



Healthy School Lunches Programme

Information for potential suppliers to register with the Government Electronic Tender Service

The Government recently announced it will be expanding its programme to provide a free, healthy, daily school lunch across the country.

The Ministry of Education is running an open tender process to select pre-approved suppliers for schools and kura to choose from. This is to ensure open and fair competition for all government contract opportunities and that suppliers meet the requirements for nutrition, health and safety, and job creation.

The Ministry's open tender process is run via the [Government Electronic Tender Service \(GETS\)](#) platform. Pre-qualified regional panels of lunch suppliers will be able to show that they:

- » have a registered and verified Food Control Plan in accordance with the Food Act 2014
- » have immediate capacity to provide lunches each day, for the required number of students in each school
- » understand and are able to provide a daily lunch that meets (or exceed) the nutritional requirements in accordance with the Ministry of Health's Nutrition Guidelines
- » are able to produce different lunch portion sizes to cater for the requirements of different age groups
- » have minimum public liability Insurance of \$1,000,000
- » will pay their staff, those who are predominantly and directly working on school lunch preparation or distribution, an hourly rate of at least \$22.10 per hour.

Further requirements such as a regional delivery approach, menu offerings and appeal, organisational capability and capacity, contingency, environmental sustainability and pricing will be evaluated as part of the tender process to qualify for the panel.

As a supplier already known to a school or kura taking part in the programme, we encourage you to register with GETS. This is free. To register:

1. read through the [Supplier User Tender Help](#) to understand how GETS works –
2. [sign up to GETS](#)
3. Select the GETS category code '50000000 – Food Beverage and tobacco products' and service delivery region to receive notifications about the programme.

There is [more information about supplying to Government](#) available. The Ministry can also provide advice and guidance on registering on GETS if requested.

Once registered, subscribe to the [Advance Notice on GETS](#) to hear more from the Ministry about opportunities for suppliers as the School Lunches programme is rolled out.

Suppliers can also ask questions through the GETS portal. Questions and answers will be made public to all subscribers unless the question contains commercially sensitive information. The identity of the questioning supplier will be kept anonymous.

If you have any further questions, or would like some support registering on GETs, please contact the Ministry at school.lunches@education.govt.nz