

Certificate in Youth Development and Leadership (CertYDL)*

Level 3, 40 credits

Programme Summary

The Certificate in Youth Development and Leadership (CertYDL) equips and empowers Christian youth leaders and youth workers to serve confidently in churches, schools, and communities. This programme provides a strong foundation for safe, effective work with young people from diverse backgrounds.

Students arrange their own placement in a youth work or youth ministry setting (either paid or volunteer), completing 25 hours per course while combining theory, practical skills, and reflective learning. It includes a tuakana-teina mentoring component to foster meaningful connections and growth.

Flexible Study Options

The CertYDL is a three-term part-time programme. The programme is made up of a total of 40 credits. There is a three-day block course at the beginning of the first course and the rest is done via distance learning. The delivery of the courses is through Laidlaw College's partner, 24-7 YouthWork.

2027 Fees

2027 fees will be confirmed in October 2026.

NOTE: annual fee may vary.

Courses

735.315 Y THE CONTEXT OF POSITIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT (15 CREDITS)

This course engages the student with positive youth development through a strengths-based and culturally competent approach that prioritises Te Tiriti o Waitangi, Christian faith and ethical practice. It explores key frameworks, legal and professional boundaries, and the historical narrative of Aotearoa New Zealand to equip youth leaders and youth workers to support taiohi with wisdom, cultural understanding, and hope in positive youth development settings.

736.310 Y TE AO TAIOHI: THE WORLD OF A YOUNG PERSON (10 CREDITS)

This course explores the development of taiohi through a culturally responsive and faith-informed lens, equipping youth workers and youth leaders to understand key theories and models of wellbeing, trauma-informed care, and communication, and to apply these in ways that honour cultural identity, Christian values, and the holistic needs of young people.

737.315 Y YOUTH DEVELOPMENT IN ACTION (15 CREDITS)

This course equips students to grow in self-leadership, relational influence, and practical youth work through a Christ-centred, culturally responsive lens. Students will integrate personal development, group facilitation, and project planning to support taiohi to thrive.

Graduate Profile

Graduates will be able to:

- 1. Apply knowledge of Te Tiriti o Waitangi, Code of Ethics for Youth Work, Mana Taihohi, and other positive youth development frameworks to support taiohi to reach their goals, and their social and cultural aspirations.**
- 2. Apply knowledge of group work and leadership to contribute to the development and implementation of positive youth development projects.**

READY TO APPLY? ANY QUESTIONS?

0800 999 777

info@laidlaw.ac.nz | www.laidlaw.ac.nz



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