



New Zealand
2026-2027 COMPETITION HANDBOOK
Maximise Your Surplus

National competition | Academic development | Team New Zealand pathway

www.eo-nz.org

Version 1.0 | August 2026

Certain fees, dates, EONZ Camp schedule and International Final Round details remain subject to confirmation.

START HERE

The essential information for students, families and schools

The pathway in one line

PATH	(1) School Round → (2) National Final Round → (3) National Selection Squad → (4) three online training sessions → (5) compulsory EONZ Camp → (6) provisional Team New Zealand invitations → (7) post-selection checks → (8) IFR preparation and international representation.
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NFR is in Auckland The National Final Round is primarily an in-person written examination at Massey University on 27 February 2027. Families arrange and fund travel and accommodation.	Training is part of selection Students who want to remain under consideration for Team New Zealand must register, pay for and fully participate in the National Training and Selection Programme.	EONZ Camp is compulsory The in-person camp on 8 May 2027 has no remote, make-up or substitute option. A student who does not attend cannot progress to the IFR in Greece.
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Key dates

Date	Milestone	Format / location
30 Nov 2026	Standard School Round registration closes	Standard registration closes
Early Dec 2026	Late registration window	Subject to capacity and late fee
10 Dec 2026	Late registration closes	All registration closes
11 Jan 2027	School Round exam instructions issued	Issued electronically
11 Feb 2027	School Round	Online at home
By 16 Feb 2027 (TBC)	NFR qualification notifications	Private notification to qualified candidates
Date TBC	School Round awards, scores and electronic certificates	Private results communication
27 Feb 2027*	National Final Round	Massey University, Auckland
Late Mar / early Apr / late Apr	Three online training sessions	Live online
8 May 2027	EONZ Camp: In-person Training + Economics Forum	Massey University, Auckland
Mid May 2027	Provisional Team New Zealand invitations	Subject to post-selection checks
Aug 2027	International Final Round	Greece; final details TBC

Three gates to Team New Zealand

Academic gate Meet the minimum academic standard in the National Final Round.	Participation gate Register, pay for and complete all assessed rounds, training and the full EONZ Camp.	Representation gate Meet the applicable passport, representation and travel requirements and pass every post-selection check.
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*Students considering progression should keep 27 February provisionally available before School Round results are released.

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TIP	The handbook is intentionally concise. Round-specific instructions and official notices may provide additional detail. If a later official notice conflicts with this handbook, the latest published information applies.	

01 About EONZ and the pathway

Economics as a way of thinking - not simply a subject to memorise

Economics Olympiad New Zealand (EONZ) gives secondary-school students a structured national pathway to test economic understanding, develop analytical communication and be considered for Team New Zealand.

SLOGAN

Maximise Your Surplus is more than a tagline. It reflects the discipline of making informed choices, evaluating trade-offs and creating value from limited resources.

What EONZ develops

Economic reasoning

Use models, evidence and trade-offs to explain how choices affect people, markets and society.

Academic communication

Explain graphs, defend a position, respond to questions and improve an argument.

National representation

Prepare suitable students for the academic, conduct and teamwork responsibilities of international representation.

The EONZ competition and selection pathway

Stage	Name	Purpose
1	School Round	Broad national access and objective first-round screening.
2	National Final Round	Advanced written economics under standardised, supervised conditions, primarily in person at Massey University.
3	National Selection Squad	Up to 30 high-performing students enter the candidate pool.
4	Online training	Three assessed active-learning sessions.
5	EONZ Camp	Compulsory in-person training, Economics forum and delegation-readiness assessment.
6	Team New Zealand confirmation	Final selection review followed by passport, consent, payment, conduct and travel checks.
7	International Final Round	Confirmed representatives prepare for and attend the IFR in Greece.

CORE

EONZ selection considers academic strength together with communication, conduct, collaboration and delegation readiness.

02 Eligibility and registration

Who may enter, how schools register, and who may represent New Zealand

Domestic competition eligibility

A student is eligible to participate if all applicable requirements below are met:

☐ The student was born between 12 February 2006 and 11 February 2013, inclusive.

This means the student will be at least 14 years old and not yet 21 years old on the School Round date, 11 February 2027.

