

Ara Institute of Canterbury

International Prospectus 2026



ara.ac.nz/international



Institute of Canterbury
Ara rau, taumata rau

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Disclaimer: The information contained in this Prospectus is correct at the time of production (September 2025). Ara reserves the right to cancel or postpone any of the programmes, and shall not be liable for any claim other than the proportion of programme fees that the cancelled portion bears. Some programmes may be dependent upon formal approval from NZQA (New Zealand Qualifications Authority), TEC (Tertiary Education Commission) funding allocation, and the number of enrolments. As part of NZQA's ongoing level 1-6 qualifications reviews there may still be changes to some programmes starting in 2026. Fees, programmes, entry and selection criteria, and dates, are subject to change. Please check the relevant programme pages at ara.ac.nz for up-to-date information and full entry requirements before applying to enrol. Information regarding English language requirements is available on each programme page at ara.ac.nz.



Kia ora, welcome to Ara Institute of Canterbury

At Ara, we believe in the power of education to transform lives and open doors to endless possibilities. We are dedicated to providing you with a world-class education that is both practical and innovative.

Our diverse and inclusive community is where you can thrive, forge lifelong connections, and acquire the skills and knowledge essential for success in your chosen field. Our students benefit from state-of-the-art facilities, industry-experienced tutors, and a strong emphasis on hands-on learning. We take pride in offering globally relevant programmes designed to nurture your ambition and prepare you for a dynamic future.

Haere Mai

Darren Mitchell
Executive Director,
Ara Institute of Canterbury

About Ara

Benefits of studying at Ara

You will be part of a friendly, inclusive community

Ara is a culturally and socially diverse community where you will enjoy a sense of belonging. You will be treated as an individual (our class sizes are small so your tutors will know you by name) and you will be supported with an extensive range of student services and specialist support staff.

Our qualifications are world class

Ara is a Category 1 institute, the highest rating awarded by the New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA). All of our qualifications are NZQA-approved and recognised internationally. Ara graduates can be found working and making a difference around the globe.

Our tutors are experts

Our tutors come from industry and have years of on-the-job experience in their specialty area. They are committed to sharing their knowledge with you and inspiring you to achieve your study goals.

We focus on hands-on, real-life learning

Ara is known for its practical, hands-on programmes. You will learn in environments that mimic real workplaces and undertake some form of work-based learning like an internship, industry project or work placement.

You will be work-ready when you graduate

All that you do and learn at Ara will ensure your transition to the workplace is seamless and that you have the confidence and capability to contribute from your first day on the job.

What Ara means?

Ara is the Māori word for path or journey. It represents the learning process, the many pathways to success, and the routes and rivers that criss-cross the Canterbury Plains from the mountains to the sea.

The phrase 'Ara rau, taumata rau' translates to 'many pathways, many opportunities'.

Key Ara information

- New Zealand Government-owned
- Established 1906
- 97% of our graduates feel safe
- 13,000 students per year
- Over 1,000 international students (from over 50 countries) per year
- Approved provider for Pathway visas under the Immigration NZ pilot programme
- Small class sizes (average of 20 students per class)
- More than 150 study options



Our campuses

Ara has six campuses across the South Island. Most courses available to international students are taught at our City, Manawa and Timaru campuses.

City campus – Christchurch

Ara's City campus is a vibrant and dynamic place to study. Located in the heart of Christchurch, it offers a wide range of modern, purpose-designed facilities to enhance your student experience. These include state-of-the-art classrooms, a well-equipped library, a recreation center with a gym and sports court, and multiple on-site cafes and restaurants operated by hospitality students.

Manawa – Christchurch

Manawa is where we deliver nursing, midwifery and medical imaging courses.

Located within Christchurch's health precinct, it's a modern, purpose-designed building that boasts state-of-the-art facilities including high tech simulation rooms to enable practical, hands-on learning.

Timaru campus

Ara's Timaru campus is a modern and welcoming facility located just a short stroll from the city's CBD. It offers a range of services and amenities for students, including a library, gym and recreation centre. It also has a cafe and restaurant operated by hospitality students.

The campus provides career advice, learning services, student support advisors, and disability support services.

Our international student community in Timaru is very active, with an exciting schedule of activities and social events. It's a great way to get to know other students from around the world, meet New Zealanders and make friends.



Scan to view maps of each campus on our website.



Ara has a very supportive learning environment, especially for international students.

Irene Celino, Philippines, nursing



Living in Christchurch

Christchurch is the second largest city in New Zealand with a population of around 400,000 people.

It is a welcoming and inclusive city that celebrates diversity. With a vibrant mix of cultures, it offers a rich tapestry of cultural experiences, festivals and cuisines from around the world.

In recent years, Christchurch has undergone a remarkable transformation, emerging as a modern and dynamic city that blends rich heritage with cutting-edge architecture and sustainable design. It has a vibrant arts and culture scene, a brand-new multi-purpose stadium, numerous galleries and museums and world-class street art. It also has an efficient and user-friendly public transport network.

The city is blessed with many parks and recreation facilities. From the CBD it's just 20 minutes to the beach, or walking and mountain biking tracks in the nearby Port Hills.

Christchurch is perfectly situated to explore all that the South Island has to offer, from spectacular mountains, lakes, glaciers and national parks to spa towns and world-class wineries.

To learn more about Christchurch, visit:

christchurchnz.com/live

christchurchnz.com/study

Campus accommodation

Ōtautahi House is our student accommodation, right next to our City campus in central Christchurch. It is close to shops, public transport and everything that the city centre has to offer.

At Ōtautahi House you share an apartment with Ara students from around New Zealand and the world. Each apartment is modern, comfortable and well appointed. You have your own furnished room (with a bed, desk and drawers) and share a communal kitchen, bathroom and living space with your room mates. There are coin-operated laundry facilities in the building. Bathrooms are cleaned every day for you, but you are responsible for keeping your room and apartment clean and tidy.

Support for Ōtautahi residents is provided by a student advisor. House rules are based on consideration and respect for others to ensure everyone's academic success and enjoyment.



Scan to view accommodation
on our website.

Homestay accommodation

If it's your first time in New Zealand, we strongly recommend a homestay. This option provides a friendly, safe environment with a local family and is a great way to improve your English and experience New Zealand life.

Ara works with two trusted homestay providers – New Zealand Education Advisory Service (NZEAS) and NZ Homestays. All host families are carefully selected to ensure a welcoming and supportive environment. Homestay accommodation includes your own bedroom, laundry facilities, and most meals (two a day on weekdays and three a day on weekends).

You'll be matched with a suitable family, and a representative from your provider will meet you at the airport, take you to your homestay, and ensure you are settling in well.

You can stay with your host family for the duration of your studies, or move into other accommodation once you feel more settled and confident living in Christchurch.

(Homestay fees to be confirmed – please check with Ara for the most up-to-date details.)

ara.ac.nz/homestay

Buses

Christchurch has a comprehensive bus network which covers all of greater Christchurch with several bus stops close to the City and Manawa campuses. As an Ara student, you are eligible for discounted fares (at least half the price of standard adult fares) with a Tertiary Student Metro Card. You can check when the next bus will arrive by using your smart phone or device.

Find out more at metroinfo.co.nz

Cycling, walking and scootering

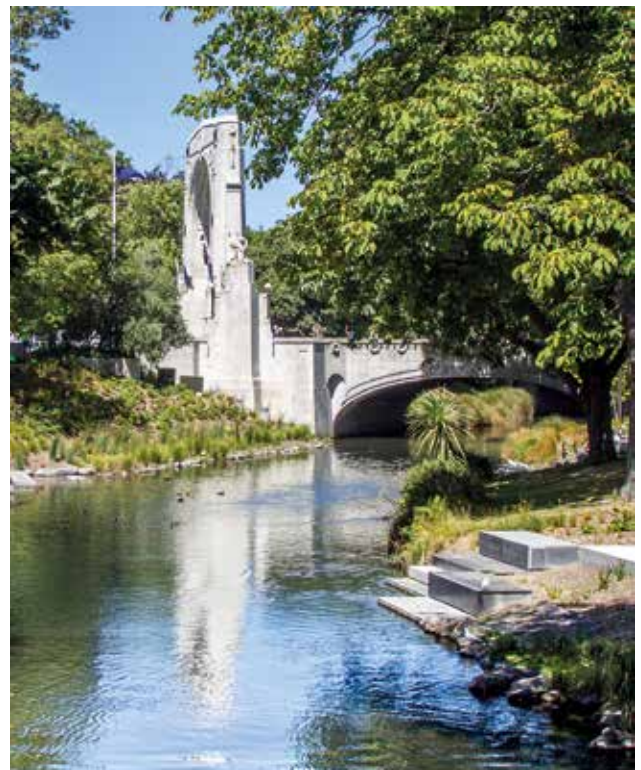
Christchurch has a mostly flat landscape, so walking and cycling are good ways to get around. There are many cycleways across Christchurch which can make your journey safer and faster. Across the city, you can also hire electric scooters and bikes.

Taxis and shuttles

Christchurch is well serviced by several taxi companies and Uber. There are also door-to-door airport shuttle services.

Living expenses

We recommend you budget \$1667 per month for living expenses including accommodation and general living costs.



Living in Timaru

Timaru is located two hours south of Christchurch and is home to 29,000 people. It has a large cargo and fishing port, and is a major service hub for agriculture.

Timaru's town centre is easily walkable with good shopping and an eclectic mix of cafes, restaurants and bars.

A feature of the city is Caroline Bay, a safe swimming beach which hosts the Caroline Bay Carnival – the longest running event of its kind in New Zealand – and one of the Southern Hemisphere's biggest children's playgrounds. There are also penguin habitats nearby.

Like Christchurch, Timaru enjoys easy access to beaches, mountains, lakes, rivers, native forests and open countryside. Activities you can enjoy in these places include skiing, snowboarding, climbing, hiking, kayaking, whitewater rafting, horse trekking, mountain biking, swimming, water sports and fishing.

In addition to active pursuits, there is plenty else to discover and enjoy in and around Timaru including artisan food producers, Māori rock art, wildlife encounters, markets, galleries, museums, public parks and gardens and a wide variety of cultural and heritage attractions.

