

Toloa Programme

#pacificstars

Significant opportunities exist for Pacific young people to participate in New Zealand's future growth areas of Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths.



Background

New Zealand needs a high-performing, responsive science sector, and skilled people with creative and problem solving abilities to develop an innovation focused economy.

Many Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) occupations have high projections for future growth in New Zealand. These include information technology professionals, engineers, technicians, natural and physical science professionals. Pacific people are under-represented in these careers.

Toloa Programme Overview

The Ministry for Pacific Peoples (MPP) is working with Pacific young people in schools and Pacific communities to participate in the Toloa programme.

There are three key strands:

1. Toloa Tertiary Scholarships
2. Toloa Kenese Club
3. Toloa Contestable Community Fund

1. Toloa Tertiary Scholarships

MPP is pleased to offer eight Toloa Scholarships for Pacific students to pursue tertiary studies in STEM each year.

Valued at \$25,000 each, the prestigious scholarships are paid over a three-year period to successful first year undergraduate or postgraduates. Students receive mentoring during their studies.

In 2017, 52 applications were received and 8 scholarships were awarded. This is an increase from 4 scholarships awarded in 2016.

2. Toloa Kenese Club

MPP works closely with secondary and intermediate schools to identify interest and participation in the Toloa Kenese Club programme. Evaluations are undertaken before and after the sessions to measure the success and pitch of the programme.

The Toloa Kenese Club encourages young Pacific people from Year 7 to Year 11 to take part in interactive hands-on STEM workshop labs.

Activities can include construction, animation, programming, film technology, science, electronics, animation, coding, augmented reality and 3D printing. Sessions are aligned to the New Zealand curriculum.

Pacific Champions

Pacific STEM champions work in the STEM section and are invited to give talks to workshop students about their experiences. This session always scores high in the feedback from the students as they can talk openly about the best subjects to take and pathway to success.

Parents' Network

Parent and community participation is critical to the success of Toloa Kenese Club. Parent networks affiliated to schools are invited to attend an Open Day to experience the STEM programme.

3. Toloa Contestable Community Fund

Designed to create greater awareness of STEM pathways for Pacific communities, the Toloa Contestable Community Fund improves engagement and strengthens understanding of STEM study options and career pathways.

The Fund encourages Pacific groups and organisations to work together to run STEM related activities for Pacific people in their communities. This could be Career Days, Expo Days, Early Childhood Education activities, promotion and awareness etc.

\$1.2 million
Allocated for
2016-2020

**2016
& 2017**
12 scholarships

Tertiary-fee scholarships awarded

\$25,000

Each scholarship over 3 years

\$10,000

Toloa Kenese Club
School Workshops

\$40,000

Toloa Community Fund

How to apply and where to find more information

For more information on the Toloa Programme go to our website or click on this link;
<http://www.mpp.govt.nz/young-people/toloa/scholarships/>

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