



Level 4 Fruit Production (industry-based)



Location	Online and in your workplace
Duration	One to two years part-time; full-time not available

Credits	90
Level	4
Start	Anytime
Apply	Anytime

Further develop the fundamental skills and knowledge required of horticulturists in orchards or vineyards while you work.

A 50/50 mix of theoretical and practical studies, this programme is for domestic students only and you must be employed within the fruit production or viticulture industry to undertake it.

It provides the perfect opportunity for you to upskill via supported online learning and block courses at the Central Campus whilst using your workplace as a setting to practice your developing skills.

Employment opportunities are extremely diverse in this industry and, with motivation and hard work, you may find yourself working as an irrigation technician, fruit grower, vineyard supervisor or even at the head of your own business. This qualification will help you make the next step up within your workplace.

Successful graduates will receive the New Zealand Certificate in Horticulture Production (**Level 4**) (Fruit Production).

Skills required

- > An enjoyment of working outdoors
- > Physical fitness
- > Planning and organisational skills
- > Good communication skills
- > An eye for detail.

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 5.5 with no individual band score lower than 5.0 (achieved in one test completed in the last two years), OR

Domestic fee: Free - normally \$5,251!

Due to the Government's Targeted Training and Apprenticeship Fund (TTAF).

- > You will need a laptop/device to study this programme online which isn't covered by this fund.
- > You can pay for this yourself or apply for a student loan via Studylink.

TTAF will only cover your study during 2022. You may be eligible for some additional tuition fees cover under the **Government's Fees Free** scheme during 2023. See the Paying for your study section below for more info.

This programme is **not** available to international students.

*Fees are approximate, subject to change and exchange rates

- > 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.

COVID-19 vaccination information

- > As this programme is delivered online and is based in your workplace, you do not need to provide us with a My Vaccine Pass. Please ensure you follow your workplace vaccination guidelines.
- > You will need to provide us with a valid My Vaccine Pass if you want to visit an Otago Polytechnic site for any reason while you are studying with us (e.g. meetings, events, presentations) or attend graduation in person at the end of this programme.
- > You do not need to provide a valid My Vaccine Pass if you are attending on campus health services (e.g. student health, Kowhai Centre).
- > In exceptional circumstances, exemptions may be granted to this. You can find out more about this in our vaccination policy. If you think you have grounds to be exempt from our vaccination requirements, please email Covid-19@op.ac.nz

You can find more information about our vaccination requirements here. And, if you still have further questions, please visit our FAQs page which you can find here.

You will study

This programme is based in your workplace with regular visits and support from your programme facilitator. You will also have the opportunity to attend some block courses at the Central Campus. You will build your experience and knowledge of the techniques required to grow commercial fruit or wine grapes. In addition to the compulsory courses listed below, you will have the option of choosing Viticulture Canopy Management (15 credits) or Orchard Canopy Management (15 credits) elective courses.

- > Soils and Water (15 credits)
- > Plant Science (15 credits)
- > Seasonal Tasks (10 credits)
- > Pests, Weeds and Agrichemicals (15 credits)
- > Machinery, Tools and Equipment (10 credits)
- > Communication (10 credits)
- > Orchard Canopy Management (15 credits) - *Elective*
- > Viticulture Canopy Management (15 credits) - *Elective*

Your workload

You should expect to spend a minimum of 10 hours a week on this programme.

Further study options

Advance your knowledge with our Level 5 Fruit Production programme.

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 part-time study undertaken in 2022 is free for all domestic learners. If your study runs into 2023, you may be eligible to have some of your tuition costs covered through the Fees Free scheme (see below).

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

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 first year of part-time 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 part-time study.

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.

Again, you can pay for these costs by yourself if possible or by applying for a loan or allowance through Studylink (only available for domestic learners).

If you have any questions about student loans and allowances, please email our Studylink

Advisor: Amanda.McAra@op.ac.nz

Disclaimer

While every effort is made to ensure that this sheet is accurate, Otago Polytechnic reserves the right to amend, alter or withdraw any of the contained information. The fees shown in this document are indicative ONLY. Both domestic and international fees are subject to change and are dependent on the development and implementation of Government policies. Please note that additional fees may from time to time be required for external examination, NZQA fees and/or additional material fees.

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