Homestay accommodation

If it's your first time in New Zealand, we strongly recommend a homestay. This option provides a friendly, safe environment with a local family and is a great way to improve your English and experience New Zealand life. All homestay families are carefully selected by the New Zealand Education Advisory Service (NZEAS). Homestay accommodation includes your own bedroom, laundry and most meals (two a day on weekdays and three a day on weekends). You will be matched to a suitable family and a representative from NZEAS will meet you at the airport, take you to your homestay and make sure you are settling in well.

You can stay with your host family for the duration of your studies, or you can move into other accommodation once you feel settled and confident in Timaru.

ara.ac.nz/homestay



Buses

Timaru uses an on-demand bus service called MyWay by Metro which operates seven days a week throughout the Timaru urban area. Smart technology matches your ride with other passengers going the same way for efficient, shared travel and minimal waiting.

More information is available at timaru.metroinfo.co.nz

Walking and cycling

Timaru is compact and mostly flat with some gentle hills, so walking and cycling are good ways to get around.

Taxis

Timaru is well serviced by taxi companies and Uber.

Living expenses

We recommend you budget **\$1667** per month for living expenses including accommodation and general living costs.

If you live between Ashburton and Timaru, or Oamaru and Timaru, you can use our free weekday shuttle service to get to and from the Timaru campus.



Student support

Childcare

Quality care and education for children up to the age of five is available at our Christchurch City campus. There are two options: Ara Early Learning Centre and Te Waka Huruhrumanu ki Ōtautahi.

Counselling

Free, confidential counselling is available to all Ara students for any reason – from stress or course concerns to relationship difficulties, personal issues or anything else that might be worrying you.

Groups and clubs

Got a special interest? Our student groups and clubs are a great way to make friends with fellow like-minded students while doing something you enjoy. You can join an existing group – such as gaming, tramping, Rainbow, Japan club, poetry club or a faith group – or start your own with support from our student groups advisor.

Health, wellbeing and recreation

We offer a range of services and facilities aimed at helping you enjoy good health and wellbeing while studying with us. These include gym and recreation facilities, a health centre with GP and nurses, counselling, a nutrition clinic, an osteopathic clinic and fitness testing.

A healthy body can help create a healthy mind. At the City campus, you can become a member of our modern, well-equipped gym, take part in group fitness classes, participate in social sports or – if you're a more serious athlete – use our state-of-the-art facilities at The Zone to understand your fitness to improve your results. In Timaru, you can utilise the basketball court.

Learning Services

Our Learning Services team is dedicated to supporting you to complete your coursework successfully. They offer a broad range of study and support resources, plus group study opportunities, academic workshops and quick question sessions.

Library

Our libraries provide an extensive range of services and resources to support learning, teaching and researching. Physical libraries are located at the City and Timaru campuses and all resources are available online through Library Search. Librarian Support is available in person and via phone, email, live chat and Zoom.

International Student Advisors

Our International Student Advisors work to support international students studying at Ara. They can help you with a wide range of things, from adjusting to living in New Zealand to course and study-related issues.

Advisors can speak Chinese, Japanese and Nepalese. Other language support can be provided if required.

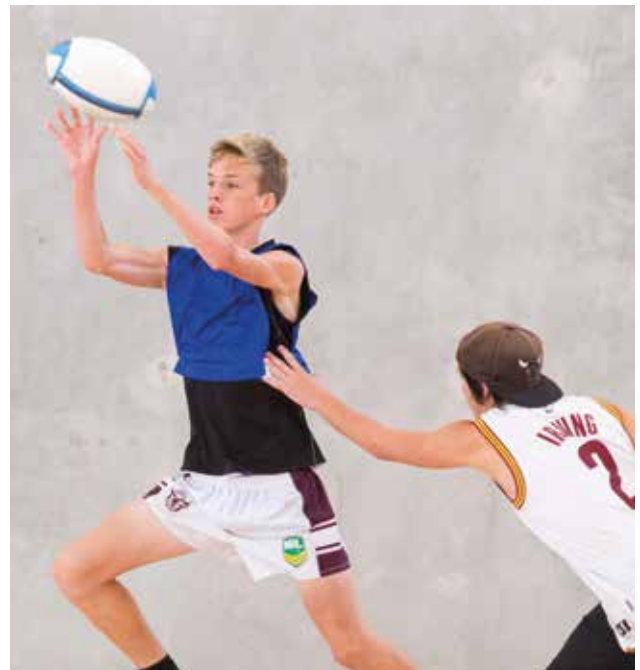


Student advocacy

If you're having personal difficulties – either at Ara or outside of Ara – which are affecting your study, our independent student advocate can support you and help you to problem solve. This free, confidential service covers everything from relationship issues with staff or fellow students through to helping you address challenges involving alcohol, drugs, family violence, housing and mental health.

Student events

Student life is never dull, with events occurring on campus throughout the year. These range from orientation and cultural events through to student-produced musicals, concerts and exhibitions.



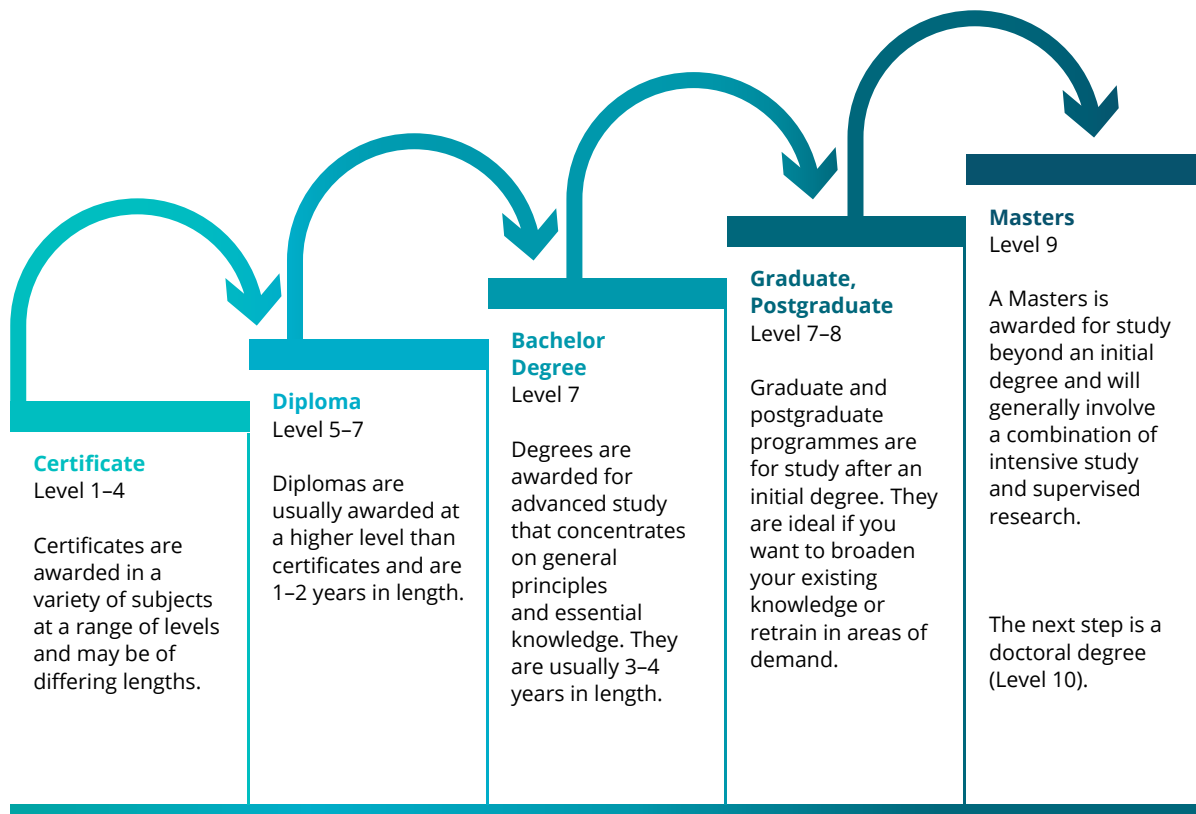
Campus life is fantastic. I'm making more friends than I ever have before.

Johnathan Ng, China, quantity surveying



Levels of study at Ara

Our focus is on flexible study options. That's why we've created various ways for you to gain qualifications and advance your training. There are a variety of levels for you to study, depending on where you want your career to lead you. You might start at an entry level foundation course, or launch straight into a degree.



Ara really looks after its international students.

Harshvardhan Jamba, India,
engineering



Student exchange opportunities

Our Student Exchange programme offers the opportunity to enjoy another culture, gain life skills, broaden your employment opportunities and live the overseas experience, without interruption to your studies.

About Student Exchange

If your home institution is a partner institution and has an exchange agreement with us you can study here and pay tuition fees to your home institution. Depending on the agreement in place, there may be other costs you will need to budget for such as accommodation, insurance, and textbooks.

Semester 1: February - June

Semester 2: July - November

Nomination

You must be nominated by your home institution. Eligible degree level students choose to do either one or two semesters with us.

Depending on the agreement in place your study may be credited to your degree in your home country.



Scan to view the student exchange and study abroad programme on our website.



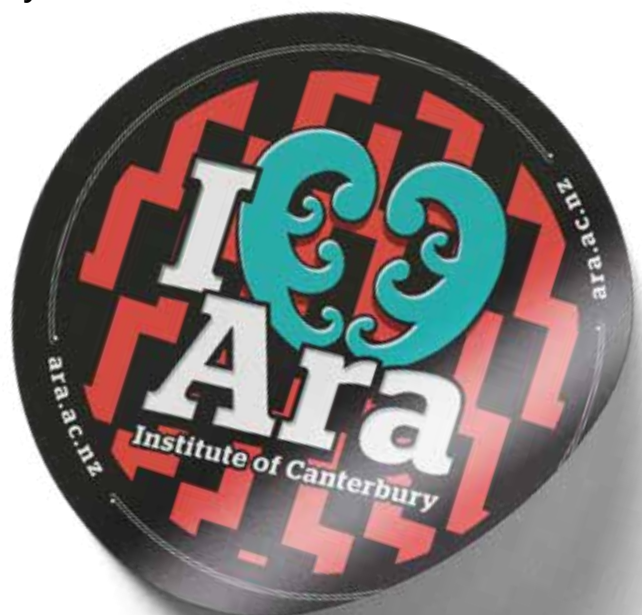
Study abroad in Aotearoa New Zealand

Explore the transformative experience of studying in Ōtautahi Christchurch, a living case study of a revitalised resilient city.

