

Investing in the IPMHA workforce



Integrated Primary Mental Health and Addiction (IPMHA) professional development grants funded 2026

IPMHA professional development grants are specifically for people working in roles as part of the integrated primary mental health and addiction (IPMHA) programme, employed as health improvement practitioners (HIPs), health coaches, or support workers in primary care and community settings.

The grants will help cover the costs for people in existing IPMHA roles to take part in learning activities that develop professional knowledge and skills, enhancing their role in delivering IPMHA services.

Priorities for the 2026 grants were learning activities that:

- enhance practice to better provide services for Māori and Pacific peoples
- build an understanding of addiction related challenges to support individuals, whānau and communities affected by addiction challenges
- align with the values, attitudes and Real Skills of Keeping it Real | Kia Pono te Tika.



89

Applications received



26

Grants approved



12 January -
10 February

2026 Grant open

National distribution of approved grants



Workforce distribution of approved grants

HIP: 9 Health coach flexi: 1
Health coach: 10 Support worker: 6

Areas of learning and professional development

- Social work and bicultural practice
- Health and wellbeing practice
- Health sciences and clinical development
- Nutrition and lifestyle health
- Addiction studies
- Psychology and counselling
- Trauma-informed and therapeutic approaches
- Health coaching
- Hauora Māori and culturally responsive practice
- Clinical supervision