

Just the Job Information Sheet

TeachNZ, Ministry of Education

Job title

Resource Teacher: Learning and Behaviour (RTL B)

Job description

Resource Teacher: Learning and Behaviour (RTL B) is a specialist teaching career that can really make a difference in the life of others. RTL B hold a special position in the education service. They work to enable students, who for a variety of reasons are not as successful as they could be in mainstream education, to take a full part in their education.

RTL B's work closely with classroom teachers, the Ministry of Education, Special Education, specialists and support staff, but are employed by and based in schools. They work in primary, intermediate, secondary, as well as Māori-medium schools.

An RTL B can be described as the bridge between home and school and between the teacher and the student; for many students RTL B play a crucial role in their education. RTL B practice is about supporting relationships, committing to biculturalism and understanding of each other and of each other's culture and beliefs.

Qualifications required

Bachelor of Education (Teaching) or equivalent, and a Postgraduate Diploma in Specialist Teaching (Learning and Behaviour).

To enter a Bachelor of Education study programme you'll need a tertiary entrance qualification. Generally university entrance (NCEA Level 3) is required, but entry requirements may vary so check with your teacher education provider.

Registration

You must also attain formal teacher registration from the NZ Teacher's Council. The teacher registration process is the same for early childhood, primary and secondary and you have to meet same teaching standards i.e. you do your teacher education qualification followed by provisional registration before you get your full registration. Generally this registration process takes two years full-time working as a teacher.

Training costs

If you study full-time for your initial teacher education qualification, your fees for a year will range from \$3,700 – \$6,300* plus text books, other materials and expenses. Teaching qualifications vary in duration between one year full time (for post-Graduate students), to up to four years full time. Contact your teacher education provider for specific information about costs.

*As at 2011, this is subject to change.

The Ministry of Education's, Special Education team supports RTLB in their training through study awards. The study award supports the [Postgraduate Diploma in Specialist Teaching: Resource Teaching Learning and Behaviour](#) offered by both Massey University and the University of Canterbury.

This diploma is delivered part-time over two years by distance study combined with some block course sessions at the University campus. There are two one-week block courses each year (one in February/March and one in August/September). The diploma is made up of four papers.

For more information about the study award, visit our special education study awards webpage: <http://www.minedu.govt.nz/sestudyawards>

Salary range

RTLB is a specialist teaching role with a higher remuneration than normal classroom teachers. Average RTLB salary is around \$75,000 per annum.

Other careers this profession could lead to

You could:

- work as RTLB: Practice Leaders or RTLB cluster managers
- teach trainee teachers in tertiary institutions or teach in organisations at other levels across the community
- work in curriculum development, research or education policy with the Ministry of Education, or other local and central government agencies
- move into advisory roles such as school support or education review officer, advising teachers and schools
- work in professional development roles introducing the latest from research to existing teachers
- move into training and education roles in other sectors.

How to increase the chances of successfully entering this industry

Professional skills:

- teaching skills, and knowledge of different teaching methods and learning styles
- knowledge of different types of needs, such as learning and behaviour
- knowledge of the curriculum and how to adapt it to suit students' needs
- skill in evaluating students' progress
- communication skills, and the ability to relate well to students and adults
- classroom management skills, including an understanding of behaviour management
- understanding of child learning and development, including learning needs and how to identify them

- knowledge of school rules and procedures, including safety and emergency procedures
- knowledge of how to access services that provide support and help to teachers
- understanding of a range of cultures
- research skills
- data collection and recording, setting goals and measuring outcomes.

Personal skills:

- good communicator (able to listen and open to new ideas)
- willing to learn
- well-organised
- self-motivated
- good understanding of the community and cultural backgrounds.

Other places to source information about this job

Speak directly to your school principal.

Websites:

www.TeachNZ.govt.nz

www.careerservices.govt.nz

www.teacherscouncil.govt.nz

www.rtlb.tki.org.nz

www.minedu.govt.nz/seytudyawards

Other relevant points

- RTLB is an advancement option for teachers
- There is always something new to learn and there is never a dull moment. There are plenty of opportunities to grow personally and professionally.
- There is opportunity to specialise in an area of interest and to be supported to do that
- RTLB are in high demand throughout New Zealand and there is a limited number of positions available
- RTLB are supported and supervised by experienced professionals. Keeping up-to-date with the latest research, taking part in ongoing training and mixing with a wide range of highly skilled and talented professionals will keep you challenged and stimulated
- RTLB service provides a range of career pathway with recognition and reward – specialist RTLB, RTLB practice leaders, RTLB cluster (service) manager, and other senior leadership positions in schools.