Our Study Abroad programme offers international students a transformative experience: to study in a revitalised and resilient city that has been rebuilt with innovation and sustainability in mind.

Our graduates and academics have played important roles in the city's rebuild. For students studying our engineering, architecture, design, business, technology and sustainability programmes, the city serves as a living case study.

Māori cultural principles such as manaakitanga (hospitality), aroha (respect) and whanaungatanga (kinship) underpin not only our teaching and learning environment, but also our campus' and our city's community spirit. For Study Abroad students, this provides a unique chance to experience and connect with mātauranga Māori, our indigenous knowledge system, values and views.



Animal Science

Establish yourself as an animal care professional.

If you have a compassionate attitude and you can relate to people who love animals, you will thrive studying one of our animal-related courses. You will gain extensive practical experience thanks to our excellent facilities on campus and the relationships our tutors have within the industry.



Scan to learn more about our Animal Science programmes

New Zealand Certificate in Animal Management (Companion Animal)



Level 4



Christchurch



Full-time: one year



February



\$26,572 per year

New Zealand Diploma in Veterinary Nursing



Level 6



Christchurch



Full-time: two years



February



\$26,572 per year



You'll achieve more than you ever thought possible.

Sodam Lee, South Korea, pre health



Architecture

Create a career shaping the buildings we live, work and come together in.

Whether you choose to study architectural studies, interior design or building information modelling, our team of industry professionals will inspire, guide and support you to achieve your study goals.

You will gain the technical capabilities required for industry, learn about the variety of solutions that can be applied to design challenges, and discover how excellent visual, oral and written communication can help smooth a project's way. Your tutors will also connect you with their industry contacts to enhance your abilities through real-world workplace experience.



Scan to learn more about our Architectural Studies programmes



New Zealand Diploma in Architectural Technology



Level 6



Christchurch



Full-time: two years



February



\$23,672 per year

Bachelor of Architectural Studies



Level 7



Christchurch



Full-time: three years



February



\$26,572 per year



Irene Boles PhD Geography

Senior Lecturer – Architecture

Irene has worked in architecture, construction and project management, and has been teaching for 12 years. She frequently presents at conferences and contributes to publications and has a doctorate in Geography. Irene is a passionate educator, always looking for opportunities to bring real world experiences to her students while showing them how their architectural work can positively impact communities and the wider industry. She and her students have collaborated on many multidisciplinary community projects with industry leaders.

Visit ara.ac.nz for all entry requirements.

Graduate Diploma in Building Information Modelling



Level 7



Christchurch



Full-time: one year



February



\$26,572 per year



The international student support is fantastic.

Gwyn Guanzon, Philippines,
architectural studies



Art & Design

Channel your creative thinking into a rewarding career.

Our highly practical art and design programmes cover a wide range of disciplines including visual arts, graphic design and fashion. You will engage in hands-on learning led by expert tutors in small classes, and benefit from state-of-the-art facilities such as advanced digital and multimedia technologies, dedicated print facilities and well equipped workrooms for creating art and sculpture.



Scan to learn more about our Art & Design programmes

New Zealand Certificate in Creativity



Level 4



Christchurch, Timaru



Full-time: six months



February, July*



\$13,286 per six months

**July start is available in Christchurch only*

New Zealand Certificate in Digital Media and Design



Level 4



Christchurch, Timaru



Full-time: six months



February, July



\$13,286 per six months

New Zealand Certificate in Fashion



Level 4



Christchurch



Full-time: six months



February, July



\$13,286 per six months

New Zealand Diploma in Arts and Design



Level 5



Timaru



Full-time: one year



February



\$26,572 per year

Bachelor of Design[^]



Level 7



Christchurch



Full-time: three years



February



\$26,572 per year

[^]Specialisations available in: Applied Visual Art, Visual Communication and Design, Fashion Technology and Design

Postgraduate Diploma in Creative Practice



Level 8



Christchurch



Full-time: one year



February



\$29,229* per year

**Study grant has been applied*

Master of Creative Practice



Level 9



Christchurch



Full-time: 18 months



February



\$27,458* per year

**Study grant has been applied*

Visit ara.ac.nz for all entry requirements.

Bakery

Learn the skills, techniques and artistry required for a career in baking.

Professional baking is more than just making breads, cakes, pies, pastries and desserts. It is also about understanding the ingredients, the recipes and the science behind the process. As a baker you also need to know how to operate efficiently in a commercial food setting and be comfortable working in a fast-paced environment.

At Ara we can equip you with all these skills in preparation for a career in bakery. Our highly experienced tutors are passionate about sharing their knowledge and encouraging your creativity in the kitchen. They will ensure you graduate with skills and confidence, ready for an exciting career in the baking industry.



Scan to learn more about our Bakery programmes



New Zealand Certificate in Baking (Generalist)



Level 4



Christchurch, Timaru



Full-time: one year



February



\$26,572 per year

New Zealand Diploma in Cookery (Advanced Patisserie)



Level 5



Christchurch, Timaru



Full-time: one year



February



\$26,572 per year



Claire Galbraith-Hewitt

Senior Tutor - Bakery

Claire has worked in the baking industry for 30 years, including in hotels in New Zealand and London. She has been teaching for 10 years. Claire believes in making every student feel comfortable and heard by understanding their individual needs. She treats international students as if they were her own children, showing them kindness and providing support and guidance.



Beauty Therapy

Learn how to help people look and feel their best.

Ara's beauty therapy, skincare and make up courses will equip you with all the skills and knowledge you need to embark on a career in the beauty industry. You will learn from expert tutors and gain lots of practical experience at our in-house salon which is open to the public.

When you graduate, you can take advantage of the range of career opportunities available in the industry. You could specialise in a particular treatment like electrolysis or facials, become a makeup artist for film and TV, work in salons and spas around the world (even on cruise ships) or start your own business.



Scan to learn more about our Beauty Therapy programmes



New Zealand Certificate in Beauty Therapy



Level 4



Christchurch, Timaru



Full-time: one year



February



\$26,572 per year

New Zealand Diploma in Beauty Therapy



Level 5



Christchurch



Full-time: one year



February



\$26,572 per year



I loved the tutors, they were really friendly.

Stephan Kolsbjerg
Ragunathan, Denmark



Visit ara.ac.nz for all entry requirements.



Level



Location



Duration



Starts



Fee

Broadcasting

Give yourself the best start to a career on screen, on air or in journalism.

Consumption of news, entertainment and social content has never been greater. If you aspire to work in front of the mic or camera, or behind the scenes, the New Zealand Broadcasting School (NZBS) at Ara is the place to study. It is recognised as the premier national provider of applied education in broadcast journalism, television, film, digital media and radio performance and production in New Zealand.

Our programmes are hands-on and totally focused on career outcomes. You will benefit from studying in small classes with access to a wide range of broadcasting communication facilities and expertise. You will develop an ability to think broadly and critically about the media and the implications of new technologies, and you will have opportunities to gain real-world experience.



Scan to learn more about our Broadcasting programmes



Brendan Reilly

PhD Communication & Media Studies

Senior Lecturer – Broadcasting

Brendan has worked in radio for some of the largest media companies in New Zealand. He has a doctorate in communications and media studies, has been teaching for 18 years and has presented at conferences in Australia, Japan, England and Singapore. For Brendan, teaching is not just about imparting knowledge; it is about inspiring curiosity and fostering a love for learning. He gets a lot of satisfaction seeing students make their way into the industry and observing their speedy ascent in their chosen career.

Bachelor of Broadcasting Communications



Level 7



Christchurch



Full-time: three years



February



\$26,572 per year



Level



Location



Duration



Starts



Fee

Business

Equip yourself with the skills needed to thrive in business.

The business world can lead you in many directions - from administration support roles to management and specialties like accounting, human resources, sales and marketing, change management and business transformation. We have business programmes from foundation studies right through to graduate diplomas to equip you with the skills you need to succeed in whatever enterprise you find yourself involved with.

When you study business with us, you will learn from tutors and highly regarded local companies who have extensive knowledge and experience to share. You may also have opportunities to gain real-world experience to further enhance your capabilities.



Scan to learn more about our Business programmes

New Zealand Certificate in Business (Administration and Technology) (Level 3)



Level 3



Christchurch



Full-time: 17 weeks



February, July



\$13,286 per year

New Zealand Certificate in Business (Administration and Technology) (Level 4)



Level 4



Christchurch



Full-time: 17 weeks



July



\$13,286 per year



Visit ara.ac.nz for all entry requirements.



Level



Location



Duration








Starts








Fee








New Zealand Diploma in Business[^]

| | |
|---|---------------------|
|  | Level 5 |
|  | Christchurch |
|  | Full-time: one year |
|  | February, July |
|  | \$26,572 per year |

Bachelor of Accounting






| | |
|---|------------------------|
|  | Level 7 |
|  | Christchurch |
|  | Full-time: three years |
|  | February, July |
|  | \$26,572 per year |

Bachelor of Applied Management[^]

| | |
|---|------------------------|
|  | Level 7 |
|  | Christchurch |
|  | Full-time: three years |
|  | February, July |
|  | \$26,572 per year |

[^]Specialisations available – visit ara.ac.nz

Graduate Diplomas in Business

| | |
|---|---------------------|
|  | Level 7 |
|  | Christchurch |
|  | Full-time: one year |
|  | February, July |
|  | \$26,572 per year |

Specialisations:





- Graduate Diploma in Accounting
- Graduate Diploma in Applied Management
- Graduate Diploma in Business Information Systems
- Graduate Diploma in Business Transformation and Change
- Graduate Diploma in Event Management
- Graduate Diploma in Human Resource Management
- Graduate Diploma in Innovation and Entrepreneurship
- Graduate Diploma in Operations and Production Management
- Graduate Diploma in Project Management
- Graduate Diploma in Marketing and Sales
- Graduate Diploma in Strategic Management
- Graduate Diploma in Supply Chain Logistics

More information on each programme is available on our website.

