

**2024 Allied Health, Scientific
& Technical Professions**

Careers Information

For more information

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Contact details

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Introduction



Allied Health, Scientific & Technical (AHST) Careers

Tēnā koutou kātoa

Let us introduce you to the many and varied Allied Health, Scientific & Technical professions that provide a wide array of career options for working in the health or disability sector.

Allied Health, Scientific & Technical are made up of over 40 different professions; they work across community and hospital settings, across the life span, and across a range of health and disability services.

Many people are not aware there are so many health career options and so the following information is to help you navigate the wide array of options and opportunities available to you. Some will be familiar and some you may not have heard about before. Like all careers in health, working in an Allied Health, Scientific & Technical profession will open up a number of career opportunities and you will be in demand throughout Aotearoa and internationally.

If you are interested in supporting individuals, working with whānau or working with communities to improve health and wellbeing then we have an Allied Health, Scientific & Technical career waiting for you!

You may be keen on sciences, you may love working with technology, or you may enjoy working alongside people and having a role that involves talking with people or being hands-on with treatment. If this sounds like you then read on and discover the range of Allied Health, Scientific & Technical careers.

Ma tini, ma mano, ka rapa te whai.

Professions

The following Allied Health Scientific & Technical Health Professions have been grouped by the qualification or training required for entry.

On-the-Job Training

On-the-job training, also known as OJT, is a hands-on method of teaching the skills, knowledge and competencies needed for employees to perform a specific job within the workplace. Training takes place within the employee's normal job environment and may occur as he or she performs their actual work.

NZQA Level 4 to 6 Qualification Required

Level 4: Certificate.

Level 5: Certificate and Diplomas.

Level 6: Certificate and Diplomas.

NZQA Level 7 to 10 Qualification Required

Level 7: Graduate Certificate, Graduate Diploma, Bachelor's Degree.

Level 8: Postgraduate Certificates, Postgraduate Diplomas and Bachelor's Honours degrees.

Level 9: Master's Degrees.

Level 10: Doctoral Degrees.

Allied Health Professions



- » Alcohol & Drug Clinicians
- » Allied Health Assistants
- » Audiologists
- » Audiometrists
- » Counsellors
- » Dietitians
- » Genetic Counsellors
- » Hand Therapists
- » Health Promoters
- » Hospital Play Specialists
- » New Born Hearing Screeners
- » Visiting Neurodevelopmental Therapists
- » Occupational Therapists
- » Physiotherapists
- » Podiatrists
- » Psychologists
- » Psychotherapists
- » Social Workers
- » Speech & Language Therapists



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CDHMS-00175-1802

Scientific & Technical Health Professions

Wairarapa, Hutt Valley and Capital & Coast DHBs




- » Anaesthetic Technicians
- » Cardiac Perfusionists
- » Clinical Engineers and Technicians
- » Clinical Physiologists
- » Dental Therapists and Technicians
- » Exercise Physiologists
- » Laboratory Scientists, Science Officers and Technicians
- » Magnetic Resonance Imaging Technologists
- » Mammographers
- » Medical Photographers
- » Medical Physicists
- » Medical Imaging Technologists
- » Mortuary Technicians
- » Nuclear Medicine Technologists
- » Optometrists
- » Orthoptists
- » Pharmacists and Pharmacy Technicians
- » Phlebotomists
- » Radiation Therapists
- » Sonographers
- » Sterile Science Technicians



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Wellington based training

Wellington based training is available for the roles listed below. See this symbol  to find these professions throughout the careers booklet.

On-the-Job Training

- Allied Health Assistant/Support Worker
- Clinical Engineering Technical Assistant
- Medical Laboratory Technician
- Mortuary Technician
- New Born Hearing Screener
- Phlebotomist

NZQA Level 4 to 6 Qualification Required

- Counsellor
- Health Promotion Advisor
- Pharmacy Technician
- Sterile Sciences Technician

