

2025



NZ Certificate in Automotive Engineering

Level 3

If you are into cars and motors make a career out of it and study a NZ Certificate in Automotive Engineering [Level 3] to kick-start an apprenticeship. You could earn a good wage as a technician doing something you really like.

Apprenticeships and job opportunities in the motor trade include working on cars, trucks, machinery, motorcycles, marine or automotive electrics. You will get real world workshop experience with local firms during work experience.

Location	Hawke's Bay and Tairāwhiti
Start	February and July
Length	One year full-time
Contact	Jodi Te Hina - Hawke's Bay Phone: 06 830 1945 Email: jtehina@eit.ac.nz Ange Taylor - Tairāwhiti Phone: 06 869 3082 Email: ataylor@eit.ac.nz

Rev up your motor trade career

At EIT we don't just talk about doing things - we actually do them.

Project and task-based learning offers you real world experience.

The NZ Certificate in Automotive Engineering [Level 3] is a one year full-time programme.

Once completed, this programme allows you to pursue a trade qualification as an automotive engineer. In particular, the programme is designed for you to move into an automotive apprenticeship including working on trucks, cars, motorcycles and heavy machinery.

Each of the ten courses within this certificate has specific content that aligns with learning outcomes specific to the NZ Certificate in Automotive Engineering [Level 3] NZ3097.

By the time you have graduated, under the supervision of a tutor, you will be able to effectively demonstrate knowledge working within the following areas:

- Automotive workshop safety
- Basic workshop engineering tasks
- Tools and equipment
- Engines
- Engine systems

- Driveline systems
- Electrical and electronics
- Starting and charging systems
- Electronic controls
- High voltage systems and HVAC
- Brake systems
- Steering and suspension systems

Career and Study Opportunities

Upon graduating you will be able to pursue a trade qualification as an automotive engineer.

In particular, this programme is designed for you to move into automotive apprenticeships including light vehicle cars, heavy vehicle trucks and machinery, motorcycles, marine or automotive electrics.

Ask us about the EIT Level 4 Motor Industry Managed Apprenticeships.



NZ Certificate in Automotive Engineering Level 3, 120 credits



Hawke's Bay and Tairāwhiti



Full-time: 1 year



Fee: Visit fees.eit.ac.nz to see the fees for this programme



2025 Key Dates

Intake One

Starts: Monday, 3 February

Ends: Friday, 7 November

Intake Two

Starts: Monday, 14 July

Ends: Friday, 17 April 2026

Semester Breaks

14 - 25 April

30 June - 11 July

22 September - 3 October

22 December - 2 January 2026

Industry-based Training

It is highly recommended for students entering the NZ Certificate in Automotive Engineering [Level 3] to engage in work experience for a minimum of 40 hours throughout the programme. This is an important component as with most cases it leads to employment.

Timetable

Your study time will be made up of contact time (class times, tutorials, industry-based learning) and non-contact time (your own individual study time).

Contact Time

On campus classes are usually scheduled between 8.00am-4.30pm, three days per week (21 contact hours per week).

Non-contact Time

You should plan to spend 15 hours per week on individual study.

Additional Costs

- \$350 approximately for electronic device (laptop or similar)
- \$100 approximately for safety boots
- \$50 approximately for stationery

Entry Requirements

Standard Entry

- Meet the NCEA Level 1 Literacy and Numeracy requirements, or provide evidence of achievement at an equivalent level.

Non-standard Entry

- Successful completion of the NZ Certificate in Foundation Skills (Automotive and Engineering) [Level 2] and successful completion of the alternative academic entry test; or
- Successful interview with a member of the academic staff and successful completion of the alternative academic entry test.

The alternative academic entry test will measure applicants' Literacy and Numeracy ability to ensure that it is of a level to cope with the demands of the programme.

