

New Zealand Certificate in Horticulture (General) (Level 3)

Location

Online

Duration

One semester full-time; one year part-time

Credits

60

DescLevel

60

Intakes

February and July 2022

[APPLY NOW](#)

[Download PDF →](#)

Take your green fingers online!

Whether you enjoy gardening, want to grow food for the family or are already working in the horticulture industry and need to understand the horticultural science which underpins the growing of horticultural crops, this fully-supported online programme is perfect for you.

It provides a great pathway into further study and careers in the horticulture industry such as orchards, vineyards, plant nurseries and garden centres.

Graduates of this programme will receive the New Zealand Certificate in Horticulture (General) (Level 3).

Entry requirements

- Open entry.
- This programme is not available to international students.
- If English is not your first language, you must provide:
 - New Zealand University Entrance OR
 - Overall Academic IELTS score of 5.0 with no individual band score lower than 5.0 (achieved in one test completed in the last two years), OR
 - Acceptable alternative evidence of the required IELTS ([see here for NZQA proficiency table](#) and [here for list of recognised proficiency tests](#)).

If you need to improve your English Language skills, we offer a [wide range of English programmes](#).

You will study

Courses	Credits
Plant Soil and Science Understand and apply knowledge of plant and soil structure and processes in horticulture <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe plant structure and processes and apply these to the growing of plants • Describe soil properties and processes and apply these to the growing of plants 	15
Plant Identification and Selection Identify, describe, select and name plants in horticulture <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and describe plants and their characteristics and uses • Identify and apply plant naming conventions • Select plants for use in specific horticulture contexts 	15
Plant Health Identify and control a range of common pests, diseases, disorders and weeds in horticulture <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and describe common pests, diseases, disorders and weeds in horticulture • Describe and apply solutions to plant health problems in horticulture 	15
Sustainable Growing Understand and apply the principles and practices of sustainable growing systems <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe the features of natural systems • Apply sustainable techniques to the growing of plants 	15

Your workload

You should expect to spend a minimum of 35 hours a week on this programme for full-time study and approximately 17.5 hours a week for the part-time option (Part-time enrolment only available for February intake)

Further study options

Our [New Zealand Certificate in Horticulture \(Level 3\) \(Nursery Production\)](#) or [New Zealand Certificate in Horticulture Production \(Level 4\) \(Fruit Production\)](#) are perfect next study steps.

Paying for your study

TTAF

The Government's Targeted Training and Apprenticeship Fund (TTAF) is currently running but will end in December 2022. That means only your 2022 study will be covered. Part-time learners whose study will overlap into 2023 may be able to get some financial help for their remaining study through the Fees Free scheme if they're eligible (see info below).

Whilst this programme is free for all learners to study during 2022, the TTAF fund only covers tuition fees and compulsory costs such as student levies. It does not cover any additional costs or living costs.

Full-time learners

You can pay for additional and living costs by yourself if that is possible or by applying for a loan or allowance through Studylink (which is only available for domestic learners).

It is important to apply for your student loan/allowance at the same time as you apply for this programme, due to the length of time Studylink take to process. Loan/allowance applications can be cancelled at any time if you decide to withdraw your programme application or if it is unsuccessful.

For information about student loans and allowances please visit the [Studylink website](#).

Part-time learners

You can pay for additional and living costs yourself if this is possible.

As a part-time learner, you're generally not eligible for student loans and allowances through Studylink but some help may be possible depending on your circumstances (for domestic students). Check the [Studylink website](#) for more information.

Fees Free

The Government is also running a funding scheme called Fees Free for domestic learners. This scheme normally pays for your first year of study if you've never been enrolled in tertiary study over 60 credits at Level 3 or higher in New Zealand. They have confirmed that TTAF does not impact on a learner's entitlement to also access the Fees Free scheme.

So, you'll be covered by TTAF for your 2022 study and, if you would have originally been eligible for Fees Free, you'll be able to access that to cover some of your remaining study if it progresses into 2023.

[You can check your Fees Free eligibility here >](#)

Fees Free only covers your tuition fees. You would still need to pay for things like accommodation, living costs and placement transport costs. And the same full-time learner/part-time learner information would apply to Studylink financial support as was mentioned above.

If you have any questions about student loans and allowances, please email our Studylink Advisor: Amanda.McAra@op.ac.nz

Intakes:

Course	Description	Dates
--------	-------------	-------

25-DIS-S2 Distance		28th July 2025 - Full Time
--------------------	--	----------------------------

International **+64 3 477 3014**
New Zealand **0800 762 786**
Email **info@op.ac.nz**

Dunedin Campus
Forth Street, Dunedin
Private Bag 1910
New Zealand 9054

Central Otago Campus
Corner Erris & Ray Streets
PO Box 16, Cromwell
New Zealand 9342

Auckland Campus
Level 2, 350 Queen Street
PO Box 5268, Auckland
New Zealand 1141