

Youth Guarantee Monitoring Report: Impact of Trades Academies & Youth Guarantee Fees-Free Provision on Student Performance

The Ministry of Education has recently published the Youth Guarantee Monitoring Report (available at www.educationcounts.govt.nz). This is the first of an annual series which will monitor the impact of the Youth Guarantee on:

- student retention in education
- achievement of NCEA Level 2
- transitions to further education and training and work.

The 2013 Report looks at the impact of Trades Academies and Youth Guarantee Fees-Free provision on education retention and achievement of NCEA L2 for the period 2010-2012. It compares the retention and achievement of students who participated in Trades Academies and Youth Guarantee Fees-Free provision with the retention and achievement of a comparable group who did not participate in these programmes, using a cohort approach.

The report shows these programmes are having a very positive impact on student performance. A summary of the results is set out below.

Impact of Participation in Trades Academies and Youth Guarantee Fees-Free

	1994 Cohort	
	Retained in Education at 17 (in 2011)	Achieved NCEA L2 or equivalent at 18 (in 2012)
Participated in a T.A.	99%	83%
Comparable group which did not participate in a T.A.	87%	70%
Participated in Y.G. Fees-Free Provision	90%	62%
Comparable group which did not participate in Y.G Fees-Free provision	75%	52%

For more information about the Youth Guarantee, visit:

- **Educators** – contact a Youth Guarantee Chief Advisor: <http://youthguarantee.net.nz/home-/contact/>
- **Students:**
 - to check out their Vocational Profile, go to - <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/login/>
 - to start planning their Vocational Pathways, use the Profile Builder at <http://youthguarantee.net.nz/start-your-journey-now/>
- **Parents, whānau and family** – go to: <http://youthguarantee.net.nz/start-your-journey/> - to help their child start planning their study, training or work options; or find out how their achievements map to future possibilities using their Vocational Profile at - <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/login/>

Definitions

Youth Guarantee Fees-Free provision is offered at a range of tertiary education providers at levels 1-3 for 16-17 year olds (now extended to 16-19 year olds) who have left school without achieving NCEA L2. In 2014, 10,000 places are available across New Zealand. Details about the location of providers are available on the Tertiary Education Commission Website.

Trades Academies enable senior secondary school students to access tertiary vocational education while remaining enrolled in school. They generally involve a mix of 3-4 days in school and 1-2 days in a tertiary setting. In 2014, 4,500 places are available in trades academies.

There are 22 Trades Academy Lead Providers – 11 of which are schools and 11 of which are tertiary providers. The lead providers work with schools and tertiary providers to put together combined school-tertiary learning programmes which lead to NCEA L2 and partial completion of an industry qualification at Level 2. Over 200 secondary schools are now participating in a trades academy.

Cohort Approach

The outcomes for the Youth Guarantee programmes are measured using a cohort approach. This looks at those born in a particular year (in this case, those born in 1993 and those born in 1994) who participated in a programme and what outcomes they achieved in terms of retention, achievement and (in future) transitions. These results are measured for all those who participated in a programme whether the results were achieved on the programme or post the programme. The outcomes for the cohort who participated in the programme are compared with a comparable group in the same age cohort who did not participate in the programme.

Comparable group

This means a group in the same age cohort that shares similar characteristics as the group that participated in these programmes. The characteristic variables used for the Youth Guarantee Monitoring report were: gender, Maori ethnicity, Pacific ethnicity, experience of disengagement from school (truancy, suspension, expulsion) and the level of NCEA L1 achievement score.

The comparable group is selected for each programme i.e. it is based on the characteristics of the group in each programme. The average results for the comparison groups are shown for each programme and compared with the programme's results.