The interview will allow parties to exchange information about what the programme both provides to, and requires of, its students. Included in the interview will be discussion of possible career paths for the student, motivation, physical and emotional requirements and the applicant's abilities, background, experiences and interests. Attendance of whānau members and/or supporting associates is encouraged at all interviews.

English Language Entry Requirements

Applicants are required to have attained an acceptable level of English language fluency. This may be demonstrated in a variety of ways, including successful study in English, completion of a New Zealand Certificate in English Language (Level 3), approved scores on IELTS tests (5.5 Academic with no band score lower than 5.5), completion of accepted international equivalents, or completion of an EIT assessment.

Literacy and Numeracy Skills

A Literacy and Numeracy assessment is part of the preparation for all Level 1 to 3 programmes. This is a national requirement from the Tertiary Education Commission (TEC). This information gives your tutors information on what you already know to help them provide the support that you may need in your studies.

There are two assessments. The first assessment will take place within the first three weeks of the programme. The second will be a week or two before you finish the programme. This final assessment will show how you have improved with your Literacy and Numeracy skills.

There will always be a tutor to help you when doing the assessment. The most important thing to know about this assessment is that you CANNOT fail. You will merely get information on your Literacy and Numeracy skills. The result will NOT have an impact on any of your assessment marks in your course work.

Facilities

The EIT Trades and Technology Training complex offers students a learning environment which gives them the opportunity to work in modern workshops modelled on real-world industry. The purpose built facilities give students access to a comprehensive range of equipment for automotive, engineering and welding.

Assessments

The NZ Certificate in Automotive Engineering [Level 3] has been designed around task-based learning. Practical and theory assessments will be completed for each course to evaluate the skills of each student. An assessment portfolio will be created and maintained by the student throughout the programme.

Scholarships

Scholarships are a way to help financially support your study. They can make life easier by helping to cover your fees and living expenses while you complete your qualification. You don't always need to be an academic high-flyer to qualify.

Find out what's available at scholarships.eit.ac.nz or for general scholarship information please contact scholarships@eit.ac.nz.

The experience you need & the support to succeed

When you study at EIT you'll get the kind of experiences that will help you gain the knowledge and skills to get ahead.

You'll also be supported by lecturers and tutors who are here for you, within a learning environment where you are treated as an individual, not just a number.

They'll know your name and you'll receive one-on-one attention to make sure you get the support to succeed.

Experienced Lecturers

At EIT, you can be confident in the quality of our teaching and your learning experience.

EIT is highly regarded in New Zealand for research excellence due to the quality of our community centred research, our publications and our external grant income provided by funding institutions who have confidence in our research capability. You can be confident your lecturers use the latest knowledge and research in their field of expertise to inform their teaching, and many are at the forefront of knowledge creation within their discipline area.

Name	Position
Ben Aldrich <i>Hawke's Bay</i>	Programme Coordinator
Sean Murphy <i>Tairāwhiti</i>	Site Coordinator

Programme Information

The NZ Certificate in Automotive Engineering [Level 3] consists of ten courses. Each course has specific content that aligns with learning outcomes specific to the NZ Certificate in Automotive Engineering [Level 3] NZ3097.

Course Descriptions

Course No.	Brief Description	NZQA Level	No. of Credits
AUTO3037	Automotive Workshop Safety This course provides the skills and knowledge to identify and consistently apply policies, procedures and regulations that ensure safe and effective working practices when undertaking work in an automotive workshop.	3	10
AUTO3038	Basic Workshop Engineering Tasks, Tools and Equipment This course provides the skills and knowledge to use tools and equipment to complete basic workshop engineering tasks.	3	15
AUTO3039	Engines This course provides the skills and knowledge to identify the components of an engine; strip, measure and reassemble and start an engine as well as carry out tuning, including ignition systems for four stroke petrol and diesel engines.	3	15
AUTO3040	Engine Systems This course provides the skills and knowledge to describe the function, purpose and location of engine systems and undertake basic servicing of engine systems.	3	10