NZQA Level 7 to 10 Qualification Required

- Alcohol & Drug Clinician/AOD Clinician
- Anaesthetic Technician
- Clinical Engineering Technician
- Clinical Physiologist & Technician (Cardiac, Respiratory & Sleep)
- Genetic Counsellor (postgraduate through Melbourne or Sydney via distance)
- Hand Therapist (post Physiotherapy / Occupational therapy training)
- Health Protection Officer
- Hospital Play Specialist
- MRI Technologist (post Medical Imaging Technologist training)
- Medical Physicist
- Nuclear Medicine Technologist (post Medical Imaging Technologist training)
- Occupational Therapist
- Psychologist
- Radiation Therapist
- Social Worker
- Sonographer (Echocardiographer / Cardiac post relevant training)
- Speech-Language Therapist (SLT)
- Visiting Neurodevelopmental Therapist (post Physiotherapy / Occupational therapy training)

On-the-Job Training

Allied Health Assistant/Support Worker:

Allied Health Assistants/Support Workers work under the direction of a supervising Allied Health Professional. Examples: Dental Assistants, Pharmacy Assistants, Allied Health Assistants, Mental Health Support Workers.

Qualification:

- there are no specific entry requirements, you can apply for a job without a qualification
- prior to employment or on the job you can complete the New Zealand Certificate in Health and Wellbeing, which has different strands dependent on the area of work
- for Mental Health Support Workers there is the option to complete the Apprenticeship in Health and Wellbeing, Mental Health & Addiction Support Strand.

Clinical Engineering Technical Assistant:

Technical Assistants are responsible for maintenance and testing of beds, plinths, stretchers and other low risk clinical equipment.

Qualification:

- no specific entry requirements, you can apply for a job without a qualification
- all training to maintain and support low risk clinical equipment will be provided on the job via our senior staff or through manufacturer training courses
- successful candidates will be offered support to achieve an Electrical Appliances Serviceperson license

Medical Laboratory Technician:

Medical Laboratory Technicians (MLT) work alongside Medical Laboratory Scientists/Scientific Officers (MLS/SO) in diagnostic medical laboratories. They: apply an understanding of both technical and scientific theory in their chosen discipline, undertake sample registration and specimen handling, complete laboratory testing under MLS supervision, maintain quality assurance standards and undertake general laboratory housekeeping duties (including stock control, reagent preparation and maintenance of clinical equipment).

Relevant NCEA subjects:

- useful subjects include English, Chemistry, Physics and Maths.

Qualification:

- In New Zealand training to become a MLT does not require tertiary level education and can be completed via an in-house two year apprentice-style

training programme administered by the New Zealand Institute of Medical Laboratory Science. The programme requires:

- passing the QMLT examination
 - completing the NZIMLS Practical Assessment (log book)
 - completing 2000 hours of relevant work
- In New Zealand the vocational pathway to registration as a practising MLT with the Medical Sciences Council of New Zealand can be via the QMLT training programme (as described above) or by holding a relevant biological science qualification from a New Zealand university.

Mortuary Technician:

Mortuary Technicians assist with post-mortem examinations, including forensic post-mortems, in theatre, under the direction of the pathologist. Mortuary Technicians are responsible for preparation of tupapaku for post mortem, including photography, and for reconstruction of tupapaku after the post-mortem. They take part in collecting and dispatching samples for toxicology and other types of testing. They are also involved in general day to day duties of running a modern hospital mortuary such as receiving and storing bodies, and making sure bodies that arrive or leave the mortuary are properly identified, providing bereavement services for whanau, facilitating police identifications, and working with funeral directors to facilitate transfer of tupapaku into their care. In some mortuaries, embalming is also part of the mortuary technician's role.

Relevant NCEA subjects:

- Useful secondary subjects include English, Chemistry, Biology and Maths.

Qualification:

- In New Zealand training to become a Mortuary Technician does not require tertiary level education and can be completed via an in-house two year apprentice-style training programme administered by the New Zealand Institute of Medical Laboratory Science (NZIMLS). The programme requires:
 - completing 2000 hours of relevant work
 - completing the NZIMLS Practical Assessment (log book)
 - passing an examination set by the NZIMLS



New Born Hearing Screener: W

New born hearing screeners conduct babies hearing assessments as part of early detection and intervention.

Qualification:

- no specific entry requirements, can apply without a qualification
- on the job, need to complete the New Zealand Certificate in Health and Wellbeing (Newborn Hearing Screening, Level 3).