☐ The student remains enrolled in secondary education at the time of the School Round.

Students who have completed secondary education, including gap-year students, are not eligible.

☐ Students enrolled at a New Zealand secondary school may enter through their school.

☐ Home-schooled students at secondary-school level in New Zealand may enter through the approved home-school registration route and progress under the same qualification rules as other students.

☐ New Zealand passport holders studying overseas may apply for the School Round and NFR.

To progress towards Team New Zealand selection, students must also satisfy the applicable representation requirements and attend the Auckland EONZ Camp in person.

Passport and representation eligibility

A New Zealand passport is not required for domestic competition participation, awards, National Selection Squad membership or the National Training and Selection Programme. Passport or nationality information may nevertheless be collected at certain stages for administrative or representation purposes.

Eligibility to represent New Zealand internationally is assessed separately, taking into account individual circumstances and applicable international competition rules. Students who are unsure of their representation eligibility, including those who do not hold a New Zealand passport, should contact EONZ directly.

Registration route

Who	Responsibility
School coordinator	Collects details, confirms school approval and submits the official School Round registration file.
Student	Provides accurate information, reads the rules and prepares the required device and examination environment. New Zealand passport holders studying overseas should contact EONZ directly for the approved overseas-student registration route.
Parent / guardian	Reviews participation, cost, privacy and progression information and provides consent where required.
EONZ	Confirms registration and issues candidate instructions and progression communications.

Registration deadlines

- Standard School Round deadline: 30 November 2026.
- Late registration: 1–10 December 2026, subject to capacity and a late fee.
- No registration is complete until the required information and any applicable payment have been received.

03 School Round

Nationwide access. One hour. One clear first step.

Item	2027 arrangement
Date	Thursday 11 February 2027
Location / format	Online at home, remotely invigilated
Platform	ProProfs, with official candidate instructions and support
Duration	60 minutes
Questions	25 multiple-choice questions
Cost	Free during standard registration; a late-registration fee may apply.
Progression	Top 100 eligible candidates plus boundary ties, subject to integrity and eligibility review.

What the School Round assesses

- Core Microeconomic and Macroeconomic understanding.
- Personal Finance / Financial Literacy and financial reasoning.
- Interpretation of graphs, data and economic situations.
- Application of concepts rather than memorisation alone.

Academic integrity

- The registered candidate must complete the examination independently.
- Candidates are permitted one standard attempt.
- Search engines, AI tools, messaging, external notes and collaboration are prohibited unless expressly authorised.
- Technical issues must be reported immediately through the official support channel.
- Candidates must complete the official online check-in and comply with all published identity, device, camera and remote invigilation requirements.

Qualification and ties

The 100 highest-performing eligible candidates, together with all candidates tied at the qualification boundary, qualify for the National Final Round. Qualification remains subject to eligibility and academic integrity review.

NEXT

The National Final Round is optional for qualified students, but it is a compulsory stage for anyone wishing to progress towards Team New Zealand selection. Families should consider travel arrangements before accepting an NFR place.

04 National Final Round

The national academic final

Item	2027 arrangement
Date	Saturday 27 February 2027
Venue	Massey University, Auckland (primary venue)
Format	Primarily in-person, supervised written examination
Indicative duration	Two hours; final arrival and reporting times will be issued separately
Assessment	Structured responses, graph and data analysis, and extended economic evaluation
Cost	Paid. The applicable NFR participation fee will be shown on the registration form when NFR registration opens.
Special arrangements	Reasonable accessibility arrangements may be considered. Any alternative venue or remote sitting requires prior EONZ approval and is not guaranteed.

Purpose of NFR

NFR verifies advanced written economic reasoning under standardised conditions. It is the primary academic evidence used to determine National Final Round awards and entry to the National Selection Squad.

What strong responses demonstrate

- Accurate economic concepts and terminology.
- Clear explanation of causal relationships and graphs.
- Application to unfamiliar data, scenarios and policy questions.
- Balanced evaluation of stakeholders, time periods, trade-offs and limitations.
- Well-structured written communication.

