The Prime Minister’s Vocational Excellence Award

Key things to know

- Students all over New Zealand excel in building their vocational knowledge & skills and the Prime Minister wants to recognise them for their success.

- Vocational education and training helps students develop the skills, knowledge and attributes they need to perform a specific role and build a career in an industry. This is not limited to the traditional trades or professions but can relate to any part of the economy, ranging from the construction industry to the tech sector.

- The Prime Minister has launched the Prime Minister’s Vocational Excellence Award (PMVEA) to celebrate these achievements.

- The PMVEA will be awarded each year to a Year 12 or 13 student in each public secondary school (including state-integrated secondary schools and composite schools) and wharekura.

- Your school may nominate one student from either Year 12 or 13 to receive the Award.

- The winning student will receive a $2,000 prize in recognition of their success in vocational education and training, alongside an official certificate. This cash prize can be used at the student’s discretion.

- Nomination criteria is included on the reverse of this factsheet to help you decide which student to nominate for the Award.

- Also included in the Information Pack is a skills and attributes framework. This is an optional tool designed to help guide you in the process of selecting a student to nominate.

- To nominate a student, simply complete the nomination form which is included in this pack, and submit it to vocational.excellence@education.govt.nz. The nomination should be supported with evidence, where relevant, and a principal’s letter of recommendation. Guidelines for supporting evidence and the letter of recommendation are included on the reverse of this factsheet.

- Nominations close on 20 September 2019.

- Once your school’s application has been processed, you will be sent confirmation of your school’s Award recipient.

- The Award can be presented at your school’s end-of-year prize-giving ceremony, and can be integrated into your normal prize-giving practices. If your school does not have an end-of-year prize-giving, your school can choose how best to celebrate your Award recipient’s success.

If you would like any further information about the award

email us at: vocational.excellence@education.govt.nz
or visit our website at: https://pmvea.education.govt.nz
Nomination criteria

Please use the following criteria to guide your nomination of a student.
Factors you may consider include:

- Achievement of, or on track to achieve, NCEA Level 2.
- Participation in Trades Academy or Gateway programmes.
- Achievement of, or on track to achieve, a Vocational Pathways Award (Creative Industries, Primary Industries, Service Industries, Social and Community Services, Manufacturing and Technology, Construction and Infrastructure).
- Participation in vocationally-oriented subjects offered by the school.
- Participation in available courses or programmes that contribute to success in their chosen pathway e.g. driver’s license courses.

Letter of recommendation and supporting evidence guidelines

Please include information about the above factors relevant to the nominated student in the principal’s letter of recommendation.

In this letter you may also wish to briefly describe some of the student’s achievements or provide an explanation of how this student has demonstrated excellence in vocational education (max. 300 words).

The principal’s letter should be supported, where relevant, with evidence e.g. list of courses and standards for which the student is enrolled.

Important Dates

**Nominations Open**
08 August

**Nominations Close**
20 September