Phlebotomist: W

Phlebotomists collect blood and/or other body samples from patients for laboratory testing or for blood banks.

Qualification:

- If training on the job you need to:
 - work as a trainee phlebotomist in an approved laboratory for two years
 - gain the Qualified Medical Laboratory Technician (QMLT) certificate
 - be registered with the Medical Sciences Council of New Zealand.

NZQA Level 4 to 6 Qualification Required

Counsellor:

Counsellors help people to understand their feelings and responses, and help people decide on actions they can take to solve problems and create change in their lives.

Relevant NCEA subjects:

- useful subjects include English and languages.

Qualification:

- require a Diploma in Counselling (level 6)
- at least four years of secondary education is preferred. A tertiary entrance qualification may be needed to enter some courses.

Health Promotion Advisor:

Work with communities and groups to plan and develop ways to help people improve and manage their health. Health promoters also work with government and other agencies to improve environmental conditions that contribute to ill health.

Qualification:

- There are no specific entry requirements to become a health promoter. However, it often helps if you have a tertiary qualification in one of the following:
 - health promotion or public health
 - social sciences
 - education
 - knowledge of a health related field such as nutrition, youth work, community housing or child health.



Pharmacy Technician:

Pharmacy technicians help pharmacists to prepare and give out medicines.

Qualification:

- National Certificate in Pharmacy Technicians NZQA Level 4 &5.



Sterile Sciences Technician:

Sterile Sciences Technicians provide a sterilisation service for reusable medical equipment and surgical instruments.

Qualification:

- no specific entry requirements, you can apply without a qualification
- New Zealand Certificate in Sterilising Technology (Level 4) in Sterilising Technology
- New Zealand Diploma in Sterilising Technology (Level 5). This qualification is for technicians in, or aspiring to, a leadership role in a reprocessing environment
 - both are by correspondence/online and can be studied while working and training on the job.

NZQA Level 7 and Higher Qualification Required

Alcohol & Drug Clinician/AOD Clinician: **W**

AOD Clinicians are skilled in the assessment and treatment of people experiencing difficulty with their own and/or others' alcohol and drug use.

Qualification:

- must have a minimum of a relevant three year degree
- requires an Addictions qualification or alternatively may be qualified as a Social Worker, Occupational Therapist, Nurse, and specialise in the area of Addictions.

Anaesthetic Technician: **W**

Anaesthetic Technicians work closely with Anaesthetists and the surgical team to create a safe environment for every patient undergoing anaesthesia. They are responsible for a wide range of technology used for anaesthetic procedures within operating theatres and clinics.

Relevant NCEA subjects:

- to enter tertiary training you need to have NCEA Level 3. Useful subjects include English, Sciences and Maths.

Qualification:

- require an undergraduate degree; Bachelor of Health Science in Perioperative Practice (Auckland University of Technology)



Audiologist:

Audiologists study, identify, measure and treat hearing loss and balance disorders. They also provide hearing aids and/or other listening devices to assist people with hearing loss. Audiologists work across the age range with new born babies to the elderly.

Relevant NCEA subjects:

- useful subjects include Science and English.

Qualification:

- require a Master of Audiology, available from University of Auckland or University of Canterbury
- to enter the Master of Audiology programmes, you need to have an undergraduate degree such as a Bachelor of Arts or Science, preferably in physiology and/or psychology, or a Bachelor of Speech-Language Therapy.



Cardiac Perfusionist:

During heart surgery, blood is detoured outside the body through a machine in order to bypass the heart, allowing surgery to proceed. The Perfusionist is the person who monitors and controls the flow of blood through this machine.

Relevant NCEA subjects:

- Useful secondary subjects include English, Chemistry, Biology and Maths.

Qualification:

- Bachelor of Science degree or equivalent, then train on the job by an accredited teaching hospital.

Clinical Dental Technician:

Clinical Dental Technicians interact with patients; create and repair devices for the treatment, replacement and protection of damaged, badly positioned or missing teeth.

Qualification:

- three-year undergraduate degree (as per the qualifications outlined for Dental Technicians)
- then required to gain 1-2 years hands on experience as a Dental Technician before one further year of study completing the Post Graduate Diploma in Clinical Dental Technology.