Post Graduate Certificate in Applied Management

| | |
|---|-----------------------------------|
|  | Level 8 |
|  | Christchurch |
|  | Full-time: six months |
|  | February, April, July and October |
|  | \$14,614 per year |

Post Graduate Diploma in Applied Management

| | |
|---|-----------------------------------|
|  | Level 8 |
|  | Christchurch |
|  | Full-time: one year |
|  | February, April, July and October |
|  | \$29,229 per year |

Master of Applied Management (180 credits)

| | |
|---|-----------------------------------|
|  | Level 9 |
|  | Christchurch |
|  | Full-time: 18 months |
|  | February, April, July and October |
|  | \$27,458 per year |

Master of Applied Management (240 credits)

| | |
|---|-----------------------------------|
|  | Level 9 |
|  | Christchurch |
|  | Full-time: two years |
|  | February, April, July and October |
|  | \$27,635 per year |



Imran Ishaat PhD Supply Chain Management

Senior Lecturer – Business Operations & Supply Chain Management

Imran has a doctorate in supply chain management and has worked extensively in the field. He has been teaching for 15 years. Imran integrates real-world operations and supply chain management scenarios into his teaching, guiding students to link complex theoretical concepts with practical applications. It is especially rewarding for him to see learners thrive as they use both quantitative and qualitative approaches to address a range of contemporary supply chain challenges.

Visit ara.ac.nz for all entry requirements.

Construction Management & Quantity Surveying

Excel in the construction industry with sought-after expertise.

Skilled professionals are needed up and down the country to work on residential, commercial, industrial and infrastructure projects. Taught by experts, our programmes in construction management and quantity surveying can equip you to make a significant contribution in the construction industry.



Scan to learn more about our Construction Management and Quantity Surveying programmes

New Zealand Diploma in Construction^



Level 6



Christchurch



Full-time: two years



February, July



\$23,672 per year

Bachelor of Construction^



Level 7



Christchurch



Full-time: three years



February, July



\$26,572 per year

^Specialisations available in: Construction Management, Quantity Surveying

Graduate Diploma in Construction Management



Level 7



Christchurch



Full-time: one year



February, July



\$26,572 per year

Graduate Diploma in Quantity Surveying



Level 7



Christchurch



Full-time: one year



February, July



\$26,572 per year



Pacific Association of Quantity Surveyors



The Bachelor of Construction (Quantity Surveying) and Graduate Diploma in Quantity Surveying are accredited by the New Zealand Institute of Quantity Surveyors for membership.



Level



Location



Duration



Starts



Fee

Cookery

Transform your love of food into a career as a professional chef.

Ara is renowned for the quality of its cookery graduates and has a proud record of success at national and international competitions. In our commercial training kitchens, our highly experienced cookery tutors will equip you with all the essential skills you will need as a chef – from culinary expertise and presentation techniques to knowledge of related areas like menu planning, ingredient sourcing, inventory and health and safety. You will graduate prepared for an exciting career which can take you around the world, from local cafes and function venues to international resorts and Michelin star restaurants.



Scan to learn more about our Cookery programmes



New Zealand Certificate in Cookery



Level 4



Christchurch, Timaru



Full-time: one year



February, July*



\$26,572 per year

**July intake available in Christchurch only*

New Zealand Diploma in Cookery (Advanced Cookery)



Level 5



Christchurch



Full-time: one year



February, July



\$26,572 per year



RECOGNITION
OF QUALITY
CULINARY EDUCATION
WORLD ASSOCIATION
OF CHEFS SOCIETIES



Mark Sycamore

City & Guilds NVQ Level 3 & 4 in Cookery & Hospitality

Senior Academic Staff Member – Cookery

During his 30+ years in the hospitality industry, Mark has worked in a wide range of establishments, from cafes and five-star restaurants to high-end lodges. At Ara, Mark loves sharing his industry knowledge and experience to motivate and inspire students to excel in hospitality environments. In 2024, he coached and mentored New Zealand's team in the Global Chefs Challenge to eighth place.

Visit ara.ac.nz for all entry requirements.

Digital Technologies

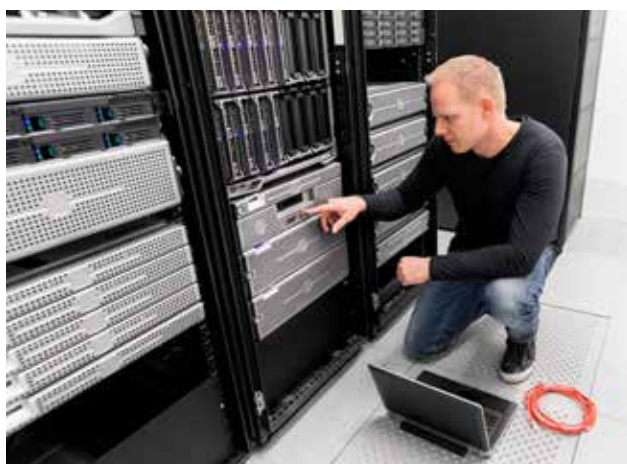
Learn how to create, manage and use technology to shape our everyday lives.

Demand for people with digital technology skills and expertise is strong around the globe: it is one of the top five highest paying industries and it offers near limitless opportunities for innovation. In addition to paying well, many employers provide highly desirable employee conditions and benefits.

We will help you establish and grow your skills in digital technologies towards a strong future in this exciting field. Our programmes and courses have been developed in conjunction with industry to ensure they are up to date and relevant. They also cross credit easily into each other, providing options and pathways to gain qualifications.



Scan to learn more about our
Digital Technologies programmes



New Zealand Certificate in Information Technology Essentials

| | |
|--|-------------------------|
| | Level 4 |
| | Christchurch, online |
| | Full-time: six months |
| | February, July |
| | \$13,286 per six months |






New Zealand Diploma in Information Technology (Technical Support)

| | |
|--|---------------------|
| | Level 5 |
| | Christchurch |
| | Full-time: one year |
| | February, July |
| | \$26,572 per year |






New Zealand Diploma in Web Development and Design

| | |
|--|---------------------|
| | Level 5 |
| | Christchurch |
| | Full-time: one year |
| | February, July |
| | \$26,572 per year |






New Zealand Diploma in Cybersecurity

-  Level 6
-  Christchurch
-  Full-time: one year
-  February, July
-  \$26,572 per year

Bachelor of Information and Communication Technologies

-  Level 7
-  Christchurch
-  Full-time: three years
-  February, July
-  \$26,572 per year

Graduate Diploma in Information and Communication Technologies

-  Level 7
-  Christchurch
-  Full-time: one year
-  February, July
-  \$26,572 per year



Ara provided an internship opportunity
which then led to a job offer.

Rosy Wan, China, IT

Visit ara.ac.nz for all entry requirements.

Early Childhood Education

Gain the skills to nurture the next generation.

Qualified education and care professionals in the early childhood sector are important to the development of individuals and families in our community. Our industry connections ensure that your study in this area leads to employment and career opportunities. In addition, work placements at early childhood facilities will give you an insight into the industry and allow you to demonstrate your strengths while making employment connections.



Scan to learn more about our Education programmes

New Zealand Certificate in Early Childhood Education and Care



Level 3



Christchurch, Timaru



Full-time: six months



February



\$13,286 per year

New Zealand Certificate in Early Childhood Education and Care



Level 4



Christchurch, Timaru



Full-time: six months



July



\$13,286 per year

New Zealand Diploma in Early Childhood Education and Care



Level 5



Christchurch, Timaru



Full-time: one year



February



\$26,572 per year



Engineering

Become a technically savvy innovator with the expertise to change the way the world works.

Engineering is an exciting career option that suits practical people with enquiring minds and the ingenuity to find practical and cost-effective solutions to technical problems. It is also a hugely diverse and dynamic area with exciting opportunities to invent, collaborate and make a difference – potentially on a global scale.

We focus on practical and applied engineering with the aim of preparing you for a diverse spectrum of employment opportunities, both in New Zealand and overseas. You can be confident that your qualification gives employers a clear signal that you have the skills, knowledge and practical experience needed to be effective in the workplace from day one.



Scan to learn more about our Engineering programmes



The Level 6 and 7 engineering programmes at Ara have been accredited by Engineering New Zealand as meeting the requirements of the Dublin and Sydney Accords.

It was a fun learning environment.

Paul Wieland, Germany, business

New Zealand Diploma in Engineering[^]



Level 6



Christchurch



Full-time: two years



February*, July



\$28,116 per year

[^]Specialisations available in: Mechanical, Civil, Electrical, Electronics

*Electrical and electronic specialisations start in February only

Bachelor of Engineering Technology[^]



Level 7



Christchurch



Full-time: three years



February*, July



\$29,761 per year

[^]Specialisations available in: Mechanical, Civil, Electrical

*Electrical specialisation starts in February only



Matt Ramezian Pour

PhD Civil & Environmental Engineering

Senior Lecturer & Department Research Leader Engineering

Matt has worked as an engineer in Australia, Iran and New Zealand. He has a PhD in Civil and Environmental Engineering, has been teaching for 11 years and won an Engineering New Zealand innovation award. Matt is passionate about fostering a deep understanding of civil engineering principles through hands-on learning and real-world applications. Matt says teaching international students excites him as it enriches the classroom with diverse perspectives, allowing the class to explore innovative solutions to global challenges together. His goal is to empower students to become environmentally responsible engineers who appreciate the cultural significance of water and sustainability.

Visit ara.ac.nz for all entry requirements.

English Language

Improve your English for work, study and everyday life.

Ara is internationally recognised as one of the best English language training centres in New Zealand, with students from more than 30 countries choosing to study with us to improve their English speaking, listening, reading and writing.

In addition to the high-quality tuition from our friendly, professional tutors, you will have the opportunity to develop your skills on a daily basis by mixing with other English-speaking students on campus.



