

Barbering

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"I've been a barber in lots of different places and countries, but my true passion is teaching. Seeing my students achieving their goals is what I love about my job."

Sone

Commercial Barbering Tutor

Lisone, better known as Sone, is not your average barbering tutor. Drawing from his vast experience, Sone teaches his students not only by the textbooks, but through his wealth of experience in the barbering world.

Sone, born and raised in Porirua, is half Tokelauan and half Cook Island Tahitian-Scottish, describing himself as "a bit of a fruit salad." After upskilling through a barbering course, Sone began barbering in the Western Australia mines where he stayed for three years.

After returning from what he believed to be his most memorable barbering experience yet, Sone was yet to discover his most significant journey was still on the horizon. "I got the call to come back to WA, this time barbering for isolated Aboriginal communities."






Sone says it was "a big eye opener" helping the Aboriginal people. "For them, haircuts are very culturally significant. They wear belts that have been passed down for almost 10,000 years. After the hair is cut, they weave it into the belt."

After finishing his work in Australia, Sone felt a calling back to Aotearoa. "The community has done a lot for me, so I'd like to give back. This is the start, by teaching."

With some students already with placements, their barbering careers are taking off before they know it. "Some of my students are cutting the way I cut. It's kind of scary actually, they could be stealing customers from me. But that's how I know I'm doing my job properly and they're learning. Their hard work and their precision has got them to where they are now - out there getting jobs."

With his passion not only for barbering but for his people and the community, Sone is a blessing to the WelTec barbering whānau and continues to inspire our ākonga every day.

New Zealand Certificate in Commercial Barbering (Level 4)

 Level 4
 34 weeks including work experience
 24 Feb 2025 (Porirua) 24 Feb 2025 (Te Kāhui Auaha)
 \$8,850 (indicative for 2023 intake)
 \$24,824* (indicative for 2023 intake)

specialist barber kit at approximately \$1000.

These course related costs are not covered under any fees free funding schemes. To apply for course related costs (as a loan) visit [studylink](#).

Entry requirements

40 credits at NCEA Level 1, including 10 Literacy credits and 10 Numeracy credits; or a recognised equivalent. Or a relevant qualification at NZQF Level 2 or above; or a recognised equivalent qualification.

Learn how to perform all the skills required to be a fully qualified barber in a growing industry. Taught out of our Wellington Central (Te Kāhui Auaha) and Porirua campuses, students will learn clipper and scissor cuts, fades, wet shaving and the crucial social skills needed to communicate with clients. Get hands-on industry experience surrounded by like-minded people.

What you will learn

- Apply knowledge of barbering theory and techniques to cut hair and do beard work for clients
- Be able to talk to a client to work out what they need
- Provide client care and advice, and carry out sales transactions
- Understand all health, safety and hygiene regulations as well as professional grooming standards

Flexible study options

This programme offers the flexibility to be completed around work or other life commitments. Classes will be held at the following times and locations:

Porirua; Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday
9:00am-4:30pm

TKA (Wellington); Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday
9:00am-4:30pm

Course related costs

Students will be required to purchase their own

Disclaimer: The information contained in this document is correct at the time of print. Whitireia and WelTec | Te Pūkenga reserves the right to cancel or postpone any of the programmes, and shall not be liable for any claim other than the proportion of programme fees that the cancelled portion bears. Some programmes may be dependent upon formal approval from NZQA (New Zealand Qualifications Authority), TEC (Tertiary Education Commission) funding allocation, and the number of enrolments. As part of the NZQA targeted review of all Level 1-6 New Zealand qualifications, there may still be changes to some programmes starting in 2024. Fees, programmes, entry and selection criteria, and dates, are subject to change. Please check the relevant programme pages at [whitireiaweltec.ac.nz](#) for up-to-date information and full entry regulations before applying to enrol. Information regarding English language requirements is available on each course page at [whitireiaweltec.ac.nz](#).