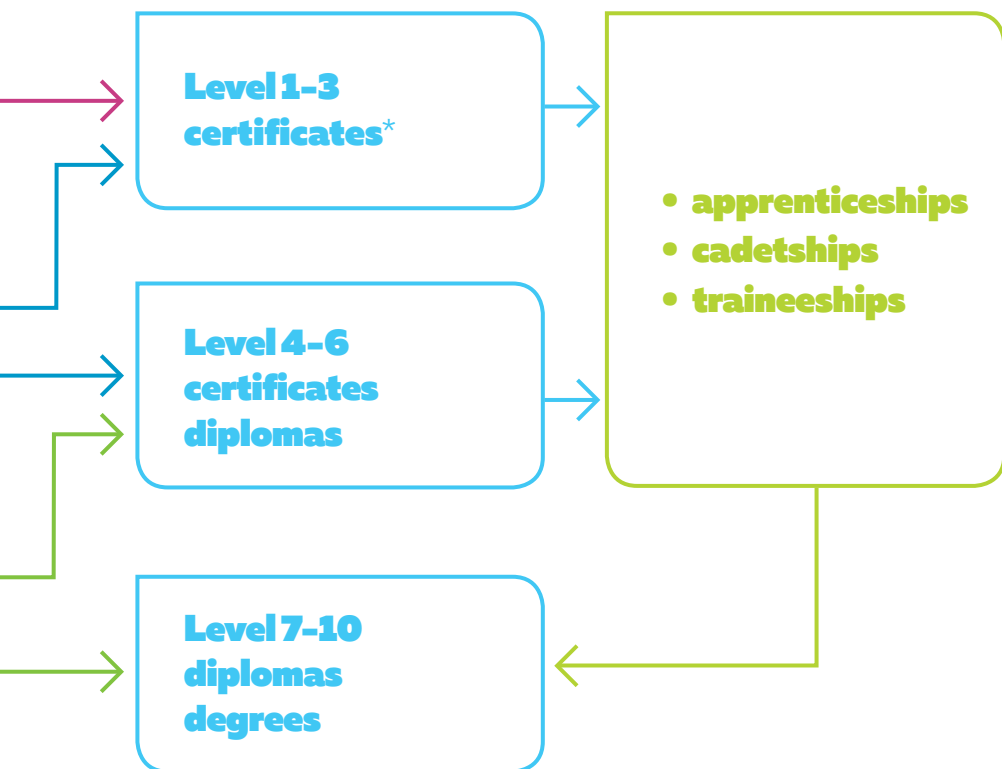
Note: NCEA is the National Certificate of Educational Achievement.

POST-SCHOOL EDUCATION

Wānanga, private training establishments (PTEs), polytechs, institutes of technology, universities

WORKPLACE LEARNING

Employers with industry training organisations and tertiary providers



* includes Vocational Pathways awards

Leaving school with

NCEA LEVEL 1

or less



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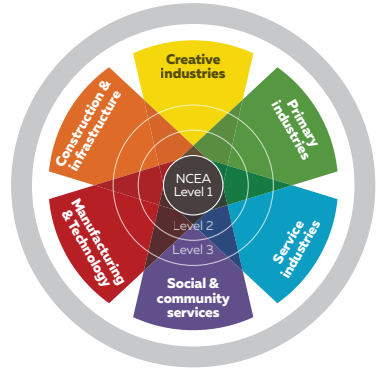
Want to increase your chances of **getting work**, an **apprenticeship** or a **traineeship**?

Your **next step** is to study for a certificate at levels 1-3. A certificate can take 12 weeks to one year's full-time study.

Where you can study

What does your local private training establishment (PTE), polytech, or wānanga offer?

If you find a job, you may be able to train for a level 2 or 3 qualification with the help of your employer and the industry training organisation.



Cost

Many courses are free (see Pay no fees). Otherwise fees vary from around \$1,000 for 12 weeks of full-time study up to \$8,000 for one year.

Pay no fees

Ask education providers about:

Youth Guarantee if you are 16 to 19 years old and want to continue to study full-time for up to two years at levels 1 – 3.

Foundation education if you are under 25 years old and don't have NCEA 1 – 2.

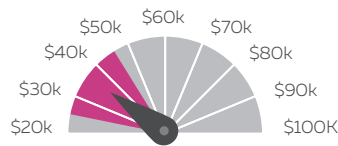
Māori and Pasifika Trades Training if you are 18 to 34 years old and want to gain trade qualifications and an apprenticeship.

What do people with level 1 – 3 qualifications do for a job?

Here are some examples:

- Beekeeper
- Amenity horticulture
- Nursery worker
- Contact centre worker
- Retail sales assistant
- Nanny
- Nursing support worker
- Painter
- Tiler
- Welder

What do people with level 1 – 3 qualifications usually earn?*



\$36,820K median full-time wage in NZ (5 years after study)

Leaving school with

NCEA LEVEL 2



Image credit: BCTO

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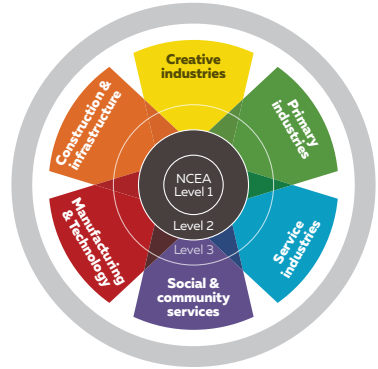
Want to prepare for work in a [trade](#), [technical role](#) or other [skilled occupation](#)?

