



## Office of Hon Steven Joyce

Minister for Economic Development  
Minister of Science and Innovation  
Minister for Tertiary Education, Skills and Employment  
Associate Minister of Finance

15 FEB 2013

Julie Fairey  
fyi-request-732-80bb4826@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Julie

Thank you for your email of 25 January 2013 with your following request for information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

*"Any advice on the gender impacts of two recent tertiary education policy changes:*

- 1. Cuts to student allowance access for post-graduate students*
- 2. Increased government support for the Modern Apprenticeship Scheme."*

*"I am also seeking [3.] a gender breakdown of post-graduate students over the last five years, and [4.] a gender break-down of apprentices and industry trainees over the last five years."*

The information you have requested is set out below:

### 1. Gender impacts of student allowances eligibility cuts

As you are aware eligibility for student allowances was removed for post-graduate study (excluding bachelor degrees with honours) from 1 January 2013. However, transitional arrangements are in place for students with dependants.

This policy change is expected to remove student allowances eligibility for 5% of all allowances recipients (5,140 students in 2013). I can advise you that we expect very little difference in the impact of this policy by gender; 50.1% of those who lose eligibility are expected to be female, with 49.9% male.

### 2. Gender impacts of new apprenticeship changes

It is anticipated that the apprenticeship changes I have recently announced will allow industry training organisations to invest in the quality of education for apprentices, lower fees for employers and encourage growth in the uptake of apprenticeships. These new apprenticeships will provide the same level of support, and the same level of subsidy, for all apprentices, regardless of their age or gender.

The expected gender impact of the increased support for apprentices, based on 2011 figures which are the latest figures we have available, is as follows:

Gender	Numbers	Percentage of all apprentices affected
Female	44,852	33.00
Male	89,376	65.74
Unknown*	1,714	1.26
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>135,942</b>	<b>100.00</b>

\*Gender not recorded at time of enrolment

The Government places no gender restrictions on access to, or funding for, apprenticeships. However, as the table indicates, we expect that more males will decide to train under the new apprenticeship scheme than females. I would like to see more women considering apprenticeships as a credible tertiary education option for them and for employers to actively recruit strong women candidates. The changes we have made to increase the uptake of apprentices will assist this to occur.

### 3. Gender breakdown of post-graduate students over the past 5 years

The table below sets out the last five years of data we have available that breaks down the number of post-graduate students by gender.

Domestic postgraduate students enrolled in formal tertiary education 2007-2011						
Level of study	Gender	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Postgraduate	Females	19,757	19,928	22,317	23,207	22,904
	Males	15,416	15,503	16,743	17,474	17,274
	<b>Total</b>	<b>35,173</b>	<b>35,431</b>	<b>39,060</b>	<b>40,681</b>	<b>40,178</b>
All levels	Females	241,163	233,786	238,165	235,244	220,103
	Males	202,435	187,112	186,738	184,832	163,366
	<b>Total</b>	<b>443,598</b>	<b>420,898</b>	<b>424,903</b>	<b>420,076</b>	<b>383,469</b>

#### Notes

- 1 Data relate to students enrolled at any time during the year with a tertiary education provider in formal qualifications of greater than 0.03 EFTS (more than one week's duration).
- 2 Data exclude all non-formal learning and on-job industry training.

These data show that for 2011, the percentage of women studying at postgraduate level is reflective of the percentage of women studying at all levels (57%).

### 4. Gender breakdown of modern apprentices and industry trainees

The following table sets out the gender breakdown for the 2007 to 2011 years (the latest data that available).

Table 3: Gender of Industry trainees and modern apprentices 2007-2011					
Year	Fund	Female	Male	Unknown	Total
2007	Industry Training	53,381	116,779		170,160
	Modern Apprentices	1,358	12,238		13,596
<b>2007 Total</b>		<b>54739</b>	<b>129017</b>		<b>183,756</b>
2008	Industry Training	55,039	121,362		176,401
	Modern Apprentices	1,629	14,102		15,731
<b>2008 Total</b>		<b>56,668</b>	<b>135,464</b>		<b>192,132</b>
2009	Industry Training	58,725	123,134		181,859
	Modern Apprentices	2,045	14,315		16,360
<b>2009 Total</b>		<b>60770</b>	<b>137449</b>		<b>198,219</b>
2010	Industry Training	60,487	116,987		177,474
	Modern Apprentices	1,992	13,802		15,794
<b>2010 Total</b>		<b>62,479</b>	<b>130,789</b>		<b>193,268</b>
2011	Industry Training	44,852	89,376	1,714	135,942
	Modern Apprentices	1,729	12,821	5	14,555
<b>2011 Total</b>		<b>46,581</b>	<b>102,197</b>	<b>1,719</b>	<b>150,497</b>

Thank you again for your email. I hope this information is useful to you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'S. Joyce', written over a faint grey watermark of the same signature.

**Steven Joyce**  
Minister for Tertiary Education, Skills and Employment