



ITENZ

Independent Tertiary Education
New Zealand

October 2024

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Message from the Chair



Welcome to the October Newsletter

We held the AGM on the 10th October and welcomed two new members to the board, Emily Cordwell and Jon Smith along with returning members, Jenny Jenkins, Andrea Ross and Nadia Tu'itahi. The board is back to its full capacity of nine members.

Further detail on the board members is within other sections of the newsletter.

We all look forward to working on your behalf. The first meeting of the new board will be on December 5th in Auckland. In between we are working on a new constitution and bylaws to meet the new Incorporated Societies Act 2022. We will be consulting on proposed changes soon.

We have been working on consultation documents currently out by NZQA, TEC and the Ministry of Education, but also encourage members to submit their own feedback as well.

I hope everyone has managed to complete their “Self Review Attestation for the Code of Practice”!

On the international front we have been continuing our work through the International Peak Alliance with INZ and ENZ to improve visa processing and we have been introduced and met with Mark Andrews the new acting Engagement Partner replacing Celia Coombes, who has been promoted to Director Visa within INZ. We have had a positive relationship with Celia over many years and we wish her well in her new role. Celia has advised that she will still be involved in some capacity going forward. We have had an initial meeting with Mark and will continue to build on the work already started with Celia. We have also arranged a meeting with Amanda Malu the new CE of Education NZ.

We continue to request a meeting with Immigration Minister Erica Stanford!

New ITENZ board members

We are pleased to welcome new board members, Emily Cordwell and Jon Smith.

Emily is an educational leader and manager with experience in both New Zealand and the United Kingdom. In 2023, she joined AsureQuality, a state-owned enterprise, to lead its PTE and is responsible for the commercial viability, growth, and quality assurance of the AsureQuality Academy, which offers over 130 courses across primary industries, food safety, meat processing, and environmental sectors. She works closely with external stakeholders such as NZQA, Workforce Development Councils, TEC, the Ministry for the Environment, and MPI.

Emily is passionate about education and making it accessible for all, leveraging the latest technological advancements. In 2022, she completed a four-year, part-time Master's in Digital Education with Massey University, focusing on the motivation and engagement of adult learners in online environments. She is currently studying Te Reo with the Open Polytechnic.



Jon's is General Manager Quality Assurance at Ignite and across the Skills group. He is an established and proven senior strategic academic leader with over twenty years' experience within further and higher education, and the learning and training sector, having worked intensively with domestic and international learners. He is highly experienced with a range of international educational qualification structures, awarding bodies, standards, and associated quality frameworks and systems.

His previous roles at NZQA, Northable, NorthTec and various roles in the UK have allowed him to work in a range of multicultural environments in different countries with learners, staff, employers, and industries. These experiences have provided a solid understanding and deep appreciation of stakeholder needs, capabilities, challenges, support requirements and the social disadvantage that learners may encounter whilst in education and

training.

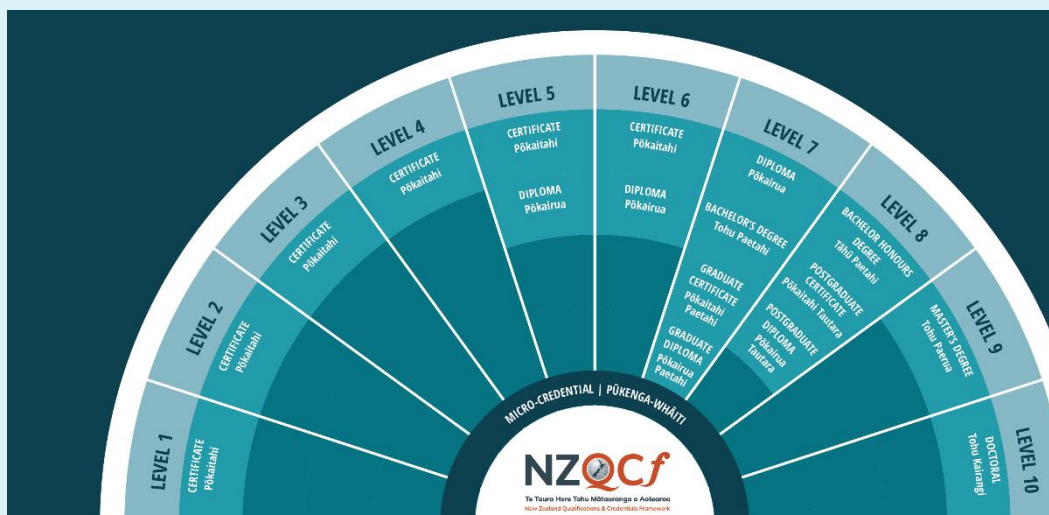
Jon was actively involved with Reform of Vocational Education (RoVE) work streams in his previous roles at NZQA and Senior Leadership roles within the ITP sector. Jon has been an NZQA External Evaluation Review (EER) team member conducting EER and Targeted Evaluation Reviews (TER) across the sector. He is passionate about quality assurance and continuous improvement.