Your [next step](#) is to study for a certificate or a diploma at levels 4-6. A certificate can take one year full-time; a diploma 1 to 2 years.

Where you can study

You might choose a wānanga, institute of technology, polytech, private training establishment (PTE) or university.

You might look for an employer who will train and support you to get a qualification while you work.



Cost

Around \$6,000 to \$8,000 per year of full-time study.

NZ apprenticeships

Available in a range of trades through industry training organisations.

Apply if you are over 16 and have a job with an employer keen to train you. You will study and work towards a qualification, usually at level 4.

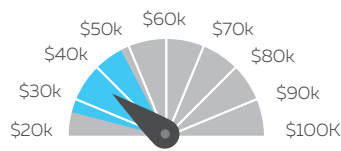
The industry training organisation will support you and your employer. Most apprenticeships take 3 to 4 years to complete but you can earn while you learn.

What do people with level 4 – 6 qualifications do for a job?

Here are some examples:

- Event Manager
- Florist
- Hairdresser
- Community worker
- Baker
- Computer technician
- Engineering trades worker
- Telecoms technician
- Civil engineering technician
- Electrician

What do people with level 4 – 6 qualifications usually earn?*



\$38,773K median full-time wage in NZ (5 years after study)

Leaving school with

NCEA LEVEL 3



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Want to prepare for work in a **trade**, **technical role** or other **skilled occupation**?

Your **next step** is to study for a certificate or a diploma at levels 4-6 (see pages 6-7).

Want to prepare for work in a **professional role** or other **high-skilled occupation**?

Your **next step** is to study for a degree at levels 7-10. A Bachelor's degree takes 3 to 4 years full-time.

Where you can study

You might choose a wānanga, institute of technology, polytech, private training establishment (PTE) or university.



Cost

Around \$6,000 to \$8,000 per year of full-time study. But courses in some fields, such as medicine and business, can be much more.

Entry requirements

To enrol for a degree you need to have university entrance and meet any additional specific requirements for your chosen degree.

Scholarships

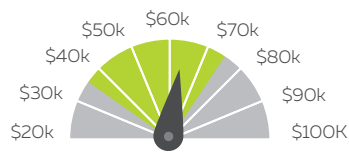
All tertiary education providers offer scholarships – and not just to the top students. Talk to them about what’s on offer.

What do people with level 7 – 10 qualifications do for a job?

Here are some examples:

- ● ● Industrial designer
- ● Environmental engineer
- ● Food technologist
- ● Science technician
- ● Medical radiation technologist
- Social worker
- Teacher
- Brewer
- ● Business analyst
- ● Programmer

What do people with level 7 – 10 qualifications usually earn?*



\$62,667 median full-time wage in NZ (5 years after study)



TAKE ACTION



It is important to get involved in something to help you choose a career direction. Consider finding out what skills are in demand, talking to people with jobs you are interested in, researching jobs on the Careers New Zealand website and finding out about volunteering or gaining work experience.

WHERE DO YOUNG PEOPLE GO FROM SCHOOL?

The value of NCEA level 2

Many employers see NCEA level 2 as a basic requirement for a job applicant, apprentice or trainee.

Students interested in a trade or practical pathway can often work towards this and NCEA level 2 while they are at school. Their options can include work experience or courses at a tertiary education provider. Ask schools about Vocational Pathways, Gateway, STAR, trade academies and service academies.

Employers say qualifications are not the only thing they look for. Attitude, self-management and people skills are very important.

Leaving school without NCEA level 2

The Youth Guarantee scheme offers young people alternative ways of gaining NCEA level 2 and beyond, via industry-focused qualifications.

They may be able to study an equivalent qualification free at a local tertiary provider and get started on a practical pathway – see page 5.

Young people aged 16 to 19 can gain NCEA level 2 beyond school, if school is no longer an option for them.

Choosing post-school education

Around 40,000 young people leave school each year and go on to study at a polytech, institute of technology, university, private training establishment (PTE) or wānanga the next year.

There is plenty of information available about post-school education providers and their courses.

The challenge for students is to critically compare all this information and to research the links between the qualifications offered and their future employment prospects.

Entering trades training

In recent years around 9,000 young people have started apprenticeships or traineeships each year.

The qualifications needed to work in trades or technician roles are mostly gained through learning on the job as an apprentice or trainee – see page 7.

The training involves the employer, an industry training organisation and often a post-school education provider.

Find out more **careers.govt.nz**



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CareerQuest

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Subject Matcher

Get job ideas based on your school subjects.

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Compare Study Options

Compare earnings and employment information across study areas.

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CV Builder

Create your own CV online.

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Further information is available at these **useful websites**:



nzqa.govt.nz

Information on how NCEA works.

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gotatrade.co.nz

Information on industry training for 30 trades.

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studylink.govt.nz

Tools and advice about student loans and allowances.

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tec.govt.nz

Information on NZ apprenticeships.

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youthguarantee.net.nz

Post-school education providers offering fees-free study.

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careers.govt.nz

New Zealand Government

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