



## August 2024

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## Message from the Chair



Craig is overseas this month

## What's been happening since the last newsletter

Meetings with:

- ConCove
- NZQA
- Education NZ
- WDCs - Ringa Hora, Waihanga Ara Rau, Hanga Aro Rau, Toitu Te Waiora
- MoE

Participation in:

- NZ International Education Conference
- ITENZ Board meeting
- VET Reform consultation meetings

- Education NZ planning briefings
- Provider-based kaiako project meeting

## Funding determinations, 2025

ITENZ made a comprehensive submission on the 2025 funding determinations and a number of recommendations based on feedback received from members, along with other observations.

You can read the submission in the [Member Resources](#) area of the website.

## VET Reform proposal

By now many of you will have attended in-person or online briefings on the VET reforms. The proposed changes will impact PTEs working in the VET space.

Apart from anything else, we can expect a further extended period of change and disruption. Government will be focusing on managing the financial and structural change in the ITP sector and the standard-setting bodies and PTEs will be expected to adapt, as they always do.

One thing that is not mentioned in these proposals (or during RoVE) is that there is one part of the VET sector that is *not* in need of reform. The PTE sector continues to offer quality provision and produce excellent outcomes for learners and employers, despite the challenging funding conditions and sometimes uneven playing field.

It would be beneficial to everyone for Government to look at how this sector can be better supported.

We have sent all our ITENZ member contacts a summary of the possible impacts of the proposals on PTEs.

The funding changes (Proposal Three) will be welcomed by most campus-based and extramural providers; however, workplace learning providers (WBL) will see a cut.

WBL members stand to be most impacted by the proposed changes, depending on the final model chosen in Proposal Two.

For all providers of vocational qualifications, it will at least affect who you interact with and how you do so when it comes to standard setting, programme approvals, and other activities that are currently under the auspices of WDCs.

Providers in the regions might find that ITPs there have access to uncontested funding to attract international students and other learners to the regions.

If you haven't attended a public meeting or a webinar, you can find out more by attending the TEC-organised [webinar for funded PTEs for Friday 6th September](#). Bring any questions you have as this is an opportunity to get clarification on areas about which you (and almost certainly others) are unsure.

**The decisions are not a foregone conclusion and it is important that you make your voice heard.**

If you are the main contact for ITENZ, **please respond to the**

**questionnaire** you received by email so that we can accurately represent member views.

We also encourage you to make your own submission. Note that the questions in the consultation document are a guide; you can submit on any matter relevant to the proposed changes.

## 2024 strategic funding

TEC [have published details of the proposed uses of the 2024 PTE Strategic Funding](#), which was allocated to eligible PTEs through a non-contestable process earlier this year.

## ITENZ Conference

It is just over two weeks until the [ITENZ conference](#) and we have a great line up of speakers and exhibitors. Registrations are coming in fast so don't leave it too late to book your place.

Exhibitors you will be able to visit at the conference include:



## Student visas

Immigration NZ has announced [an increase in student visa fees](#) from 1 October to almost double what they are currently - from \$395 to \$750.

The rationale is that the 'heavily-tax payer-subsidized immigration system' [needs to become self funding](#); however, [Radio NZ reports](#) that the increased fees will bring in far more than is needed to meet INZ costs.

Meanwhile, we continue to try to understand the increasing rate of visa declines for some markets and how these can be improved. We have been advocating for more information on decline letters so that agents, students and providers know where the specific issues are and can improve if they need to. To that end ITENZ and other members of the alliance of international peak bodies will meet with INZ in September for a workshop

on visa application processes and decision making.

To assist students in their visa applications, Education NZ, together with INZ, has produced [a short video guide](#)

Minister Stanford made [a speech to EMA](#) in mid-August and although the focus is on migration and employment, it is a useful read to get some context for visa settings in general.

## ITENZ at the NZ International Education Conference

Giuliana Silveira represented ITENZ members on a PTE panel discussing the topic of *Competing globally at the leading edge*.

The well-attended presentation started with a detailed SWOT analysis and included discussion between Giuliana, Richard Kensington (UP Education) and Brijesh Sethi (QTI) as well as with the audience.

If you would like to know more, contact [admin@itenz.co.nz](mailto:admin@itenz.co.nz)

## ITENZ webinar: Fintech

**Title:** Fintech in Education: Transforming Student Payments and Beyond

### **Webinar Description:**

Join ITENZ as we host Flywire for an insightful session on how fintech is revolutionising the education sector. Learn how innovative financial

technologies are reshaping the way schools manage student payments and streamline operations.

