

The Way Forward

Launching
Ako Aotearoa
into a bright future

We assist tertiary educators and organisations to enable the best possible educational outcomes for all learners.

Our Role

Ako Aotearoa's role is to offer evidence-based support to tertiary education organisations and to work with them to explore and evaluate new approaches designed to improve tertiary teaching and learning.

We work across the tertiary sector, involving adult and community education, institutes of technology and polytechnics, universities, wānanga and workplace learning.

Ultimately, for each learner in Aotearoa New Zealand's tertiary education system, the quality of the education experience and outcomes depends on those who provide the education and coordinate that provision. We look to add value to organisations where initiatives to support effective teaching and learning outcomes are already underway and work to build capability for similar programmes where they may not yet be available.

Where this is achieved, we seek to share and celebrate excellent practice as widely as possible.



Our Values



Pūmautanga

We are a trusted and credible advocate for tertiary teaching and learning excellence and the best possible educational outcomes for all learners. With our expertise and experience, we lead from the front and alongside to grow and share knowledge, inspire tertiary educators and strengthen sector capability.



Māramatanga

We are insightful, with a sound understanding of the tertiary sector and an independent voice. We foster innovation to help transform Aotearoa New Zealand's tertiary sector in a rapidly changing world.



Whakamanatanga

We seek to empower. We are guided by Te Tiriti o Waitangi and our Te Tāuakī Ako framework in our journey to become a bicultural organisation.



Awhitanga

We are inclusive. We value and enable diversity, equity and success for all learners, particularly Māori and Pasifika, and the people who support them across our dynamic tertiary sector.



Whanaungatanga

We value our relationships. We work with others through positive, productive partnerships by sharing knowledge and expertise to contribute towards shared goals. We collaborate with educators, learners, communities and industry leaders to generate innovative and sustainable solutions to achieve success for all learners.

Our Story

Ako Aotearoa has a rich history of supporting the tertiary sector to raise professional standards, build educational capability and to celebrate success.

Over the past 10 years we have established effective links with other national and international agencies in this field and have hosted and promoted numerous conferences and forums on teaching and learning. In addition we have maintained the responsibility for the Tertiary Teaching Excellence Awards and the establishment of an 'academy' of awardees to foster expertise and innovation across the sector.

We have invested \$10 million in research projects over the past 10 years to initiate and support research and development work in teaching and learning. We invest in understanding the impact of projects on teaching and learning, and learner outcomes, so we require evaluation of all funded/co-funded projects through our Impact Evaluation Framework.



As we look back on the past, we can take pride in our work and the contribution we have made to enhance the quality of tertiary education for the benefit of all learners.



Ako Aotearoa was established in **2007**



6,956 educators participated in PD workshops over the past 10 years



We've invested **\$10 million** in research projects over the past 10 years

3857 tertiary resources in our Knowledge Centre



Our Future

As we consider the future of the sector, we reflect on areas for improvement and enhancement, and also take into account the nature of learning and teaching in a rapidly changing world.

Looking to the future we will continue to build educational capability in support of the following key focus areas:

Professional learning and development (PLD) services with tangible outcomes that are aligned with professional standards frameworks for recognition, accreditation and qualification of tertiary teaching.

Facilitating and supporting networks of professional learning, through blended and online learning modes and innovative ways to enhance communities of practice.

Raising success for Māori and Pacific students through building on the success of past projects and the provision of funding to achieve parity with other groups.



Our Logo

The Ako Aotearoa logo is constructed from unique letterforms where the double pathways symbolise the reciprocal relationship between learning and teaching, as in the meaning of the Māori word 'ako'.



Ako Blue



Ako Pink



Ako Gold

Our Identity

The Ako Aotearoa visual identity is vibrant, welcoming, inclusive, engaging and aspirational. It is comprised of bright colours, patterns, clear messaging and imagery that combine to bring our communications to life.

Our imagery is people centric – reflecting a broad range of tertiary educators, practitioners and leaders. Hero images of people are used to engage with key audiences directly and persuasively.

Our double pathway device flows through our communications – visually representing collaboration and the reciprocal journey of teaching and learning.



Get in Touch

We aim to provide the best support and advocacy to the wider tertiary sector.

Please don't hesitate to get in touch if you would like further information about Ako Aotearoa and how we can assist you with your next project or initiative. We'd love to hear from you.

Our website provides a single point of contact for teachers, researchers and policy makers on the subject of tertiary teaching and learning. Please visit and check back regularly for updates.

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Nā āheitanga ā-mātauranga,
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Building educational capability
for learner success

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