Clinical Engineer and Technician:

Clinical engineers maintain complex mechanical and electronic medical equipment in hospitals and other health sector institutes. The key functions include acceptance testing and commissioning, performance and safety verification testing, maintenance, decommissioning and disposal of medical equipment. They may also make, modify or repair specialised clinical accessories, surgical instruments and surgical implants

Relevant NCEA subjects:

- useful subjects include Maths, Physics, Metal Work, Computer Science and English.

Qualification:

- New Zealand Diploma of Engineering
- Bachelor of Engineering Technology
- four years of secondary education is needed to enter training.

Clinical Physiologist & Technician (Cardiac, Respiratory, Sleep, Neurology, & Renal): **W**

Physiologists use a variety of technical equipment to monitor, record, measure and analyse the way patients' respiratory, neurological or cardiac systems are working. They help doctors diagnose and treat patients.

Renal Physiologists perform a variety of duties that support patients receiving dialysis (a treatment that filters and purifies the blood using a machine when the kidneys can't perform this function).

Relevant NCEA subjects:

- NCEA Level 3 is required to enter tertiary training. Useful subjects include English, Maths, Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

Qualification:

- Bachelor of Science degree with a relevant major, such as biology, physiology or anatomy, or equivalent such as a Sport and Exercise Science degree
- gain employment as a trainee at an accredited teaching hospital and complete the qualification on the job.

Dental Technician

Dental Technicians create and repair devices for the treatment, replacement and protection of damaged, badly positioned or missing teeth.

Relevant NCEA subjects:

- minimum of NCEA Level 2 or 3 in Biology and English is required, depending on which university you apply to. Other useful subjects include Chemistry and Physical Education.

Qualification:

- three-year undergraduate degree
- Bachelor of Oral Health from University of Otago or;
- Bachelor of Health Science in Oral Health from Auckland University of Technology.



Dietitian:

Dietitians advise patients, communities and groups about their dietary requirements for maintaining good health, managing food services and food and nutrition issues.

Relevant NCEA subjects:

- useful subjects include Biology, Chemistry, Statistics and English.

Qualification:

- require a two-year Postgraduate Master's degree in Dietetics, available from Massey University (Albany Campus) and the University of Auckland
- to enter the Masters programme, need to have: An undergraduate degree majoring in human nutrition, such as a Bachelor of Science or a Bachelor of Consumer & Applied Sciences.

Genetic Counsellor:

Genetic Counsellors work with individuals, couples and families to provide risk assessment, genetic testing, information and support for families with, or at risk of, a genetic disorder.

Qualification:

- To become eligible for employment and certification a Master's degree in genetic counselling is required
 - the Masters qualification is not available through New Zealand universities.
- Most NZ candidates complete a bachelor of science through a NZ university then enrol in one of two Masters programmes offered in Australia (Melbourne & Sydney)
 - on completion candidates become "board eligible" for certification and can use the title "Genetic Counsellor". Once employed an associate Genetic Counsellor completes a portfolio of work to become board certified as a Genetic Counsellor.

Hand Therapist:

Hand Therapists are New Zealand registered Physiotherapists and Occupational Therapists who, through continuing education and clinical experience have become proficient in the treatment of upper limb conditions resulting from trauma, disease and congenital deformity.

Qualification:

- once qualified as a Physiotherapist or Occupational therapist, the therapist then needs to gain registration with the New Zealand Association of Hand Therapists by completing the Hand and Upper Limb postgraduate paper (through Auckland University of Technology).



Health Protection Officer:

Health Protection Officers investigate, monitor, assess and advise on food and alcohol safety, disease prevention, disease outbreaks, and environmental hazards such as pollution.

Relevant NCEA subjects:

Useful subjects include Biology, Chemistry, Health Education, Maths and Physics.

