



New Zealand Certificate in Pest Operations (Level 3)



Domestic Fees

Fees Free



Intakes

22/02/2027
22/02/2027



Campus

New Plymouth
New Plymouth



Duration

1 semester full-time



witt.ac.nz



New Zealand Certificate in Pest Operations (Level 3)

This fees free programme will give you the base skills and tools to help fill the shortage of trained pest operators and contribute to New Zealand becoming predator-free by 2050. You'll learn trapping and techniques for controlling rats, stoats, ferrets and possums (some of our most destructive animal pests), as well as methods for controlling pest plants.

With a mix of theory and hands-on learning, you'll also cover topics such as animal physiology and welfare, personal safety in the outdoors, firearm safety and legislation.

There is a massive shortage of trained pest control operators.

Courses

ENVI 3301

Work Practices

The aim of this course is to develop knowledge and skills in hazard identification and management, navigation, survival skills, health and safety requirements and communication during pest control activities.

ENVI 3302

Pest Control

The aim of this course is to develop the knowledge and skills to identify local animal and plant pests and discuss control options.

ENVI 3306

Light Utility Vehicles

The aim of this course is to develop the knowledge and skills to safely operate a Light Utility Vehicle (LUV) in a range of off-road conditions.

Programme Specific Information

What can I expect out of this programme?

The purpose of this New Zealand Certificate is to recognise the skills and knowledge of individuals who are able to safely carry out pest control or pest monitoring in a rural environment. The programme is targeted at individuals who wish to enter the pest operations industry.

What will I learn and how long will I be studying for?

This 17 week hands-on programme prepares you to work in environmental pest control. You will gain practical experience in pest control through trapping for controlling rats, stoats, ferrets and possums – some of our most destructive animal pests.

You will learn to identify flora and fauna as well as methods for controlling pest plants, and how to navigate and complete an expedition into remote back country. You will develop habits for communicating, problem-solving and working safely and effectively. Through a mix of theory and hands-on learning, you will also cover topics such as animal physiology and welfare, personal safety in the outdoors, firearm safety and legislation.

Graduate information

Graduate profile

Graduates of this qualification will be able to:

- maintain health and safety in a range of conditions.
- communicate, report and record information for workplace requirements.
- identify the purpose and impacts of pest operations.

Graduates of the Rural Pest Control strand will also be able to:

- operate vehicles in a rural environment.
- identify and control a pest type in a rural environment.

What job opportunities will I have after I complete my programme?

Holders of this certificate will have the skills and knowledge to carry out pest operations and may be employed as pest control contractors, Department of Conservation rangers, regional council environmental opportunities or urban pest control technicians.

Entry Requirements

- Open entry.

Additional Course Related Costs

- Good Quality Tramping Boots \$200-\$800
- Light weight fluoro vest (with zip) \$10-\$50
- Good Quality All Weather Jacket \$150-\$400