Minimum academic standard

A student must meet the NFR minimum academic standard to remain eligible for Team New Zealand consideration. The standard is confirmed through marking and moderation with reference to examination difficulty and the level expected of National Selection Squad members.

TRAVEL

Candidates attending the Auckland venue and their families arrange and fund their own travel, accommodation and related costs. EONZ does not provide or guarantee travel funding. Students may independently seek sponsorship.

05 Awards, results and candidate status

Celebrate achievement without confusing awards with team selection

School Round awards

Award	Indicative standard
Perfect Score Award	100% of the available marks
High Distinction	Top 10% of eligible students
Distinction	Next 15% of eligible students (Top 25% overall)
Merit	Next 25% of eligible students (Top 50% overall)
Participation	All remaining eligible students who submit a valid School Round attempt

Each student receives one standard School Round achievement category. The Perfect Score Award is a special recognition and may be awarded in addition to High Distinction.

Award thresholds are indicative. EONZ may adjust award boundaries where cohort size, score distribution or ties make strict percentile cut-offs impractical. Students achieving the same score at an award boundary will not normally be separated solely to maintain an exact percentage.

National Final Round awards

Award	Indicative allocation
National Gold Award	Up to 5 awards
National Silver Award	Up to 10 additional awards
National Bronze Award	Up to 15 additional awards
Honourable Mention	Up to 20 additional awards

Award allocations are indicative and may vary slightly where tied results occur at an award boundary.

Competition certificates for the School Round and National Final Round (NFR) are issued electronically unless otherwise stated.

National Finalist status

All eligible students who participate in the National Final Round are recognised as EONZ National Finalists, irrespective of whether they receive a National Gold, Silver, Bronze or Honourable Mention award.

School Round and National Final Round awards recognise achievement in the relevant competition round. An award does not, by itself, guarantee progression to the National Training and Selection Programme, National Selection Squad or selection to represent New Zealand at the International Final Round. Team New Zealand selection is governed separately by the published selection process.

How results are communicated

School Round results

Students and schools receive the candidate's raw score, award category, NFR qualification outcome and electronic certificate privately. Public School Round results may show Candidate ID, award category, qualification outcome and published award cut-offs. Numerical rankings are not published.

National Final Round results

Students receive their award category, electronic certificate, National Selection Squad outcome and next-step information privately. Individual raw scores, numerical rankings and full marker comments are not issued. Public NFR results may show Candidate ID and award category only.

National selection results

National Selection Squad and provisional Team New Zealand outcomes are communicated privately. Confirmed Team New Zealand representatives may be published only after all eligibility, acceptance and consent requirements have been completed. Composite scores, individual assessment scores, reserve order and final selection rankings are not published.

Candidate status ladder

Status	Meaning
School Round Participant	Registered and completes the first round.
NFR Qualifier	Receives an NFR invitation after School Round progression.
EONZ National Finalist	Completes NFR.
National Selection Squad Member	Invited after NFR moderation; not yet selected for Team New Zealand.
Provisional Team New Zealand Invitee	Receives a conditional invitation after final selection review.
Confirmed Team New Zealand Representative	Completes every post-selection check and receives final written confirmation.

RULE	An award, high NFR result or National Selection Squad invitation does not by itself confirm a Team New Zealand place.
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06 National Selection Squad

The candidate pool for advanced training and selection

How students enter the Squad

After NFR marking and moderation, up to 30 high-performing students may be invited. Invitations consider NFR results, the minimum academic standard, eligibility and academic integrity. EONZ is not required to fill all 30 places if the academic standard is not met.

What Squad membership means

- The student has demonstrated strong national-level academic performance.
- The student is eligible to enter the National Training and Selection Programme.
- Students who complete the compulsory EONZ Camp receive a physical certificate recognising their National Selection Squad membership and Camp completion.
- The student has not yet been selected for Team New Zealand.

Accepting the invitation

A student who wishes to continue in the Team New Zealand pathway must accept the invitation, register for the paid programme and meet all deadlines. Students who decline, fail to pay, or do not complete the required activities leave the Team New Zealand selection process.

NO AUTOMATIC PROGRESSION

National Selection Squad membership creates an opportunity to be assessed further. National Selection Squad membership does not guarantee selection to Team New Zealand.

