

## **Bursary Information**

### **Boarding allowances guidelines and eligibility information**

The Ministry provides boarding allowances to help school students facing barriers to attending school and achieving at least level 2 in the National Certificate of Educational Achievement (NCEA) or equivalent. Boarding away from home can remove the barriers for these students.

Boarding Allowances help meet the Government's commitment to improve educational outcomes for priority groups: Māori, Pasifika, students from low socio-economic backgrounds, and students with special education needs.

### **Eligibility**

Students are eligible to apply for a Boarding Allowance if they can demonstrate they are facing barrier(s) to achieving educational success, and that boarding away from home will remove those barriers.

Students may be facing one or more of the following barriers.

### **Access barrier - geographical isolation**

Students are eligible to apply for a boarding allowance if they live too far away from an appropriate school, and the Ministry's School Transport Assistance programme does not provide a solution. For the purposes of the boarding allowance, geographical isolation is defined as living at an unreasonable distance from the nearest appropriate school (e.g.60km), and:

- the closest school transport service to get to their nearest appropriate school is unreasonable (e.g.20km), or
- having to travel longer than 60 minutes, one way, to their nearest appropriate school each day, or
- having to drive an unreasonable distance (e.g.60km) to the nearest appropriate school.

### **Significant barriers**

#### **Achievement barrier**

A student shows significantly low attainments (lower than same age peers) in literacy, numeracy, oral language and other subjects.

#### **Participation barrier**

A student has difficulty engaging in everyday classroom learning, completing schoolwork, keeping up adequate attendance and engaging in extra-curricular activities.

#### **Behaviour barrier**

A student is disruptive, harms others or them self, participates in criminal activities, or has a history of stand-downs, suspensions or expulsions.

#### **Relationships barrier**

A student is socially isolated or lacks respect for others.

#### **Environment barrier**

A student has multi-agency involvement, lacks family and community support, has poor or negative role models, or is exposed to physical/psychological harm.