Qualification:

To become a Health Protection Officer, you need to have one of the following:

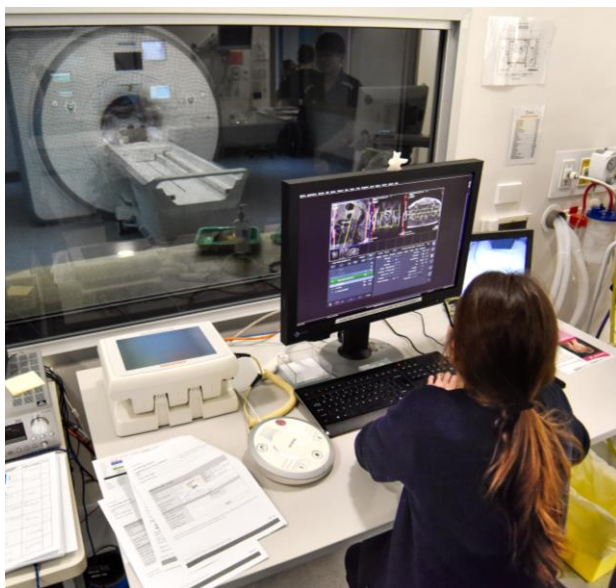
- Bachelor of Health Science (Environmental Health) from Massey University
- Bachelor of Science (Environmental Sciences) or (Food Safety) or (Health Protection) from Auckland University of Technology (AUT)
- Graduate Diploma in Environmental Health from Massey University
- Postgraduate Diploma in Public Health from Massey University.
- A tertiary entrance qualification is required to enter further training.

Hospital Play Specialist:

Hospital Play Specialists provide therapeutic play and recreation programmes for infants, children and young people, both individually and in groups

Qualification:

- registration with the Hospital Play Association requires a degree level qualification or equivalent, most commonly in an early childhood teaching degree
- a tertiary entrance qualification is needed to enter university and teacher training. However, some diploma programmes have slightly lower entry requirements.



Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) Technologist: **W**

Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) Technologists scan patients using powerful magnetic fields to provide images to assist with diagnoses. The role also includes patient safety checks, patient care, and clinical decision making.

Qualification:

- Initially a Medical Imaging Technologist qualification is required, followed by a Postgraduate Diploma in Health Science (Magnetic Resonance Imaging).

Medical Physicist: **W**

Medical Physicists provide scientific support for the use of radiation treatment in cancer care, working as part of a multidisciplinary healthcare team. Their day-to-day work involves management of radiation treatment technology, radiation dosimetry, treatment planning and delivery, quality assurance, and radiation safety.

Relevant NCEA subjects:

- NCEA Level 3 is needed to enter tertiary training. Essential subjects include Physics and Maths. Useful subjects include Chemistry, Biology and Computer Science.

Qualification:

- to become a medical physicist you first need an undergraduate degree majoring in physics or a relevant branch of engineering, such as:
 - Bachelor of Science (BSc) in Physics or Bachelor of Engineering (BE) with a strong maths and physics component
- You then enter specialist training and work experience, involving:
 - Masters of Science (MSc) in Medical Physics (University of Canterbury)
 - A five-year clinical Training, Education and Accreditation Programme (TEAP), done in conjunction with the Master's degree.



Medical Imaging Technologist:

Medical Imaging Technologists use x-ray and other imaging equipment to take images of people's injuries and possible diseases.

Relevant NCEA subjects:

- useful subjects include English, Maths and Calculus, Science (particularly Physics), Computing and Information Management.

Qualification:

- Bachelor's degree in Medical Imaging, which includes work in a clinical setting
- Offered by Ara Canterbury Institute of Technology (Bachelor of Medical Imaging), UCOL – University College of Learning, Palmerston North (Bachelor of Applied Science, Medical Imaging Technology) Unitec Institute of Technology, Auckland (Bachelor of Health Science, Medical Imaging) and the University of Auckland (Bachelor of Medical Imaging, Honours).

Nuclear Medicine Technologist:

Nuclear Medicine Technologists is specialised in using very small amounts of radioactive materials, or radiopharmaceuticals, to examine organ function and structure. This branch of radiology is often used to help diagnose and treat abnormalities early in the progression of the disease, such as thyroid cancer.

Qualification:

- Bachelor's degree in medical radiation technology and then complete a postgraduate diploma in Health Sciences in Nuclear Medicine Imaging issued by the University of Auckland
- Refer to Medical Radiation Technologists information for useful subjects to support entry into tertiary study.

