



Ngā Kōrero e pā ana ki te Tūranga

Job Description Psychology Intern

Business Group	Te Mahau Education Services
Location	Regionally based
Salary band	Field Staff

Mahi i roto i te Ratonga Tūmatanui | Working in the Public Service

Ka mahitahi mātou o te ratonga tūmatanui kia hei painga mō ngā tāngata o Aotearoa i āiane, ā, hei ngā rā ki tua hoki. He kawenga tino whaitake tā mātou hei tautoko a te Karauna i runga i āna hononga ki a ngāi Māori i raro i te Tiriti o Waitangi. Ka tautoko mātou i te kāwanatanga manapori. Ka whakakotahingia mātou e te wairua whakarato ki ō mātou hapori, ā, e arahina ana mātou e ngā mātāpono me ngā tikanga matua o te ratonga tūmatanui i roto i ā mātou mahi.

In the public service we work collectively to make a meaningful difference for Aotearoa New Zealanders now and in the future. We have an important role in supporting the Crown in its relationships with Māori under the Treaty of Waitangi. We support democratic government. We are unified by a spirit of service to our communities and guided by the core principles and values of the public service in our work.

Mō ētahi atu kōrero hei whakamārama i tēnei kaupapa, haere ki | You can find out more about what this means at [Role and purpose - Te Kawa Mataaho Public Service Commission](#).

To Mātou Aronga | What we do for Aotearoa New Zealand

At Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga | Ministry of Education, delivering our purpose makes a real difference to all ākonga of Aotearoa:

He mea tārai e mātou te mātauranga kia rangatira ai, kia mana taurite ai ōna huanga
We shape an education system that delivers excellent and equitable outcomes

We fulfil our purpose by:

- delivering services and support nationally, regionally and locally to and through the education sector and in some cases directly to ākonga and whānau
- shaping the policies, settings and performance of the education system so that it is well placed to deliver equitable outcomes for ākonga and their whānau, from early learning through tertiary.

Tēnei Tūranga | About the role

As the largest employer of educational psychologists in Aotearoa New Zealand, the Ministry of Education invests in the development of this specialist workforce by providing placement and supervision opportunities for interns.

The Psychology Intern will work under the close supervision of a registered psychologist. As a Psychology Intern, you will facilitate effective professional relationships with ākonga, whānau, key community and sector group and other social service agencies to contribute to effective service provision. You will provide support to learners, whānau, other specialist staff, educators, school management and community groups to develop and nurture inclusive learning environments.

As a Psychology Intern, you will make a valuable contribution to the Learning Support practice community by bringing fresh theoretical and research knowledge, as well as experience in related practice fields.



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Ngā Haepapa | Accountabilities

As an intern practitioner within Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga | the Ministry of Education under supervision you will be able to:

- Share specialist knowledge relevant to the programme you are undertaking across the organisation and with stakeholders, working with others to inform operational level decision making
- Contribute to an effective team with a positive approach to the work environment that encourages and supports high performance, collaboration and problem solving
- Provide support in resolving issues, identifying risks and solutions to protect and enhance the integrity and reputation of the Ministry
- Provide support to the development and implementation of innovative and fit-for purpose solutions and frameworks for current and future challenges
- Provide support in developing and using data and insights to make evidence-based decisions and recommendations on situations relevant to your internship

As a Psychology Intern, under supervision you will:

- Participate in weekly professional supervision that is aligned with work practice and university requirements
- Provide services and supports across a range of educational settings including Māori medium and kaupapa Māori settings
- Provide services and supports that are culturally affirming, culturally responsive and protect the principles and provisions in the articles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi
- Work effectively with Pacific peoples and with a range of cultures in a culturally affirming and responsive manner
- Apply a strengths-based approach
- Assess, analyse, hypothesise, collaboratively plan, support and monitor the implementation of individual (or group) intervention plans for students with additional learning needs
- Identify patterns or contributing factors that may be influencing learning, wellbeing and inclusion
- Enhance inclusive practices in early learning services, schools and other educational settings
- Collaboratively and actively support progress with learner goals
- Provide professional support and guidance to schools, teacher and parents/caregivers/whānau and in collaboration, support the development and implementation of a range of supports under Te Tūāpapa o He Pīkorua
- Focus on how supports can enable systemic changes in educational settings
- Strengthen the capability of those who are best placed to support the learning of children and young people

You will make decisions in accordance with the Ministry's policies and delegations' framework.

Ngā Tohu Mātauranga Waiwai | Essential Qualifications

- Master's level tertiary qualification in Educational Psychology or equivalent and be accepted in one of the approved training programmes.



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Wheako | Experience

To be successful in this role you will have the following experience:

- Experience in building relationships and partnerships to achieve shared outcomes
- Specialist knowledge of psychological theory, research and practice, including Mātauranga Māori related to:
 - Human development, learning, and wellbeing
 - A range of assessment and intervention frameworks with particular focus on inclusive and ecological approaches
 - New Zealand education and pedagogy
 - Disabilities and their implications for learning, behaviour and family/whānau
 - Understanding of the New Zealand Curriculum, Te Mātauranga o Aotearoa, Te Whāriki and Te Whāriki a Te Kōhanga Reo, and the principles, values and learning frameworks that underpin effective teaching, learning and participation across early learning and schooling settings
 - Understanding and application of the Core Competencies for the Practice of Psychology in Aotearoa New Zealand

Ngā Āheinga | Capabilities

- Critical thinking in navigating the tensions between different psychological and educational theories
- Ability to learn from constructive feedback and work well under pressure
- Patience and the ability to remain calm in stressful situations
- Demonstrated strong interpersonal skills, particularly relating to the establishment of effective relationships with whānau
- A commitment to ongoing personal and professional development.
- Work effectively in a multi-agency context
- Ability to translate specialist knowledge into practical information that will assist in the development, provision and support of individual programmes in order to overcome barriers to learning
- Ability to work effectively and responsively with children and young people, their whānau and the people who support them across diverse cultural, linguistic, educational and community settings, particularly Māori and Pacific peoples.

Tātai Pou | Our Cultural Competency

Tātai Pou is our Māori Cultural competency framework. It has been aligned and is complementary to the Māori Crown Relations Capability Framework (MCR). Tātai Pou is designed to support our people and organisation to give effect to the articles of te Tiriti o Waitangi in our work. The work-based capabilities have four focus areas and describe four levels of competency (high, confident, developing and essential) that enable us to deliver our partnership approach so that Māori enjoy and achieve educational success as Māori.

Pou Hono Valuing Māori	Developing
Pou Mana Knowledge of Māori content	Developing



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Pou Kipa Achieving equitable education outcomes for Māori	Developing
Pou Aroā Critical consciousness of racial equity for Māori	Developing

Leadership Success Profile - Te Kawa Mataaho | Public Service Commission

Leadership matters. Strong leadership at every level in the Public Service will transform the experiences of New Zealanders. The Leadership Success Profile establishes “what good looks like” for leadership at all levels. Information about how the Leadership Success Profile applies to this role is available on the Ministry’s intranet.

Ngā Whakaaetanga | Approvals

Date Reviewed and Approved	September 2026
Approved By	HR Advisory Team