

NQC Communiqué

NQC Policy Framework: VET Products for the 21st Century

The Ministerial Council for Vocational and Technical Education (MCVTE) has endorsed a policy framework to improve the flexibility and responsiveness of the VET system.

Key aspects of the new framework are:

- Reaffirmation of a single organising framework for VET qualifications comprised of Training Packages and Accredited Courses.
- A revision of the definition of 'competency' to embody the ability to transfer and apply skills and knowledge to new situations and environments.
- A restructure and streamlining of Training Packages including separating the performance standards from guidance and supporting information.
- A full review of packaging rules as applied in Training Packages, and the process for developing and approving Accredited Courses, to ensure maximum flexibility and consistency.
- Establishment of a joint working group of the NQC and the Australian Qualifications Framework Council (AQFC) to investigate introducing a national credit system.
- A stronger focus in VET products on preparatory and enabling qualifications, and Language, Literacy and Numeracy requirements.

MCVTE also agreed that:

- the NQC conduct a review jointly with NVEAC on how best to ensure that equity needs are addressed in the policy framework for VET Products for the 21st Century.
- the outcomes of the review of packaging rules and the process for developing and approving Accredited Courses be presented as part of a high level report to COAG.
- a recommendation for it to be made mandatory for crown copyright state accredited courses to be publically available on the NTIS is subject to the scoping of its impact.

Where to from here?

The framework has been developed by a Joint Steering Committee of the National Quality Council (NQC) and the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) Skills and Workforce Development Subgroup through extensive national consultations with VET stakeholders.

Subsequent to MCVTE endorsement of the policy framework for VET Products for the 21st Century, the NQC has established an Action Group to put effect to the recommendations in the final report. More information about the Framework Implementation Action Group can be found on the NQC website.

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