Occupational Therapist: **W**

Occupational Therapists enable people to participate in activities of everyday life. Occupational Therapists assess the level of functional ability of clients who, through a temporary or permanent illness or disability, cannot safely or independently carry out roles and meaningful occupations (activities). Occupational Therapists work with people and communities to enhance their ability to engage in valued occupations by providing rehabilitation and education or, by either modifying the occupation or the environment to better support their occupational engagement.



Relevant NCEA subjects:

- to enter tertiary training you need to have NCEA Level 3. Useful secondary school subjects include English, Sciences and Maths.

Qualification:

- Bachelor of Health Science in Occupational Therapy (Auckland University of Technology – partial distance learning available), or the Bachelor of Occupational Therapy (Otago Polytechnic – based in Dunedin or Hamilton).

Optometrist:

Examine patient's eyes to diagnose and provide solutions for vision problems, such as prescribing glasses or contact lenses. Optometrists also diagnose, monitor and manage eye diseases such as cataracts and glaucoma.

Relevant NCEA subjects:

- useful secondary subjects include Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Maths and English.

Qualification:

- Bachelor of Optometry, offered at the University of Auckland.

Oral Health Therapist:

Dental/Oral Health Therapists provide children and adolescents with routine dental care. We may refer clients to dentists for more specialised dental treatment.

Relevant NCEA subjects:

- minimum of NCEA Level 2 or 3 in Biology and English is required, depending on which university you apply to. Other useful subjects include Chemistry and Physical Education.

Qualification:

- Bachelor of Oral Health from University of Otago
- Bachelor of Health Science in Oral Health from Auckland University of Technology.

Orthoptist:

Orthoptists are experts in the assessment, diagnosis and treatment of squints, amblyopia (lazy eye) and eye movement problems. Most patients are children with squints and amblyopia that usually need treatment during early childhood. Adults may also need assessment as squints and eye movement problems may develop at a later age and this may result in double vision or other symptoms which can be monitored and managed by the Orthoptist.

- No current NZ based qualification. Training available internationally i.e. UK



Podiatrist:

Podiatrists diagnose, treat and prevent foot and lower limb problems. Their work includes routine foot care, the care of lower limbs for people with diseases such as diabetes, the diagnosis and treatment of sports-related injuries, nail and skin surgery, and biomechanical assessment.

Relevant NCEA subjects:

- useful subjects include Biology, Chemistry, Physical Education and English.

Qualification:

- requires an undergraduate degree; Bachelor of Health Science majoring in podiatry from Auckland University of Technology.

Pharmacist:

Pharmacists provide medicine related information to other health professions e.g. Doctors, to help optimise medication for improved patient outcomes. This may include providing advice on appropriate medicines, dosing and administration. They also diagnose and provide treatment management for minor ailments, provide advice for patients on their medication and medical conditions and help ensure patients know how to take their medication for best outcomes. Pharmacists may also prepare, make and supply prescribed medicines.

Relevant NCEA subjects:

- NCEA Level 3 Chemistry, Physics, Biology and Maths is preferred.

Qualification:

- Bachelor of Pharmacy from the University of Auckland or University of Otago
- complete an internship of one year working in a hospital or community pharmacy.

Physiotherapist:

Physiotherapists work to maintain and promote people's health. Physiotherapists also help restore function and independence when people have a disability or problem caused by physical, neurological (related to the brain and nervous system) or other disorders. Work covers all ages from small premature babies to the elderly.

Relevant NCEA subjects:

- to enter tertiary training you need to have NCEA Level 3. Useful subjects include English, Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

Qualification:

- requires either a four-year Bachelor degree or a two-year post graduate Master's degree
- Waikato Institute of Technology and Otago University offer a Bachelor of Physiotherapy
- Auckland University of Technology has a Bachelor of Health Science in Physiotherapy
- University of Auckland offers a Master of Physiotherapy Practice.
- to enter a Master's programme a Bachelor's degree is required in a related subject such as exercise sciences, health sciences, physiology or sport and exercise science.



Psychologist:

Psychology is the scientific study of human thought behaviour, emotion, personality, development motivation and experience. It comprises a body of knowledge informed by research that supports professional practice where psychological skills and knowledge are applied in a wide range of areas and settings.

