

Media Release

Ako Aotearoa enews special edition to stakeholders
27 November 2025



Kia ora [Stakeholder Name],

We are writing on behalf of Massey University and the Tertiary Education Commission (TEC) to provide an update regarding the closure of Ako Aotearoa.

TEC acknowledges the significant contribution Ako Aotearoa has made over many years to advancing teaching and learning across Aotearoa New Zealand. We also wish to thank Ako Aotearoa staff for their professionalism and commitment during this period of uncertainty.

Ako Aotearoa has taken great care to document key information relating to the [Te Whatu Kairangi | Aotearoa Tertiary Educator Awards](#) and the [Dyslexia-Friendly Quality Mark](#), and this material is being transitioned to TEC.

We know that the learning resources, research, and reports hosted on [ako.ac.nz](#) have been widely used and valued. Massey University will continue to keep the site live for the future to ensure ongoing access.

While TEC will hold this information regarding the [Te Whatu Kairangi | Aotearoa Tertiary Educator Awards](#) and the [Dyslexia-Friendly Quality Mark](#) in the short term, it is not in a position at this stage to outline the future of these initiatives and programmes. There are budget considerations, support from other tertiary education organisations, and potential refinements required to ensure the ongoing sustainability of these resources and awards.

We recognise the impact this change may have on award winners, industry partners, and community stakeholders who have engaged with Ako Aotearoa's work. Your contributions have been integral to promoting excellence in tertiary education, and we remain committed to ensuring that these achievements are respected and preserved during this transition.

If you have considerations or concerns that you would like TEC or Massey University to take into account during this transition, please contact: Corrina Gestro-Best, Director, Ako Aotearoa at: corrina.gestro-best@ako.ac.nz.

Thank you for your continued engagement and support as we work through this process.

Ngā mihi (On behalf of)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tim Fowler'.

Tim Fowler
Chief Executive
Tertiary Education Commission

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jan Thomas'.

Professor Jan Thomas
Vice-Chancellor
Massey University