Scan to learn more about our English Language programmes



New Zealand Certificates in English Language



Levels 1 to 5



Christchurch, Timaru, Ashburton



Full-time: six months (per level)



February, July



\$8,503 per year

English Language Training (Intensive English)



Level 4



Christchurch, Timaru



Full-time: four weeks minimum



Weekly



\$8,503 per year

Certificate in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (CELTA)



Level 5



Christchurch, blended/online



Part-time: 11 weeks



July, November



\$5,588 per year



Internationally Recognised English Proficiency Outcomes for International Students

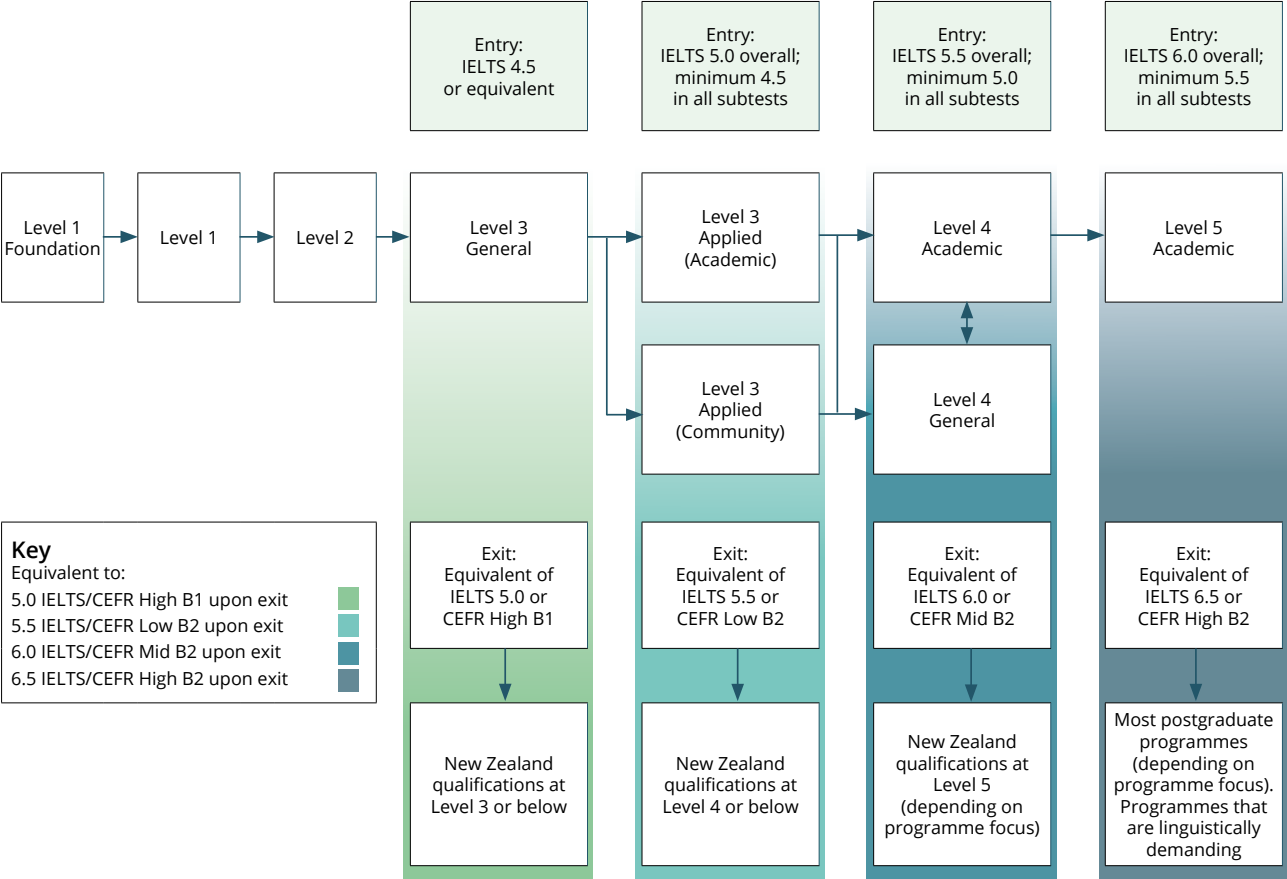
| Programme Level and required outcome taking into account the Criteria listed under this Table that must be applied. | | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|---|---|
| Internationally recognised proficiency tests | Certificate at Level 3 | Certificate at Level 4 | Certificate or Diploma at Level 5 | Certificate or Diploma at Level 6 Diploma or Degree at Level 7 Graduate Certificate or Diploma at Level 7 | Postgraduate Diploma or Postgraduate Certificate at Level 8 Bachelor Honours Degree at Level 8 Master's Degree at Level 9 Doctoral Degree at Level 10 |
| IELTS | General or Academic score of 5 with no band score lower than 5 | General or Academic score of 5.5 with no band score lower than 5 | Academic score of 5.5 with no band score lower than 5 | Academic score of 6 with no band score lower than 5.5 | Academic score of 6.5 with no band score lower than 6 |
| TOEFL Internet-based test (iBT) | Score of 35 (with a writing score of 14) | Score of 46 (with a writing score of 14) | Score of 46 (with a writing score of 14) | Score of 60 (with a writing score of 18) | Score of 79 (with a writing score of 21) |
| Cambridge English Qualifications | B2 First or B2 First for schools with a score of 154. No less than 154 in each skill | B2 First or B2 First for schools with a score of 162. No less than 154 in each skill | B2 First or B2 First for schools with a score of 162. No less than 154 in each skill | B2 First, B2 First for schools, C1 Advanced, or C2 Proficiency with a score of 169. No less than 162 in each skill | B2 First, B2 First for schools, C1 Advanced or C2 Proficiency with a score of 176. No less than 169 in each skill |
| OET | Minimum of Grade C or 200 in all sub-tests | Minimum of Grade C or 200 in all sub-tests | Minimum of Grade C or 200 in all sub-tests | Minimum of Grade C or 200 in all sub-tests | Minimum of Grade C+ or 300 in all sub-tests |
| NZCEL | Level 3 (General) | Level 3 (Applied) or (Academic) | Level 4 (General) or (Employment) | Level 4 (Academic) | Level 5 (Academic) |
| Pearson Test of English (Academic) | PTE (Academic) score of 36 with no band score lower than 36 | PTE (Academic) score of 42 with no band score lower than 36 | PTE (Academic) score of 42 with no band score lower than 36 | PTE (Academic) score of 50 with no band score lower than 42 | PTE (Academic) score of 58 with no band score lower than 50 |
| LanguageCert | International ESOL B1 Achiever with overall PASS and no less than 25/50 in each skill or Academic with a minimum score of 55 overall and no skill below 55 | International ESOL B2 Communicator with overall PASS and no less than 25/50 in each skill or Academic with a minimum score of 60 overall and no skill below 55 | International ESOL B2 Communicator with overall HIGH PASS and no less than 25/50 in each skill or Academic with a minimum score of 60 overall and no skill below 55 | International ESOL C1 Expert with overall PASS and no less than 25/50 in each skill or Academic with a minimum score of 65 overall and no skill below 60 | International ESOL C1 Expert with overall HIGH PASS and no less than 25/50 in each skill or International ESOL C2 Mastery with overall PASS and no less than 25/50 in each skill or Academic with a minimum score of 70 overall and no skill below 65 |
| Trinity ISE | ISE I with no less than distinction or 71 in any band | ISE II with no less than pass or 80 in any band | ISE II with no less than merit or 90 in any band | ISE II with no less than distinction or 96 in any band | ISE III with no less than pass or 105 in any band |

Ara's entry requirements may include a higher level of English language proficiency.

Applicants with NCEA Level 3 and University Entrance (UE) may still be required to complete an English assessment.

Visit ara.ac.nz for all entry requirements.

New Zealand Certificates in English Language Recommended Pathways



Foundation Studies

Give yourself the best start for further study or your next step in life.

New Zealand Certificate in Study and Employment Pathways



Level 3



Christchurch, Timaru



Full-time: 19 weeks



February*, July



\$13,286 per year

**Timaru has Feb intake only*

New Zealand Certificate in Study and Employment Pathways



Level 4



Christchurch, Timaru



Full-time: 19 weeks



February, July



\$13,286 per year



There are no barriers
between teachers
and students.

Jae Hong Park, South Korea,
foundation studies

Visit ara.ac.nz for all entry requirements.

Health Promotion, Nutrition & Sport Science

Get the expertise to champion and inspire healthy lifestyles.

The rapidly expanding areas of exercise, sports science, nutrition and health promotion offer a wide range of exciting career opportunities.

At Ara you will learn from experienced professionals in modern learning spaces with state-of-the-art equipment. Depending on the level of your qualification, you may also have the opportunity to undertake a significant industry project or work placement.



Scan to learn more about our
Health Promotion, Nutrition
& Exercise programmes

It's refreshing having
tutors that know
your name.

Hannah Michels, USA, sports science



New Zealand Certificate in Exercise



Level 4



Christchurch



Full-time: six months



February, July



\$13,286 per year

Bachelor of Applied Science



Level 7



Christchurch



Full-time: three years



February, July



\$26,572 per year



Tyson Te-Morehu Huia

MA Health Science

Lecturer – Sports Science

Before joining Ara five years ago, Tyson worked in strength and conditioning and coaching. He has a masters degree and is currently working on his PhD in health science. Tyson's teaching approach is transformative and discussion-based, incorporating practical influences to enhance learning. He is deeply passionate about strength and conditioning, exercise science, indigenous social sciences and preparing students for professional practice. Tyson says teaching international students is particularly rewarding as they bring a wealth of cultural diversity and perspectives to the classroom.



Hospitality

Pursue your passion for serving perfection.

The huge and ever-expanding hospitality and tourism sector relies on people with a passion for delivering exceptional service and experiences.

Our courses in these areas are very practical and designed to equip you with the hands-on skills employers need. You will learn from highly experienced tutors, including many who continue to work in the industry, and graduate with excellent employment prospects.