Before accepting

- Review the programme fee and payment deadline.
- Reserve all three online training dates.
- Reserve the full day on 8 May 2027 for the compulsory EONZ Camp in Auckland.
- Confirm that the applicable passport and international representation requirements are understood.

07 National Training and Selection Programme

Learn actively. Contribute consistently. Improve visibly.

Session	Timing	Academic focus
Online Training 1	Late March 2027	Microeconomic reasoning, welfare and graph communication
Online Training 2	Early April 2027	Macroeconomic policy, trade-offs and evaluation
Online Training 3	Late April 2027	Personal finance / Financial Literacy, open responses and IFR-style communication
EONZ Camp	8 May 2027	In-person training, Economics Forum and delegation-readiness assessment.

Compulsory participation and fee

Students who want to remain under consideration for Team New Zealand must register for, pay for and fully participate in the programme. Payment provides access to the programme; it does not purchase selection or guarantee an invitation.

What active learning means

Students are expected to prepare, answer questions, test ideas, respond to classmates, accept feedback and improve explanations. Assessment is based on the quality, consistency and relevance of participation - not simply how often a student speaks.

Assessment dimensions

Dimension	What assessors look for
Preparation	Evidence that the student has reviewed material and is ready to contribute.
Active engagement	Relevant participation, questions and responses; not simply speaking often.
Economic reasoning	Use of concepts, evidence, causal links and evaluation.
Communication	Clear, concise and well-structured expression.
Responsiveness	Ability to listen, respond to feedback and refine an argument.
Collaborative conduct	Respectful contribution that helps a group think and work effectively.

FAIRNESS

Students will be given structured opportunities to contribute. Assessors record observations close to each session and apply common assessment criteria.

08 EONZ Camp

The compulsory in-person stage of the Team New Zealand selection pathway

Date	Location	Format
Saturday 8 May 2027	Massey University, Auckland	In-person selection camp and Economics Forum

COMPULSORY

Attendance at the full EONZ Camp is compulsory for every student who wishes to remain eligible for Team New Zealand selection and progression to the International Final Round in Greece. No remote, make-up or substitute arrangement will be offered.

Why the camp is essential

The EONZ Camp is the only in-person collaborative stage of the Team New Zealand selection pathway. It brings the National Selection Squad together for academic training and the Economics Forum, while allowing selectors to observe communication, conduct, collaboration, reliability and delegation readiness in person.

Indicative programme

Time	Component	Purpose
10:30–11:00	Registration & Arrival	Student registration, name badge and workbook collection, followed by a welcome to the National Selection Squad.
11:00–12:00	Economics Masterclass	University-style Economics session designed to develop higher-level economic analysis and prepare students for the Economics Forum.
12:00–12:45	Lunch	Lunch and informal interaction with fellow National Selection Squad students.
12:45–1:00	Economics Forum I — Briefing & Group Allocation	Introduce the Economics Forum brief and task; students are then allocated to groups.
1:00–2:00	Economics Forum II — Policy Challenge	Groups analyse the issue, complete the relevant Economics Forum workbook tasks and develop their policy response.
2:00–3:15	Economics Forum III — Presentations & Policy Defence	Up to six group presentations followed by assessment. The three highest-performing groups progress to a live Policy Defence with the judging panel.
3:15–3:45	Recognition, Certificates & Next Steps	National Selection Squad recognition, certificate presentation, group photo and briefing on the remaining stages of Team New Zealand selection.

ELIGIBILITY

A student who does not attend the full EONZ Camp will no longer be eligible for Team New Zealand selection or progression to the International Final Round, regardless of NFR result or earlier training performance.

09 Team New Zealand selection

Academic achievement plus demonstrated readiness

Assessed selection components

Component	Role in selection	What it demonstrates
National Final Round	Assessed	Advanced written economic reasoning under standardised conditions.
Three online training sessions	Assessed	Consistent active learning, communication, responsiveness and academic development.
EONZ Camp	Assessed	In-person collaboration, Economics forum performance, conduct and delegation readiness.

