

16 December 2016

Dear Colleague

### **Voluntary Bonding Scheme 2017 – Registered Nurses**

The Ministry of Health will open the 2017 online Registration of Interest process for the Voluntary Bonding Scheme (the Scheme) early in 2017. If you are a registered nurse whose final year of undergraduate study was 2016, you may be eligible to register.

You can register for the Scheme if you are working in, or intending to work in a hard-to-staff specialty or hard-to-staff community as listed in the 2017 Voluntary Bonding Scheme Terms and Conditions.

#### **2017 Intake Hard-to-staff Communities**

- South Canterbury DHB
- Wairoa District
- West Coast DHB

#### **2017 Intake Hard-to-staff Specialties**

- Aged Care (aged residential care and older persons health services)
- Mental Health (hospital & community, including addiction services)
- Community Care (including practice nurses, public health nurses, well child/tamariki ora nurses, district nurses and Māori and Pacific provider nurses)

Bond payments of \$2,833 (after tax) per annum are available for a five-year period, with payments for the first three years made after the completion of a minimum of three years' service, and additional payments after a fourth and fifth year. These payments will be made against your student loan or directly to you if you do not have a student loan.

More detailed information on the Scheme, including the 2017 Terms and Conditions, will be available shortly on our website. You can also contact us at [vbs@moh.govt.nz](mailto:vbs@moh.govt.nz) for more information.

<http://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/health-workforce/voluntary-bonding-scheme>

Please note that 2017 is the only year 2016 graduates will be eligible to register for the Scheme, and registrations must be received within the 6 week Registration of Interest period.

Yours sincerely

Dr Paul Watson  
**Acting Manager, Strategy and Relationships**  
**Health Workforce New Zealand**