Scan to learn more about our Hospitality programmes



Cheryl Stokes BA Applied Management

Senior Academic Staff Member – Food and Beverage Service

Cheryl brings significant industry experience to her teaching role at Ara, including managing restaurants and working as a drink design consultant. She has a degree in applied management and has been teaching for over 20 years. She has also been a World Cocktail Competition judge. In 2012, she was part of a group that won an Ako Aotearoa National Sustainable Tertiary Teaching Award. Cheryl loves her role at Ara, teaching the craft of cocktail making and seeing students grow in confidence and gain transferable skills like problem solving, collaboration and creativity.

New Zealand Diploma in Hospitality Management (Level 5)



Level 5



Christchurch



Full-time: one year



February, July



\$26,572 per year



Visit ara.ac.nz for all entry requirements.



Level



Location



Duration



Starts



Fee

Human Services

Help individuals, families and communities through challenging times.

Human services is a field which offers rewarding careers for individuals who can support the emotional needs of others.

At Ara you will be taught by a dedicated team of qualified professionals with extensive experience across a broad range of social work environments. Our qualifications are highly respected in the sector and include opportunities to gain real-world experience working with people who need specialised attention.



Scan to learn more about our Human Services programmes



New Zealand Certificate in Health and Wellbeing



Level 4



Christchurch, Timaru



Full-time: one year



February, July



\$26,572 per year

Bachelor of Social Work



Level 7



Christchurch



Full-time: four years



February



\$26,572 per year



Laboratory Technology

Forge a career at the cutting edge of laboratory science.

The science industry is constantly developing and expanding, resulting in a wide range of exciting career opportunities in areas such as environmental monitoring, food technology, human health, veterinary diagnostics, product development and research.

At Ara you will learn from expert tutors with extensive industry and research experience. Our applied science qualifications are practical and designed in collaboration with employers to meet industry needs. You will acquire the knowledge and skills required for hands-on laboratory roles and graduate with the competence and confidence to be effective in the workplace from day one.



Scan to learn more about
our **Laboratory Technology**
programmes



New Zealand Diploma in Applied Science (Level 5)



Level 5



Christchurch



Full-time: one year



February, July



\$26,572 per year

New Zealand Diploma in Applied Science (Level 6)



Level 6



Christchurch



Full-time: one year



February, July



\$26,572 per year

Graduate Diploma in Laboratory Technology



Level 7



Christchurch



Full-time: one year



February, July



\$26,572 per year

Visit ara.ac.nz for all entry requirements.



Level



Location



Duration



Starts



Fee

Medical Imaging

Prepare for a technology-based career in the health sector.

If you are technically minded, empathetic and solutions focused, medical imaging could be a great career option for you. Medical imaging—also known as radiology—is a non-invasive medical procedure that uses cutting edge technology to capture internal images of the body, enabling doctors to diagnose and treat injuries and diseases.

At Ara you will learn from expert tutors in our modern Manawa campus within Christchurch’s central health precinct. You will gain extensive real-world experience through clinical placements, and when you graduate, you will be highly sought after by employers both here and overseas.



Scan to learn more about our Medical Imaging programme



Bachelor of Medical Imaging



Level 7



Christchurch



Full-time: three years



January, July



\$29,761 per year



Warwick Shillito MA Health Science

Senior Academic Staff Member – Medical Imaging & Osteopathy

Warwick is highly regarded by his students for his ability to bring complex concepts to life in engaging and fun classes. His teaching methods have been described as innovative, creative, extraordinary, and eccentric. Warwick’s humour and depth of knowledge ensure that learning anatomy is an adventure and each class is an enriching experience.



Level



Location



Duration



Starts



Fee

Midwifery

Play a key role in supporting families before, during and after the birth of a child.

Midwives provide an essential and very meaningful service to families as they welcome a new child into the world. It is a role that carries significant responsibility, but comes with many rewards too.

At Ara you will learn from expert midwifery tutors who are passionate about sharing their skills, knowledge and experience of the profession with you so you can confidently embark on your own career as a midwife.



Scan to learn more about
our Midwifery programme

Bachelor of Midwifery



Level 7



Christchurch with satellites in Nelson, Marlborough, West Coast and Mid/South Canterbury



Full-time: four years



January



\$29,761 per year



Visit ara.ac.nz for all entry requirements.



Level



Location



Duration



Starts



Fee

Music

Express and enhance your artistic talents for a rewarding career in the music industry.

The music industry is huge and demand for talented, professional musicians is strong across a diverse range of career paths. Our highly respected music programmes will equip you with the skills, knowledge and performance experience needed to become a confident, capable and creative musician who can take advantage of this demand.

When you study with us, you will learn from internationally acclaimed jazz, contemporary and classical musicians in a supportive, collaborative environment, alongside students from all over New Zealand who want to pursue a career in the global music industry. You will become part of New Zealand's vibrant, exciting music scene where home-grown talent is celebrated, and you will have extensive opportunities to build a rewarding and satisfying creative career.



Scan to learn more about our Music programmes

New Zealand Certificate in Music



Level 4



Christchurch



Full-time: one year



February



\$26,572 per year

Bachelor of Music[^]



Level 7



Christchurch



Full-time: three years



February



\$26,572 per year

[^]Specialisations available in: Music Creation (Composition), Music Performance, Music Production



Level



Location



Duration



Starts



Fee

Music Theatre

Polish your performance skills to shine on stage and excel behind the scenes.

The National Academy of Singing and Dramatic Art (NASDA) at Ara is one of the country's leading performing arts schools, offering the highest level of performance training to enable you to be a versatile, dynamic and successful performer. We will prepare you for the world stage in a practical, friendly and supportive environment, led by a faculty of leading industry professionals. You will be nurtured and encouraged, and you will gain the skills to thrive in this exciting industry. As part of your studies, you will gain extensive experience through live performance in a variety of productions, and make valuable connections with leading industry groups.



Scan to learn more about our Music Theatre programmes

New Zealand Certificate in Performing Arts



Level 4



Christchurch



Full-time: one year



February



\$26,572 per year

Bachelor of Music Theatre



Level 7



Christchurch



Full-time: three years



February



\$26,572 per year



Visit ara.ac.nz for all entry requirements.

Nursing

Become a nurse and take advantage of the enormous scope that this rewarding profession offers.

Nurses can be found in every part of our hugely diverse health sector – from GP clinics, schools, prisons and mental health facilities to all the many and varied specialist wards in our hospitals and even in humanitarian aid zones overseas. If you are empathetic by nature and want to make a difference to the lives of others, nursing is a great career choice that delivers plenty of job satisfaction.

Our nursing programmes range from diplomas and degrees to specialist postgraduate short courses for professional development. Highly regarded by employers, these programmes will equip you with the skills and experience you need to start, develop or advance your career in nursing.



Scan to learn more about our Nursing programmes

New Zealand Diploma in Enrolled Nursing



Level 5



Christchurch and regionally*



Full-time: 18 months



March



\$26,572 per year

**Satellites located in Nelson, Marlborough, West Coast and South Canterbury*

Bachelor of Nursing



Level 7



Christchurch, Timaru



Full-time: three years



January, March, August*



\$29,761 per year

**Timaru has March and August intakes only*



Sara Vermeulen

Lecturer – Nursing

As a pharmacology lecturer in the Bachelor of Nursing programme, Sara is passionate about creating dynamic, student-centered learning environments through gamification. She finds joy in watching students engage deeply, grow in confidence and build a sense of connection within the classroom. Sara says teaching international students is especially rewarding and believes that their diverse experiences enrich discussions and foster a truly collaborative learning space.



Level



Location



Duration



Starts



Fee

Osteopathy

Learn how to use your understanding of the human body to help people overcome aches, pains and injuries.

Osteopathy is a form of manual medicine focusing on the body's structure and how various parts of the body – such as joints, muscles and connective tissue – function together. Osteopaths evaluate and diagnose patients and use their hands to treat aches, pains and injuries.

Ara is the only place in New Zealand where you can study towards becoming an osteopath. In addition to theory, you'll gain substantial, hands-on experience, including at our on-campus osteopathic clinic where you'll treat patients under the guidance of qualified osteopaths.



Scan to learn more about our
Osteopathy programmes



Emma Fairs MA Osteopathy

Programme Leader - Osteopathy

Before joining Ara nine years ago, Emma worked for 27 years in private practice within a large, multidisciplinary primary healthcare practice. She has assessed osteopathy programmes for the New Zealand Qualifications Authority and been the president of two professional organisations. She was also a member of the Osteopathic Council of New Zealand for 11 years and chair of the organisation for five years. Emma loves sharing her real-world clinical experiences with students to help them bring the theory of osteopathy to life in both the classroom and the teaching clinic.



Bachelor of Musculoskeletal Health



Level 7



Christchurch



Full-time: three years



February



\$26,572 per year

Postgraduate Diploma in Osteopathy



Level 8



Christchurch*



Full-time: one year



February



\$29,229 per year

**To enrol, you must first have completed the Bachelor of Musculoskeletal Health.*

Visit ara.ac.nz for all entry requirements.



Level



Location



Duration



Starts



Fee

Sustainability & Outdoor Education

Nurture, sustain and lead the way with a rewarding, future-focused career.

Appreciation for our natural environment—and the desire to explore and protect it—has never been greater. As a professional in this sector, you can lead and guide adventure seekers, foster conservation efforts and work towards a more sustainable future for the environment and society.

Our highly practical outdoor education and sustainability programmes will prepare you for meaningful work in a variety of areas from instruction to conservation. You will connect and immerse yourself in the environment and culture and be empowered to decide your career direction. You will also be encouraged and challenged in areas such as critical thinking, problem solving, people management and creativity. As a result, you will enhance your adaptability and equip yourself to lead and help others in a rapidly changing world.