All three components are compulsory and form part of Team New Zealand selection. EONZ uses an internally moderated assessment framework to evaluate evidence from across the selection programme. Component scores, assessment weightings, panel scores and final numerical rankings are not published.

No single result, including a high National Final Round score, guarantees selection to Team New Zealand.

Mandatory eligibility gates

- Meet the NFR minimum academic standard.
- Meet the applicable passport and representation eligibility requirements.
- Meet the international age and education requirements.
- Register, pay for and complete the full National Training and Selection Programme.
- Attend the full EONZ Camp in person.
- Continue to meet EONZ expectations for academic integrity, conduct and delegation readiness throughout the selection programme.

Closely matched candidates

Where candidates are closely matched, the selection panel will review the full body of evidence across the National Final Round, training programme and EONZ Camp. Additional information or a short interview may be requested where necessary.

Selection stages

1. Evidence from the National Final Round, online training and EONZ Camp is moderated and reviewed.
2. The selection panel considers academic performance together with documented evidence of communication, conduct, collaboration and delegation readiness.
3. Provisional Team New Zealand invitations are issued; reserve candidates may also be identified.
4. Students and families complete all required post-selection checks by the stated deadline.
5. A student is confirmed as a Team New Zealand Representative only after all requirements have been satisfied.
6. Internal assessment outcomes and selection deliberations are confidential. Numerical selection rankings are not published.

IMPORTANT

Strong academic performance is essential, but no individual result guarantees selection. Team New Zealand selection is based on the complete body of evidence gathered across the National Final Round, online training, EONZ Camp and all applicable eligibility requirements.

10 International Final Round pathway

From national selection to responsible international representation

Expected 2027 IFR

The Economics Olympiad International Final Round is expected to take place in Greece in August 2027. Exact dates, location details, programme, team size and international rules remain subject to confirmation by the international organiser. Final Team New Zealand costs will be confirmed separately by EONZ.

Post-selection checks

Check	Why it matters
Passport and representation eligibility	Confirms legal travel identity and eligibility to represent New Zealand under the applicable international competition rules.
Family acceptance and availability	Confirms the student can travel on the required dates.
Consent and medical information	Supports safeguarding and appropriate delegation planning.
Insurance and travel documents	Ensures required protections and entry arrangements are in place.
Fees and payment schedule	Allows flights, delegation costs and international registration to be secured.
Code of conduct	Confirms expectations for behaviour, communication and representation.
Training commitment	Confirms attendance at all remaining academic and delegation briefings.
Integrity and disciplinary clearance	Confirms there is no unresolved issue incompatible with representation.

Pre-departure preparation

- Academic preparation in microeconomics, macroeconomics, finance and open-ended responses.
- Timed practice, graph explanation, policy evaluation and presentation work.
- Travel conduct, emergency communication, packing and equipment reminders.
- Delegation roles, team culture and representation expectations.

CONDITIONAL

A provisional invitation may be withdrawn if a student does not complete required payments, documents, consent or training, or does not meet conduct and travel-readiness requirements.

11 Fees, travel and sponsorship

Transparent costs at each stage

Stage	Cost position	Additional responsibility
School Round	Free during standard registration; late-registration fee may apply.	Student provides a suitable device and internet access.
National Final Round	Paid; fee shown on the NFR registration form	Family arranges and funds Auckland travel and accommodation.
National Training and Selection Programme	Paid; fee shown when programme registration opens	Payment is compulsory for students continuing in Team New Zealand selection.
Team New Zealand / IFR	Separate international and delegation costs	May include flights, insurance, international fees, uniform, and other delegation-related costs.

Independent sponsorship

Students and families may independently seek sponsorship from their school, community organisations, businesses, trusts or other suitable supporters for NFR travel, programme fees or international costs. EONZ does not guarantee sponsorship or financial assistance.

- All registration, payment and attendance deadlines continue to apply while sponsorship is being sought.
- Financial circumstances and sponsorship success do not influence academic assessment or selection decisions.
- A sponsor does not gain influence over results, selection or academic decisions.

PAYMENT

Programme fees support teaching, venue, assessment and administration. Paying a fee does not guarantee Team New Zealand selection.