Course No.	Brief Description	NZQA Level	No. of Credits
AUTO3041	Driveline Systems This course provides the skills and knowledge to describe the function, purpose and location of driveline systems and undertake basic servicing of driveline systems.	3	10
AUTO3042	Electrical and Electronics This course provides the skills and knowledge to understand and identify automotive electrical and electronic principles as well as carry out basic checks and repairs on wiring and lighting systems.	3	15
AUTO3043	Starting and Charging Systems This course provides the skills and knowledge to identify the function and purpose of starting and charging systems as well as use appropriate tools and processes to check the operation of starting and charging systems.	3	10
AUTO3044	Electronic Controls, High Voltage Systems and HVAC This course provides the skills and knowledge to understand the function and purpose of control systems, use appropriate tools and processes to check the operation of electronic control systems as well as understand the operation and safety processes of high voltage systems.	3	10
AUTO3045	Brake Systems This course provides the skills and knowledge to identify the function, purpose and location of brake systems and use appropriate tools and processes to service brake systems.	3	10
AUTO3046	Steering and Suspension Systems This course provides the skills and knowledge to identify the function, purpose and location of steering and suspension systems and use appropriate tools and processes to service steering and suspension systems.	3	15



How to Enrol

There is an easy 3-step process to follow when enrolling at EIT.

Step 1

Check out eit.ac.nz to see the programmes available for you to study. A copy of the course information for each programme is available on our website.

Step 2

You can now use your RealMe verified identity to apply for study at EIT. If you use your RealMe verified identity you will no longer be sent a copy of your application form to sign. You also will not need to provide us with a copy of your primary ID.

If you apply online without using RealMe then you will be sent a summary of your enrolment to check and sign. It will also include course selection forms which you need to complete and return. Your enrolment cannot progress until you have sent the summary and forms back to us.

You can also apply using a paper enrolment form. Please call us on 0800 22 55 348 and we will send you one.

You will receive an acceptance letter from your Faculty with programme information. This will include the start date of your study and any special information regarding your programme. Depending on your chosen programme of study, you may be invited to attend an interview before you are accepted.

Step 3

Arrangement for full payment of enrolment fees must be made before the start of your programme. You will receive an invoice with payment details.

Fees Free Government Scheme: Tertiary education is fees-free for eligible domestic tertiary students. To check if you are eligible, go to [FeesFree.govt.nz](https://feesfree.govt.nz) and enter your National Student Number (NSN). If you are not eligible you will be responsible for paying your fees.

Scholarships and Grants: Scholarships and grants make life easier by helping to cover your fees, other costs and living expenses while you study. You don't always need to be an academic high-flyer to qualify. You can find out more about scholarships and other options for paying your fees at eit.ac.nz.

StudyLink: If you need to pay for your own study you can choose to apply for your Student Loan and Student Allowance with StudyLink. You should do this early, even if you haven't yet been accepted on your programme. You can change your details later if anything changes. Visit studylink.govt.nz to find out more about StudyLink.

Student Services Levy

The student services levy is a compulsory non-tuition fee that is charged to students enrolled at EIT. The levy is to contribute to the provision of quality student services that support learning. The funds received by EIT from the levy are ring-fenced, meaning they can only be spent on student services.

Student Loans and Allowances

StudyLink is a service of the Ministry of Social Development. Apply well before your programme begins (even if you haven't been accepted yet) so you'll be ready to get your payments when you need them most.

Check out what you qualify for at studylink.govt.nz.



DISCLAIMER:

All information in this publication pertains to New Zealand Citizens or Permanent Residents, and is correct at the time of printing but is subject to change. EIT is a Business Division of Te Pūkenga – New Zealand Institute of Skills and Technology. EIT reserves the right to amend/withdraw programmes or courses. Fees for 2025 will be set by November 2024 and are subject to change.

For the latest information, or for full programme entry requirements visit eit.ac.nz or phone 0800 22 55 348.