Scan to learn more about our Sustainability and Outdoor Education programmes



New Zealand Certificate in Outdoor and Adventure Education (Multi-skilled)



Level 4



Christchurch



Full-time: one year



February, July



\$26,572 per year

New Zealand Diploma in Outdoor and Adventure Education (Multi-skilled)



Level 5



Christchurch



Full-time: one year



February



\$26,572 per year

Bachelor of Sustainability and Outdoor Education



Level 7



Christchurch



Full-time: three years



February, July



\$26,572 per year

Graduate Diploma in Sustainability and Outdoor Education



Level 7



Christchurch



Full-time: 18 months



February, July



\$26,572 per year



Postgraduate Certificate in Sustainable Practice



Level 8



Christchurch, online



Full-time: six months



February



\$29,229 per year

Postgraduate Diploma in Sustainable Practice



Level 8



Christchurch, online



Full-time: one year



February, July



\$29,229 per year

Master in Sustainable Practice



Level 9



Christchurch, online



Full-time: 1.5 years
Part-time: up to four years



February, July



\$27,458 per year



The tutors build a relationship with every student.

Minal Gupta, India,
business



Lena Asimenye Mkwara

PhD Environmental Economics

Senior Lecturer & Co Programme Leader Sustainable Practice

Lena has a PhD in environmental economics and has been teaching for 24 years. She is also a researcher and consultant who has worked with the Ministry for the Environment, the Ministry for Primary Industries, the Department of Conservation and the United Nations Environment Programme. Lena is passionate about bringing real-world, diverse perspectives on sustainability into the classroom and thrives on helping students connect theory with practice.



Visit ara.ac.nz for all entry requirements.



Level



Location



Duration



Starts



Fee

Important dates 2026

International application deadlines:

Semester 1 application 14 December 2025
Semester 2 application 31 May 2026

Semester dates:

Semester 1 12 January – 10 April
Semester 2 27 April – 26 June
Semester 3 13 July – 18 September
Semester 4 5 October – 18 December

Graduation:

Timaru Graduation 21 May
Autumn Graduation 27 March
Spring Graduation 18 September

Refund policy:



Scan to view the refund policy
on our website.

Your work rights:

As an international student you may be eligible to work part-time during the academic year and full-time during scheduled vacations.

Find out more: immigration.govt.nz/

How to connect

Open Days:



Campus tours:



Partner and agent contacts:



Find an agent:



Visit our website: ara.ac.nz



How to apply

Studying overseas is a big commitment. When you decide to apply to study at Ara, you can have confidence that we will guide you through the whole process.

We will assist you to: 1 submit your application 2 prepare your visa 3 get to New Zealand



We recommend that you use a registered agent. These agents have previous experience applying for study in New Zealand and they understand Immigration New Zealand's processing requirements. For agent recommendations within your country (or region), please contact international@ara.ac.nz

Application checklist

- Completed and signed international application form
- Certified English translation and certified original of entrance qualifications and academic records
- Copy of a valid IELTS or PTE results sheet or other proof of English proficiency
- Details of any relevant work experience e.g. curriculum vitae, resume, references
- Personal statement – tell us why you want to study this programme and what your plans are after completing this programme



Scan to get more information about the application process.



Fees 2026

English Language courses

| Course | Duration | Start Date | Fees |
|--|---------------------|--|---------------------------|
| Administration fee | | | \$280 |
| Student Services Levy | | | \$9.82 per week |
| Intensive English | 4 weeks (Minimum) | Every Monday Starts 6 Jan Finishes 19 Dec | \$414 per week |
| English plus Volunteer Work | 8 weeks | Flexible | \$3,240 |
| Work placement fee | | | \$350 |
| NZCEL (New Zealand Certificate in English Language) Level 3 Applied Level 4 Academic Level 5 | Full-time: 18 weeks | Full time: 10 Feb, 21 Jul, 15 Sep (Level 4 & 5 only) | \$8,320 per semester |
| CELTA | Part-time | 7 Jul, 8 Nov | \$5,621 plus levy of \$87 |
| Customised group programmes | 4 weeks (Minimum) | Please enquire | Please enquire |

Exam fees

| | |
|----------------------------------|-------|
| IELTS exam fee | \$410 |
| Pearson Test of English exam fee | \$410 |

Other fees

| | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Student Services Levy | \$392.50 per year |
| Student carpark | \$6.00 per day |

Medical and travel insurance

International students (including group students) must have appropriate and current medical insurance while in New Zealand.

The cost of insurance for a full-time student is:

| Months | Premium | Months | Premium |
|--------|---------|--------|---------|
| 12 | \$925 | 6 | \$471 |
| 11 | \$825 | 5 | \$399 |
| 10 | \$742 | 4 | \$299 |
| 9 | \$681 | 3 | \$270 |
| 8 | \$597 | 2 | \$200 |
| 7 | \$531 | 1 | \$114 |

Living expenses

We recommend you budget **\$1667** per month for living expenses including accommodation and general living costs.

Homestay providers and fees

Provider one: **New Zealand Homestay**

Recommended to individual students aged 18 and over.

For terms and conditions, please visit:

[Student Homestay Pricing - New Zealand Homestay](#)

Provider two: **NZEAS**

Recommended to individual students aged under 18 and group students.

For terms and conditions, please visit:

ara.ac.nz/explore/accommodation/homestays/

| Fees | Providers: | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|--|
| | New Zealand Homestay | NZEAS |
| Placement/matching fee | \$300 (over 18 years) | \$280 incl GST |
| Airport transfer | \$120 | \$80 incl GST (individual) \$50 incl GST (group - 3 or more, each) |
| Student request to change homestay | Not applicable | \$180 incl GST |
| Under 18 code of practice monitoring | Not applicable | \$200 incl GST |

| New Zealand Homestay packages (price per week) | | | |
|--|--|---------|---------------|
| Room type | Meals | Over 18 | Under 18 |
| Private room | Complete homestay - 3 meals, 7 days per week | \$370 | \$400 |
| Private room | Traditional homestay - 2 meals Mon to Fri, 3 meals Sat & Sun | \$340 | \$370 |
| Private room | Dinner only | \$310 | Not available |

| NZEAS packages / prices | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| Students | Long term weekly - no lunch | Long term weekly - incl lunch | Short term daily (less than 28 days) - no lunch/incl lunch |
| Single student | \$350 | \$380 | \$55 / \$60 |

Transportation

metroinfo.co.nz

metroinfo.co.nz/nextbus

timaru.metroinfo.co.nz

Note: Fees are correct at the time of publication and are subject to change without notice.

Programme listings

| | | | | | | | IELTS Entry Requirement | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|--------------------------|-------|-----------|-----------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------|---------|---------|----------|
| Qual | Programme | Also available in Timaru | Level | Duration | Commences | Indicative Tuition Fees NZ\$ per year | Overall | Listening | Reading | Writing | Speaking |
| ENGLISH FOR FURTHER STUDY (NZCEL) | | | | | | | | | | | |
| C | NZ Certificate in English Language (General) | T | 3 | 18 weeks | Feb/Jul | \$8,503 | IELTS 4.5 | 4.0 | 4.0 | 4.0 | 4.0 |
| C | NZ Certificate in English Language (Applied) | T | 3 | 18 weeks | Feb/Jul | \$8,503 | IELTS 5.0 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 4.5 |
| C | NZ Certificate in English Language | T | 4 | 18 weeks | Feb/Jul/Sep | \$8,503 | IELTS 5.5 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 |
| C | NZ Certificate in English Language | | 5 | 18 weeks | Feb/Jul/Sep | \$8,503 | IELTS 6.0 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 |
| FOUNDATION | | | | | | | | | | | |
| C | Study and Employment Pathways | T | 3 | 6 months | Feb/Jul | \$13,286 | IELTS 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 |
| C | Study and Employment Pathways | T | 4 | 6 months | Feb/Jul | \$13,286 | IELTS 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.0 | 5.5 | 5.0 |
| ARCHITECTURAL STUDIES | | | | | | | | | | | |
| G | Construction Management | | 7 | 1 year | Feb/Jul | \$26,572 | IELTS 6.0 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 |
| G | Quantity Surveying | | 7 | 1 year | Feb/Jul | \$26,572 | IELTS 6.0 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 |
| G | Building Information Modelling (BIM) | | 7 | 1 year | Feb | \$26,572 | IELTS 6.0 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 |
| B | Architectural Studies | | 7 | 3 years | Feb | \$26,572 | IELTS 6.0 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 |
| B | Construction (with specialisations in Construction Management and Quantity Surveying) | | 7 | 3 years | Feb/Jul | \$26,572 | IELTS 6.0 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 |
| D | Architectural Technology | | 6 | 2 years | Feb | \$23,672 | IELTS 6.0 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 |
| D | Construction (with specialisations in Construction Management and Quantity Surveying) | | 6 | 2 years | Feb/Jul | \$23,672 | IELTS 6.0 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 |
| CREATIVE | | | | | | | | | | | |
| M | Master of Creative Practice | | 9 | 1.5 years | Feb | \$27,458* | IELTS 6.5 | 6.0 | 6.0 | 6.0 | 6.0 |
| P | Postgraduate Diploma in Creative Practice | | 8 | 1 year | Feb | \$29,229* | IELTS 6.5 | 6.0 | 6.0 | 6.0 | 6.0 |
| B | Design (with specialisations in Applied Visual Art, Fashion, Motion Design, and Visual Communication) | | 7 | 3 years | Feb | \$26,572 | IELTS 6.0 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 |
| D | Digital Media and Design | T (only) | 5 | 1 year | Feb | \$26,572 | IELTS 5.5 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 |
| C | Creativity | T | 4 | 6 months | Feb/Jul | \$13,286 | IELTS 5.5 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 |
| C | Digital Media and Design | T | 4 | 6 months | Jul | \$13,286 | IELTS 5.5 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 |
| C | Fashion | | 4 | 6 months | Feb/Jul | \$13,286 | IELTS 5.5 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 |
| BUSINESS | | | | | | | | | | | |
| M | Applied Management (180 credit) | | 9 | 1.5 years | Feb/Apr/Jul/Oct | \$27,458 | IELTS 6.5 | 6.0 | 6.0 | 6.0 | 6.0 |
| M | Applied Management (240 credit) | | 9 | 2 years | Feb/Apr/Jul/Oct | \$27,635 | IELTS 6.5 | 6.0 | 6.0 | 6.0 | 6.0 |
| P | Applied Management | | 8 | 1 year | Feb/Apr/Jul/Oct | \$29,229 | IELTS 6.5 | 6.0 | 6.0 | 6.0 | 6.0 |
| P | Applied Management | | 8 | 6 months | Feb/Apr/Jul/Oct | \$14,614 | IELTS 6.5 | 6.0 | 6.0 | 6.0 | 6.0 |
| G | Applied Management | | 7 | 1 year | Feb/Jul | \$26,572 | IELTS 6.0 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 |
| G | Business Information Systems | | 7 | 1 year | Feb/Jul | \$26,572 | IELTS 6.0 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 |
| G | Business Transformation & Change | | 7 | 1 year | Feb/Jul | \$26,572 | IELTS 6.0 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 |
| G | Event Management | | 7 | 1 year | Feb/Jul | \$26,572 | IELTS 6.0 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 |
| G | Human Resource Management | | 7 | 1 year | Feb/Jul | \$26,572 | IELTS 6.0 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 |
| G | Innovation and Entrepreneurship | | 7 | 1 year | Feb/Jul | \$26,572 | IELTS 6.0 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 |
| G | Marketing and Sales | | 7 | 1 year | Feb/Jul | \$26,572 | IELTS 6.0 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 |
| G | Operations & Production Management | | 7 | 1 year | Feb/Jul | \$26,572 | IELTS 6.0 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 |
| G | Project Management | | 7 | 1 year | Feb/Jul | \$26,572 | IELTS 6.0 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 |
| G | Strategic Management | | 7 | 1 year | Jul | \$26,572 | IELTS 6.0 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 |
| G | Supply Chain Logistics | | 7 | 1 year | Feb | \$26,572 | IELTS 6.0 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 |
| B | Accounting | | 7 | 3 years | Feb/Jul | \$26,572 | IELTS 6.0 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 |
| B | Applied Management (with specialisations) | | 7 | 3 years | Feb/Jul | \$26,572 | IELTS 6.0 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 |
| D | Business (with specialisations) | | 5 | 1 year | Feb/Jul | \$26,572 | IELTS 5.5 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 |
| C | Business (Administration & Technology) | | 4 | 6 months | Jul | \$13,286 | IELTS 5.5 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 |
| C | Business (Administration & Technology) | | 3 | 6 months | Feb/Jul | \$13,286 | IELTS 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 |
| COMMUNICATIONS & MEDIA | | | | | | | | | | | |
| B | Broadcasting Communications | | 7 | 3 years | Feb | \$26,572 | IELTS 6.0 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 |
| COMPUTING & ICT | | | | | | | | | | | |
| G | Information & Communication Technologies | | 7 | 1 year | Feb/Jul | \$26,572 | IELTS 6.0 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 |
| B | Information & Communication Technologies | | 7 | 3 years | Feb/Jul | \$26,572 | IELTS 6.0 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 |
| D | Cybersecurity | | 6 | 1 year | Feb/Jul | \$26,572 | IELTS 6.0 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 |
| D | Web Development and Design | | 5 | 1 year | Feb/Jul | \$26,572 | IELTS 5.5 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 |
| D | Information Technology Technical Support | | 5 | 1 year | Feb/Jul | \$26,572 | IELTS 5.5 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 |
| C | Information Technology Essentials* | | 4 | 6 months | Feb/Jul | \$13,286 | IELTS 5.5 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 |