Psychologists are professionally trained in the ways people think, feel, behave and learn. Within health they work with people across a wide range of areas such as; Mental Health & Addictions, Child Development, Chronic Pain, Rehabilitation, Neurology and many more. To work as a psychologist, you need to be registered with the [New Zealand Psychologists Board](#) and work under the [Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act](#).

Relevant NCEA subjects:

- useful subjects at secondary school include English, Maths with Statistics and Science.

Qualification:

- psychology is taught in all major Universities in New Zealand. Locally you can train at Victoria University of Wellington and Massey University (Wellington)
- students who undertake an undergraduate degree in Psychology learn the basic building blocks of Psychology.

However, in order to work as a Psychologist in the health sector people have to undertake further training (Masters or Doctoral degree in Psychology) and clinical experience (1500 hours supervised practice in an internship) to meet the requirements set for registration by the New Zealand Psychologists Board.

Psychotherapist:

Psychotherapists help individuals, couples or groups identify, understand, and manage emotional and behavioural problems.

Qualification:

- registration with the Psychotherapists Registration Board requires:
 - An approved master's level qualification in psychotherapy from a New Zealand University or a New Zealand Training Institution; or an approved comparable qualification
 - The completion of 900 hours of supervised clinical psychotherapy practice with clients over at least three years with clinical supervision provided by a psychotherapist registered in the Psychotherapist Scope of Practice
 - Having undergone a personal psychotherapy.

Radiation Therapist:

Radiation Therapists are part of a team that use radiation equipment to treat diseases, mostly cancers, in patients. Radiation therapists plan a patient's radiation treatment using computer technology and clinical information, before carrying out the radiation therapy using treatment machines.



Qualification:

- Bachelor of Radiation Therapy from the University of Otago (based at Wellington campus of the University of Otago, next to Wellington Hospital).
- Admission requires:
 - NCEA Level 3 (English or Te Reo Māori or a language rich subject such as classics, history, geography, or art history), Mathematics (statistics or calculus), Physics or Biology or;
 - one Year or more of University Study (completed within the last five years with a minimum average grade of B-) or;
 - two Years or more of University Study (completed within the last five years at least three papers at 200-level with a minimum average grade of B-) OR;
 - graduate (another Bachelor's degree) or;
 - alternative (hold a relevant degree from a New Zealand or International university at a standard of at least NZQF Level 7).

Medical Laboratory Scientist/Scientific Officer:

Medical Laboratory Scientists (MLS) and Scientific Officers (SO) are career scientists involved in running highly automated, IT-driven hospital laboratories. They apply an in-depth understanding of scientific and clinical theory in their chosen discipline, oversee laboratory testing, are able to troubleshoot problems, interpret laboratory results to support disease diagnosis, maintain quality assurance standards, evaluate published developments and innovations with consideration to transferring into clinical practice and work as part of a multidisciplinary team including medical specialists, technicians and administrators to perform medical laboratory testing on primary samples including blood and other tissues from patients.

Relevant NCEA subjects:

- NCEA Level 3 is needed to enter tertiary training. Useful subjects include English, Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Maths.

Qualification:

- In New Zealand the vocational pathway to registration as a practising MLS with the Medical Sciences Council of New Zealand is via an accredited education programme in medical laboratory science, typically: Bachelor of Medical Laboratory Science from the University of Otago or the Auckland University of Technology or another qualification recognised by the Council.

Social Worker:

Social Workers provide advice, advocacy, information, and emotional and practical support to help people manage the social and personal challenges related to their health/mental health. The Health Social Worker role includes assisting clients and their families/whānau to be safe in their environment, to be self-determining and to manage the personal,

family/whānau and/or social effects of life changes due to ill health and/or disability.

Relevant NCEA subjects:

- useful subjects include English, Social Studies, Māori and/or Cultural Studies, History (NZ), Political Studies, Health Science, Economics.

