



Primary Industry Foundation Skills

NZ Certificate in Primary Industry Skills
(with optional Self-Management and Employability strands) [Level 2]

NZ Certificate in Primary Industry Operational Skills
(with optional Infrastructure and Specialist Equipment strands) [Level 3]

This conjoint programme consists of the NZ Certificate in Primary Industry Skills (with optional Self-Management and Employability strands) [Level 2] and the NZ Certificate in Primary Industry Operational Skills (with optional Infrastructure and Specialist Equipment strands) [Level 3].

The purpose of these two qualifications is to:

- Enable the recognition of the entry level skills and knowledge required by the primary industry sector.
- Provide a training pathway for entry into careers in the primary sector.
- Provide graduates who have a basic understanding of the New Zealand Horticulture and Agriculture sector.
- Provide rural workplaces with graduates who have the ability to safely carry out a range of activities ready for operation in a rural workplace, including the use and maintenance of workplace vehicles, machinery, and infrastructure.

Location	Tairāwhiti Rural Studies Unit
Start	February
Length	28 weeks full-time
Contact	primaryindustries@eit.ac.nz 0800 22 55 348



TE AHO A MĀUI

Professional skills for primary industries

During this programme you will develop skills and knowledge covering:

- Entry level practical production tasks
- Safe work practices
- Safe practices of vehicles
- Safe practices of machinery
- Safe practices of infrastructure

As a graduate of the programme you will be able to:

- Utilise technology
- Identify and assist with the management of workplace hazards
- Safely use and/or maintain workplace vehicles, machinery and infrastructure
- Carry out practical production tasks associated with an entry level role in a primary industry context.
- Plan and carry out operational activities using mechanised equipment with consideration for environmental impacts.

Career and Study Opportunities

NZ Certificate in Primary Industry Skills [Level 2] (with optional Self-Management and Employability Skills strands)

Graduates of this qualification will be able to:

- Carry out practical tasks associated with an entry level role in a primary industry context.
- Use safe work practices in a primary industry context.
- Demonstrate self-management and employability skills in a primary industry context.

NZ Certificate in Primary Industry Operational Skills (with optional Infrastructure and Specialist Equipment Skills strands) [Level3]

Graduates of this qualification will be able to:

- Identify and assist with the management of workplace risks.
- Plan and carry out operational activities using mechanised equipment with consideration for environmental impacts.
- Manage personal wellbeing when carrying out primary industry operational activities.
- Carry out activities related to the maintenance of workplace infrastructure.



Agriculture Workplace Operations Level 2-3, 120 credits

NZ Certificate in Primary Industry Skills (with optional Self-Management and Employability Skills strands)
Level 2, 60 credits

NZ Certificate in Primary Industry Operational Skills (with optional Infrastructure and Specialist Equipment strands)
Level 3, 60 credits



Tairāwhiti Rural Studies Unit



Full-time: 28 weeks



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

Timetable

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

Contact Time

On campus classes are usually scheduled between 8.30am-3.00pm, Monday to Thursday.

For a current timetable, please refer to eit.ac.nz/students/timetable.

Non-contact Time

You should plan to spend 20 hours per week on individual study time excluding classroom time.

Entry Requirements

- NCEA Level 1; or
- A qualification at Level 1 or above, with evidence of Literacy and Numeracy abilities equivalent to NCEA (Level 1); or
- Evidence of relevant knowledge and experience, including Literacy and Numeracy abilities equivalent to NCEA Level 1.

In the latter two situations the applicant may be required to participate in an enrolment interview with the purpose of verifying the evidence.

Other Requirements

Applicants must be:

- 16 years of age at the time the programme commences.
- Be physically able to complete the programme specific outcomes.

English Language Entry Requirements

Applicants whose first language is not English must have an acceptable level of English language fluency prior to enrolment in the programme. This may be demonstrated in a variety of ways, including schooling in New Zealand, completion of the relevant New Zealand Certificate in English Language, approved scores on IELTS tests or completion of accepted international equivalents. Specific scores for IELTS and New Zealand Certificates in English Language are as follows:

- IELTS score of 5.0 (General or Academic) with no band score lower than 5
- NZCEL Level 3 with an endorsement

2026 Key Dates

Programme Starts Monday, 16 February

Programme Ends Friday, 25 September

Semester Breaks 6 - 17 April
6 - 17 July

Please confirm the exact dates of semester breaks with the Programme Coordinator.

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 help 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.

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.



Assessments

Theory lessons are usually completed in the classroom. Sometimes the tutor may take you out onto a farm or orchard to demonstrate, practice or reinforce what has been learned in the classroom.

Course assessments are on-going throughout the programme where tutors observe your work in class, practical tasks, interaction and individual work. Participation is a requirement of all courses.

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.

Programme Information

The NZ Certificate in Primary Industry Skills (with optional Self-Management and Employability Skills strands) [Level 2] programme comprises:

- Two compulsory courses (40 credits in total)
- One optional course (20 credits in total)

The NZ Certificate in Primary Industry Operational Skills (with optional Infrastructure and Specialist Equipment strands) [Level 3] programme comprises:

- Three compulsory courses (40 credits in total)
- Two optional courses (20 credits in total)

Course Descriptions

NZ Certificate in Primary Industry Skills (with optional Self-Management and Employability Skills strands) [Level 2]

Course No.	Brief Description	NZQA Level	No. of Credits
CPI2.01	Safe Work Practices (Compulsory)	2	10
CPI2.02	Intro to Primary Industries (Compulsory)	2	30
CPI2.03	Self-management and Employability Skills (Optional)	2	20

NZ Certificate in Primary Industry Operational Skills (with optional Infrastructure and Specialist Equipment strands) [Level 3]

Course No.	Brief Description	NZQA Level	No. of Credits
CPIOS3.01	Management of Workplace Risks and Personal Wellbeing (Compulsory)	3	15
CPIOS3.02	Mechanised Equipment - Vehicles (Compulsory)	3	15
CPIOS3.03	Mechanised Equipment - Machinery (Compulsory)	3	10
CPIOS3.05	Infrastructure (Optional)	3	10
CPIOS3.04	Specialist Equipment (Optional)	3	10

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.

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.

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 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.



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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 reserves the right to amend/withdraw programmes or courses.

Fees for 2026 will be set by November 2025 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.