Ministry of Education ESOL INITIATIVE – TESSOL (Teaching English in Schools to Speakers of Other Languages) Tuition Fees Scholarship

Victoria University of Wellington

Post Graduate Certificate in Education (PGCertED), or the Post Graduate Diploma in Education (PGDipED) at Victoria University of Wellington.

The TESSOL scholarship funds the course fees for the two education courses EDUC 515 Teaching Linguistically Diverse Learners and EDUC 516 Language of the Classroom plus $200 per annum (for two years) towards course-related costs.

You are expected to study over two years part-time. The PGDipED provides students with a pathway towards the Master of Arts (MA) or Master of Education (MEd) at Victoria University.

Course details for Victoria University of Wellington

The first course, EDUC 515 – Teaching Linguistically Diverse Students, is taught by distance with a number of optional on-site meetings during the trimester and begins on 22 February 2021. Your lecturer will contact you in early February to arrange a meeting to discuss the programme before study begins. Victoria University provides support workshops for local clusters of teachers studying EDUC 515 and EDUC 516 – Language of the Classroom as part of the scholarship programme.

For further information about the qualification, please see the link below:


TESSOL scholarship eligibility criteria

The Ministry encourages applications from NZ registered teachers in roles including:

- Subject and class teachers
- Bilingual teachers
- Specialist ESOL teachers
- Members of the senior leadership team
- SENCO
- Learning support coordinators
- RTLB
- Early childhood educators

Teachers must:

- have at least two years’ teaching experience
- be currently teaching new learners of English
- have New Zealand residency and New Zealand teaching registration
• be committed to completing the Ministry funded papers of the qualification
• agree to provide an evaluation on the impact of the training on ECE service/school and classroom practices to the Ministry’s National Migrant, Refugee and International ESOL Team at the completion of each course.

Schools and ECE services must:
• agree to fund a minimum of one teacher release day per semester (i.e., two per year) to enable teachers to attend workshops or to undertake intensive study
• give the scholarship holders the opportunity to share their learning with colleagues
• contact the Ministry if a teacher moves or withdraws from the course.

The TESSOL scholarship selection committee may also take into account:
• whether your ECE service/school already has teachers with TESSOL qualifications
• the ECE service’s/school’s demonstrated commitment to ESOL professional development.

Application and Enrolment process

Please complete the online application form by Sunday, 1 November 2020 (see the link at the bottom of the page).

Enrolling on the Victoria University of Wellington course
If your application is successful, you will need to begin the enrolment process online at www.victoria.ac.nz. Online enrolment is open from 1 October 2020 and all applications for the postgraduate programmes must be submitted by 20 January 2021.

Scholarship payment details
The Ministry of Education will pay the scholarship amount for the first course at the end of January 2021. The payment will be made directly into your school’s bank account. The payment will include the tuition fee for the 30-credit course (which has not yet been confirmed by the university) and $200 towards course-related costs. A second scholarship payment will be made at the beginning of 2022.

APPLY NOW for TESSOL SCHOLARSHIP