Refund and withdrawal

Detailed refund and withdrawal terms will be published before each paid registration opens. Families should review those terms before payment. International payments may become non-refundable once third-party bookings or registrations are committed.

12 Integrity, appeals, access and privacy

Clear rules protect fairness, safety and trust

Academic integrity and candidate conduct

All results, awards and progression decisions depend on work being the student's own. EONZ may investigate irregularities, withhold results, cancel awards or remove a student from the pathway where a serious breach is established.

Examples of prohibited conduct include:

- Unauthorised assistance, collaboration, AI tools, search engines, messaging or prohibited devices.
- Sharing, photographing, copying or distributing secure questions or materials.
- Impersonation, false registration information or interference with examination systems.
- Disruptive, disrespectful or unsafe behaviour during examinations, training, camp or delegation activities.

SERIOUS

A serious integrity or conduct breach may lead to immediate disqualification or withdrawal of a provisional or confirmed place without a prior warning where the circumstances justify it.

Marking, moderation and appeals

- NFR written responses are marked against approved criteria and moderated before results are confirmed.
- Training and camp assessors use common rubrics and record observations close to each session.
- An appeal must identify a specific administrative, procedural, marking or assessment error.
- Appeals must normally be submitted within three working days of the relevant result or decision.
- An appeal is not a second selection interview and cannot replace missed training or the compulsory EONZ Camp.

Access and regional participation

Reasonable accessibility and examination arrangements may be considered where they preserve assessment integrity and the essential requirements of the relevant stage. The School Round is designed for nationwide access, while the 2027 NFR is primarily held at Massey University, Auckland. The EONZ Camp is in Auckland and has no remote, make-up or substitute option. Families remain responsible for travel arrangements and costs.

Privacy, photography and safeguarding

- Personal information is collected for registration, examination, communication, selection, safeguarding and travel administration.
- Public competition results use Candidate IDs rather than student names unless separate written publication consent has been obtained.
- Passport, medical and travel information is restricted to authorised personnel with an operational need.
- Photography and recording consent choices will be collected through the relevant registration process.
- Parents and guardians remain responsible for travel and supervision outside official activities.

13 Communication and final checklist

Use official channels, keep details current and understand the full commitment

Official communication channels

Channel	Best use
EONZ website live chat	First point of contact for registration, dates, rules and general support.
Official Discord support	Time-sensitive examination and candidate support when published for the relevant round.
Email: info@eo-nz.org	Formal documents, confidential matters, appeals and communications requiring an audit trail.
School coordinator	School Round registration, school notices and teacher liaison.

Candidate communication rules

- Keep email addresses and contact numbers current.
- Deadlines are not automatically extended because an email was overlooked or filtered into spam.
- Quote the Candidate ID in result, examination and selection correspondence.
- Only written confirmation from EONZ establishes qualification, Squad membership or Team New Zealand status.

Before entering the School Round

- ☐ I meet the age and secondary-school eligibility rules.
- ☐ My school will submit the official registration, or I will use the applicable approved home-school or overseas-student route.
- ☐ I understand the School Round is an individual online examination with strict integrity rules.
- ☐ I understand that the National Final Round is held primarily in person in Auckland and is a compulsory stage for anyone wishing to progress towards Team New Zealand selection.

Before accepting a National Selection Squad invitation

- ☐ I have reviewed the paid programme, dates and participation requirements.
- ☐ I understand active participation in all three online sessions is assessed.
- ☐ I have reserved the full day on 8 May 2027 for the in-person EONZ Camp.
- ☐ I understand there is no remote or alternative camp arrangement.
- ☐ I understand payment does not guarantee Team New Zealand selection.

Before accepting a provisional Team New Zealand invitation

- ☐ I understand that my passport, nationality, residency and representation eligibility must be verified before Team New Zealand confirmation.
- ☐ I have met the academic standard and completed the selection programme.
- ☐ My family can meet the travel dates, costs, consent and document deadlines.
- ☐ I understand provisional selection is not final confirmation.
- ☐ I am prepared to meet the academic, conduct and delegation responsibilities of representing New Zealand.

FINAL	Progression is earned at every stage through academic performance, active learning, reliability and readiness to represent New Zealand responsibly.
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The latest published handbook and official notices apply.