- Explore key fintech trends impacting the education ecosystem.
- Understand how fintech solutions enhance student payment experiences.
- Discover strategies to integrate fintech into your school's financial operations.

**Date:** 30 October

**Time:** 1pm-2pm

Zoom meeting invitations will be sent to the main contact in each member organisation

### Microcredential webinar from ConCove

ConCOVE is hosting a webinar on *The Potential of Micro-credentials in Vocational Education.*

This webinar will highlight key findings from [ConCOVE's micro-credential project](#), examine the place of micro-credentials in New Zealand and discuss the key challenges and opportunities for the future.

#### **Event Details:**

Date: Tuesday, 17th September, 2024

Time: 1:30 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.

[Register to attend the webinar](#)

#### **What will be covered:**

- Overview of international trends and developments

- Implications for construction and infrastructure industries
- Domestic sector engagement and understanding of micro-credentials
- Next steps and recommendations for the place of micro-credential

## ITENZ Communities of Practice

[Minutes of previous meetings are here.](#)

### **Business and Compliance CoP**

The Business & Compliance Community of Practice (previously SDR Users CoP) has monthly meetings for administrators working with PTE compliance and reporting. Meetings are informal with a check in and discussion about any issues or questions that we have. New participants are welcome. We share concerns or interesting developments related to funding, meeting compliance requirements and maintaining business viability/growth.

**The next meeting is from 3 – 4 pm on Thursday 19 September 2024.**

Please email [jill.tuwhare@spcnm.ac.nz](mailto:jill.tuwhare@spcnm.ac.nz) if you'd like to be added to the mailing list.

### **Māori Engagement Rōpū**

The ITENZ Māori Engagement Rōpū meets monthly to share how members are supporting their Tauira, te ao Māori and te tiriti o Waitangi within their organisations and programmes. We have just set up a group on Teams for our meetings, to store meeting notes and to enable us to easily contact one another files. We are focussed on open discussion and

sharing where we are at.

All welcome to come along. For details on the next meeting, please contact Robyn – [robyn.carruthers@spcnm.ac.nz](mailto:robyn.carruthers@spcnm.ac.nz) or Tyree [tyree@trainingcentric.co.nz](mailto:tyree@trainingcentric.co.nz)

### **Foundation and Youth Guarantee CoP**

The YG and Foundation Community of Practice met on 6 August. The main discussion was about NCEA in the tertiary foundation education setting. The impact of the new NCEA literacy and numeracy co-requisites and enabling learners to achieve NCEA was at the heart of the discussion.

**The next meeting is scheduled for the 15<sup>th</sup> of October.**

### **International Education Forum**

Giuliana Silveira will be facilitating a session at the ITENZ conference with a focus on International Education.

Title: "Staying Ahead of the Curve: Agile Strategies for Rapid Market Response in the PTE sector"

Panellists (so far): Craig Musson from NTA and Sue Townshend from Le Cordon Bleu and Leonie Menzies from AIS

If you are not on the mailing list for this group and would like to be involved, contact Giuliana at [giuwork05@gmail.com](mailto:giuwork05@gmail.com)

### **Member news**

ConCOVE has partnered with Vertical Horizons and the New Zealand Institute of Building Surveyors (NZIBS) as part of its degree-level apprenticeship initiative in the second of three planned pilot programmes.

Executive Director of ConCOVE Tūhura, Katherine Hall, emphasised the importance of the collaboration.

*"Private training plays an important role in the wider vocational sector in Aotearoa New Zealand. In partnership with VHNZ, we can test and enhance the degree-level apprenticeship model through an alternate delivery mechanism. This collaboration is instrumental in scaling our programme to meet growing industry demand and ensure we develop a robust apprenticeship system that grows skilled graduates aligned with industry's immediate needs,"*

[ConCOVE website]

Ignite has co-sponsored the Australasian Tapas Competition.

Head of Global Education Partnership and Business Development at Skills Group, Jasbir Kaur, said

*"This annual event has become a calendar highlight, and is currently the biggest cookery competition in the country," "It is an unbeatable way of supporting our Kiwi chefs, giving them opportunities to showcase their skills on the global stage, and of course also promoting Aotearoa New Zealand's unique and world-class produce."*

[Hospitality Business magazine]

Reminders

NZQA Code attestations for PTEs due **1 November 2024**.

[Self review and attestation information sessions](#) will be held through September.



**Ngā mihi nui**  
**Wayne**

**Independent Tertiary Education New Zealand**

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