Qualification:

A qualification recognised by the Social Workers Registration Board, such as:

- Bachelor of Social Work (Massey University, Auckland University, Victoria University, University of Otago and many other providers)
- Master of Social Work (Applied) (numerous providers - see below link)
- Bachelor of Bicultural Social Work (Te Wananga o Aotearoa, Te Wananga o Raukawa)
- for more information on relevant qualifications visit: <https://swrb.govt.nz/social-workers/nz-recognised-sw-qualifications/>



Sonographer: W

Sonographers are Medical Imaging professionals who operate ultrasound equipment to produce diagnostic images. Sonographers are trained to acquire and analyse these images which are used to help doctors diagnose and treat many medical conditions. Common ultrasound examinations include: abdomen, pelvis, obstetrics (pregnancy), musculoskeletal, cardiac (heart), vascular (blood vessels) and other soft tissue parts of the body.

Relevant NCEA subjects:

- useful subjects include English, Maths and Calculus, Science (particularly Physics), Computing and Information Management.

Qualification:

- Undergraduate qualification in Medical Imaging or an approved undergraduate degree (Biomedical Science or Allied Health Profession)
- Postgraduate Diploma in Health Sciences (Ultrasound) - University of Auckland.

Speech-Language Therapist (SLT): W

SLTs assess and treat people who have problems with communication or swallowing. This may include difficulties with speech, language and cognition (thought processes), or physical processes.

Relevant NCEA subjects:

- useful subjects include Biology, Physics, Health Science, Statistics and English.

Qualification:

- require either a four-year Bachelor degree or a two-year post graduate Master's degree
 - University of Canterbury has a Bachelor of Speech and Language Pathology with Honours or Masters of Speech-language Pathology
 - Massey University (Albany) has a Bachelor of Speech and Language Therapy with distance learning option
 - The University of Auckland has a Master of Speech-language Therapy Practice.
- to enter a Master's programme a Bachelor's degree is required in a related subject such as psychology, education, health sciences or linguistics.

Visiting Neurodevelopmental Therapist (VNT):

VNTs are New Zealand Registered Occupational Therapists or Physiotherapists who work with children who have or who are at risk of developmental difficulties, alongside their whanau/family.

Qualification:

- visiting Neurodevelopmental Therapists are required to be either registered Physiotherapists or Occupational Therapists
- it is advisable the therapist has at least two years postgraduate experience within paediatrics prior to working as a Visiting Neurodevelopmental Therapist
- refer to Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy sections for undergraduate courses.

Scholarships

Scholarships can provide funding and support towards course-related costs. Listed below are a few websites which provide further information to the many scholarships available to students in New Zealand.

EDUCATION.govt.nz: Tertiary scholarship links

<https://parents.education.govt.nz/further-education/scholarships/>

Le Va: Training and Education in Pasifika Health
<https://www.leva.co.nz/training-education>

Ministry of Health, Pacific Health Scholarship: For students undertaking a NZQA accredited course in medical, health or disability-related study <https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/populations/pacific-health/pacific-health-scholarships-2020>

Kia Ora Hauora: Is a national Māori health workforce development programme. Funding is available for Māori secondary / tertiary students. <https://www.kiaorahauora.co.nz/>

Ministry of Health Hauora Māori Scholarship Programme: Financial assistance for Māori students who are undertaking NZQA accredited health care worker training in health and disability studies. <https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/hauora-maori-scholarships-2021>

Ministry of Health Māori & Pacific Cultural Support Fund: For the Māori and Pacific workforce to successfully complete their Ministry-funded training programme.
<https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/health-workforce/investment-and-purchasing#maori>

Auckland and Otago University Māori Health Workforce Development Programmes: A recruitment programme to promote health as a career for Māori students years 9-13 to first year tertiary. <https://www.auckland.ac.nz/en/fmhs/study-with-us/whakapiki-ake-.html>

Te Rau Puawai: Funding for Māori students undertaking tertiary studies in mental health.
<https://www.massey.ac.nz/student-life/maori-at-massey/he-ringa-whina-taurira-maori>

Te Ara o Hine: Financial and wrap around support to Māori and Pacific undergraduate midwifery students. <https://news.aut.ac.nz/news/te-ara-o-hine-tapu-ora>

Manukau Institute of Technology: Te Ara Oranga, is a health workforce development service to support tertiary Māori or Pacific students from study to employment.
<https://www.manukau.ac.nz/about/partnerships/te-ara-oranga>

