



Office of Hon Steven Joyce

Minister for Economic Development
Minister of Science and Innovation
Minister for Tertiary Education, Skills and Employment
Associate Minister of Finance

16 DEC. 2013

John Spencer
Chair
Tertiary Education Commission
PO Box 27-048
Wellington 6141

Dear John

Determination of Design of Funding Mechanism: Search and Rescue (Adult and Community Education)

I am writing to advise you of the new funding determination that I have made under section 159L of the Education Act 1989 for search and rescue (adult and community education).

The new determination is set out in the appendix to this letter. The determination covers the period 1 January 2014 to 31 December 2014.

Under section 159O of the Act, it is the Commission's responsibility to develop the operational policy and practices needed to implement my determinations of the designs of funding mechanisms. I expect that the Commission will set appropriate measures as part of its Statement of Service Performance in order to report to me on its performance in giving effect to this determination.

Yours sincerely

Steven Joyce
Minister for Tertiary Education, Skills and Employment

DETERMINATION OF DESIGN OF FUNDING MECHANISM: SEARCH AND RESCUE PROVISION (ADULT AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION)

PRELIMINARY PROVISIONS

Statutory authority

1. This determination, which is made under section 159L of the Education Act 1989 (the Act), specifies the design of the funding mechanism for Search and Rescue (SAR) provision (funding mechanism).

Purpose

2. The purpose of funding for SAR provision is to ensure the purchase of good quality SAR provision that supports volunteers to achieve the relevant class and level of training and accreditation.
3. The primary focus of funding for SAR provision is on the attainment of targeted, skills-based short awards (under 40 credits each), including training schemes.

On-Plan funding

4. The Tertiary Education Commission (TEC) must pay funding for SAR provision under section 159YA of the Act.

PART ONE: THE FUNDING MECHANISM

General Parameters

Effective period

5. This funding mechanism applies to funding for SAR provision delivered from 1 January 2014 to 31 December 2014.
6. The TEC may exercise any of its administrative functions as required to give effect to this funding mechanism outside those dates.

Available funding

7. The total amount of funding for allocation under this funding mechanism will be up to \$1.3 million.

Funding formula and rate

8. The TEC must measure SAR provision enrolments in units of equivalent full-time students (EFTS).
9. One (1.0) EFTS unit is defined as the learner workload that would normally be carried out by a learner enrolled full-time in a single academic or calendar year.
10. The TEC must allocate funding for SAR provision a fixed rate of \$8,400 per EFTS (GST exclusive).

TEO eligibility

11. The TEC must only fund a TEO for SAR provision if the TEO is:
 - (a) an institute of technology and polytechnic (ITP);
 - (b) a wānanga;
 - (c) a private training establishment (PTE); or
 - (d) an industry training organisation (ITO).

TEO quality assurance

12. To be eligible for funding under this funding mechanism, a TEO must be quality assured by the New Zealand Qualifications Authority.

Learner eligibility

13. The TEC must ensure that a TEO only receives funding for SAR provision for a learner who is:
 - (a) a New Zealand citizen; or
 - (b) a permanent resident; and
 - (c) nominated to undertake the SAR training by New Zealand Search and Rescue (NZSAR), or by a SAR organisation approved by NZSAR.

Eligible provision

14. The TEC must ensure that a TEO only receives funding for SAR provision for a course of training that is less than 40 credits on the New Zealand Qualifications Framework.

PART TWO: FUNDING CONDITIONS

Conditions that the TEC must attach to funding

15. The TEC must attach the following specific conditions to funding paid under this funding mechanism:

Tertiary Education Organisations

16. The TEC must attach to funding a condition that a TEO that receives funding for SAR provision under this funding mechanism must, for the length of the funding period, continue to meet the criteria specified in paragraph 11 of this funding mechanism.
17. The TEC must attach to funding a condition that a TEO that receives funding under this funding mechanism must:

- (a) only subcontract arrangement of delivery of SAR provision to an organisation or group that does not already receive TEC funding;
- (b) notify the TEC of the subcontracting arrangement prior to its commencement;
- (c) ensure that a subcontracted party does not further subcontract any function; and
- (d) remain accountable for:
 - (i) the use of the SAR funding; and
 - (ii) ensuring that the subcontracted party is quality assured in accordance with paragraph 12, and meets the conditions set out in paragraph 20 of this funding mechanism.

Learners

18. The TEC must attach to funding a condition that a TEO that receives funding for SAR provision under this funding mechanism must ensure that each learner who is enrolled in a programme of study or training meets and continues to meet the criteria specified at paragraph 13.

Provision

19. The TEC must attach to funding a condition that a TEO that receives funding for SAR provision under this funding mechanism must ensure that a programme in which an eligible learner is enrolled meets and continues to meet the criteria specified at paragraph 14.

TEO responsibilities

20. The TEC must attach to funding a condition that a TEO that receives funding for SAR provision under this funding mechanism must:
- (a) work with organisations, groups and communities to identify and meet SAR training needs;
 - (b) remain quality assured as specified in paragraph 12 of this funding mechanism.

No other funding

21. The TEC must attach to funding a condition that a TEO that receives funding under this funding mechanism must:
- (a) not (without the TEC's prior written consent) seek or obtain funding from any Crown source other than the TEC to fund a programme or training scheme which is funded under this funding mechanism; and
 - (b) notify the TEC immediately if it becomes aware of any circumstances that might result in a breach of this condition.

Responsible use of funding

22. The TEC must attach to funding a condition that a TEO that receives funding under this funding mechanism must use the funding:
- (a) lawfully, responsibly, and for the purposes for which it is provided; and
 - (b) in a manner consistent with the appropriate use of public funds.

Recovery of over-funding

23. The TEC must attach to funding a condition that if a TEO receives funding under this funding mechanism that is greater than it should have been, or that it was not entitled to receive, the TEO must treat the amount of the over-funding as a debt due to the Crown that:
- (a) is repayable on demand; and
 - (b) may be set-off against all or any funding, or any sum of money payable by the TEC to the TEO.
24. The TEC must provide the TEO with reasonable notice before exercising its right to demand repayment or set-off the debt against all or any funding.

TEC administrative responsibilities

25. If the TEO receives funding under this funding mechanism that is less than it should have been, or less than it was entitled to receive, the TEC must treat the amount of under-funding as a credit and pay the amount of the under-funding as soon as is reasonably practicable.