| | | | | | | | IELTS Entry Requirement | | | | |
|----------------------------------|--|--------------------------|-------|-----------|-------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------|---------|---------|----------|
| Qual | Programme | Also available in Timaru | Level | Duration | Commences | Indicative Tuition Fees NZ\$ per year | Overall | Listening | Reading | Writing | Speaking |
| ENGINEERING | | | | | | | | | | | |
| B | Engineering Technology (Electrical) | | 7 | 3 years | Feb | \$29,761 | IELTS 6.0 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 6.0 | 6.0 |
| B | Engineering Technology (Civil) | | 7 | 3 years | Feb/Jul | \$29,761 | IELTS 6.0 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 6.0 | 6.0 |
| B | Engineering Technology (Mechanical) | | 7 | 3 years | Feb/Jul | \$29,761 | IELTS 6.0 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 6.0 | 6.0 |
| D | Engineering (Electrical) | | 6 | 2 years | Feb | \$28,116* | IELTS 6.0 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 |
| D | Engineering (Civil) | | 6 | 2 years | Feb/Jul | \$28,116* | IELTS 6.0 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 |
| D | Engineering (Mechanical) | | 6 | 2 years | Feb/Jul | \$28,116* | IELTS 6.0 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 |
| D | Engineering (Electronic) | | 6 | 2 years | Feb | \$28,116* | IELTS 6.0 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 |
| HOSPITALITY & SERVICE INDUSTRIES | | | | | | | | | | | |
| D | Hospitality Management | | 5 & 6 | 2 years | Feb/Jul | \$26,572 | IELTS 5.5 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 |
| D | Cookery (Advanced) - Cookery Strand | T | 4 & 5 | 2 years | Feb/Jul | \$26,572 | IELTS 5.5 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 |
| D | Cookery (Advanced) - Patisserie Strand | T | 4 & 5 | 2 years | Feb | \$26,572 | IELTS 5.5 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 |
| C | Baking (Generalist) (Career Baker) | T | 4 | 1 year | Feb | \$26,572 | IELTS 5.5 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 |
| C | Food & Beverage Service | | 3 & 4 | 1 year | Feb | \$26,572 | IELTS 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 |
| HAIR & BEAUTY | | | | | | | | | | | |
| D | Beauty Therapy | | 5 | 1 year | Feb | \$26,572 | IELTS 5.5 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 |
| C | Beauty Therapy | T | 4 | 1 year | Feb | \$26,572 | IELTS 5.5 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 |
| HEALTH | | | | | | | | | | | |
| P | Osteopathy | | 8 | 1 year | Feb | \$29,229* | IELTS 6.5 | 6.0 | 6.0 | 6.0 | 6.0 |
| B | Medical Imaging | | 7 | 3 years | Feb | \$29,761 | IELTS 6.5 | 6.5 | 6.5 | 6.5 | 6.5 |
| B | Midwifery | | 7 | 4 years | Jan | \$29,761 | IELTS 7.0 | 7.0 | 6.5 | 6.5 | 7.0 |
| B | Musculoskeletal Health | | 7 | 3 years | Feb | \$26,572 | IELTS 6.0 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 |
| B | Nursing | T | 7 | 3 years | Jan/Mar/Jul | \$29,761 | IELTS 6.5 | 6.5 | 6.5 | 6.5 | 6.5 |
| B | Social Work | | 7 | 4 years | Feb | \$26,572 | IELTS 6.5 | 6.5 | 6.5 | 6.5 | 6.5 |
| D | Enrolled Nursing | | 5 | 1.5 years | Mar | \$26,572 | IELTS 6.5 | 6.5 | 6.5 | 6.5 | 6.5 |
| C | Health and Wellbeing (Social and Community Services) | | 4 | 1 year | Feb/Jul | \$26,572 | IELTS 5.5 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 |
| C | Exercise | | 4 | 6 months | Feb/Jul | \$13,286 | IELTS 5.5 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 |
| LANGUAGES AND EDUCATION | | | | | | | | | | | |
| C | English Language Teaching to Speakers of Other Languages (CELTA) | | 5 | 1 month | May | \$5,588 | IELTS 7.0 | 7.0 | 7.0 | 7.0 | 7.0 |
| C | Early Childhood Education | T | 5 | 1 year | Feb | \$26,572 | IELTS 5.5 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 |
| C | Early Childhood Education | T | 4 | 6 months | Jul | \$13,286 | IELTS 5.5 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 |
| C | Early Childhood Education | T | 3 | 6 months | Feb | \$13,286 | IELTS 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 |
| OUTDOOR EDUCATION | | | | | | | | | | | |
| M | Sustainable Practice | | 9 | 1.5 years | Feb/Jul | \$27,458* | IELTS 6.5 | 6.0 | 6.0 | 6.0 | 6.0 |
| P | Sustainable Practice | | 8 | 1 year | Feb/Jul | \$29,229* | IELTS 6.5 | 6.0 | 6.0 | 6.0 | 6.0 |
| G | Sustainability and Outdoor Education | | 7 | 1 year | Feb/Jul | \$26,572 | IELTS 6.0 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 |
| B | Sustainability and Outdoor Education | | 7 | 3 years | Feb/Jul | \$26,572 | IELTS 6.0 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 |
| D | Outdoor and Adventure Education (Multiskilled) | | 5 | 1 year | Feb/Jul | \$26,572 | IELTS 5.5 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 |
| C | Outdoor and Adventure Education (Multiskilled) | | 4 | 1 year | Feb/Jul | \$26,572 | IELTS 5.5 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 |
| PERFORMANCE | | | | | | | | | | | |
| B | Music | | 7 | 3 years | Feb | \$26,572 | IELTS 6.0 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 |
| B | Music Theatre | | 7 | 3 years | Feb | \$26,572 | IELTS 6.0 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 |
| C | Music | | 4 | 1 year | Feb | \$26,572 | IELTS 5.5 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 |
| C | Performing Arts | | 4 | 1 year | Feb | \$26,572 | IELTS 5.5 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 |
| SCIENCE | | | | | | | | | | | |
| G | Laboratory Technology | | 7 | 1 year | Feb/Jul | \$26,572 | IELTS 6.0 | 6.5 | 6.0 | 6.0 | 6.5 |
| B | Applied Science (with specialisations in Human Nutrition, Health Promotion and Sport & Exercise Science) | | 7 | 3 years | Feb/Jul | \$26,572 | IELTS 6.0 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 |
| D | Applied Science | | 6 | 1 year | Feb/Jul | \$26,572 | IELTS 6.0 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 |
| D | Applied Science | | 5 | 1 year | Feb/Jul | \$26,572 | IELTS 5.5 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 |
| D | Veterinary Nursing | | 6 | 2 years | Feb | \$26,572 | IELTS 6.0 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 |
| C | Animal Management with Companion Animal strand | | 4 | 1 year | Feb | \$26,572 | IELTS 5.5 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 |

Legend: C Certificate D Diploma B Bachelor G Graduate P Post Graduate M Master's

*Study grant has been applied **Entry requirements and fees are subject to change.

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