Current consultations

nzqa consultation iqaf

NZQA

1. [Changes to NZQCF and Rules](#)



These changes include rewritten level descriptors and revised qualification descriptors. The visual representation of the framework has been updated to make it less hierarchical, level descriptors include more information

about skills at each level, and the section, *Application of knowledge and skills*, has been renamed *Context, Autonomy and Responsibility*. The transferrable skills of critical thinking, collaboration and communication are given added emphasis.

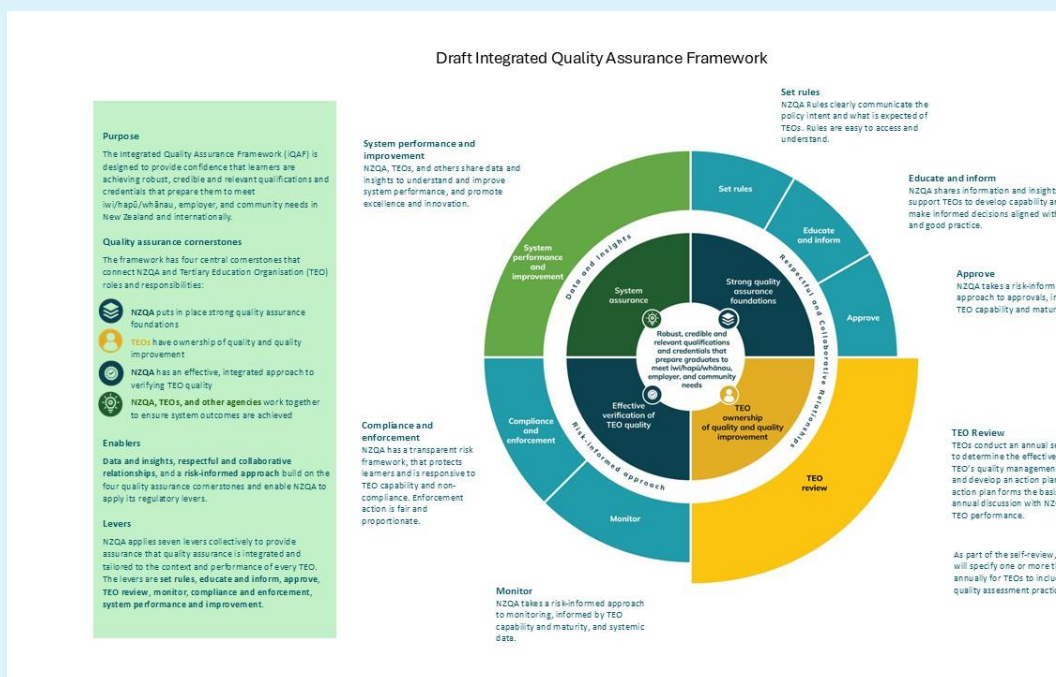
Qualification descriptors have changed slightly too, with the most obvious one being level 7 diplomas, which are now described as qualifying individuals with specialist technical knowledge and skills *within a niche area of study or specialist vocational context* rather than the more general *within a professional context*.

As these changes will have some impact on qualification outcomes and your programme design, it is worth looking at the consultation document and feeding back if you have questions or comments.

The Rules changes are mainly to support the above changes but also include changes to the English language requirements for international students. These have been shared previously and there are no real surprises.

Consultation closes on Sunday 17 November at 11.59pm

[2. QAF \(Quality Assurance Framework\) Redesign](#)



This consultation has just come out today and represents a **significant change** to the quality assurance framework, the ways in which quality is evaluated, and the roles providers and agencies play. It has been in development over the past couple of years and those of you who attended the ITENZ Conference will have seen Grant Klinkum's presentation of the proposed framework.

The intention is that the QA process is better aligned to the size and type of organisation underpinned by the cornerstones of strong quality assurance foundations, TEO ownership of quality and quality improvement, and effective verification of TEO quality and system assurance.

It would see the removal of EER categories and replacement of the four-year EER evaluation process with annual self-assessments.

Note that the QAF covers all aspects of quality assurance, not just EERs. (For example, assessment and moderation)

The changes will affect every provider.

ITENZ will be interested in understanding your views on the proposal, including whether, compared to the current system, it will help you better understand, manage and improve your quality; enable other stakeholders to better understand your quality; lead to more efficient and less costly QA systems and processes appropriate to your organisation type and size; and adequately identify and address concerns in those providers who are not delivering quality,.

NZQA is running **information sessions in November, which [you can register for here](#)**, and we recommend that you attend one to better understand the proposal.

Consultation closes on 10th December, 5pm

TEC

1. [TEC Significant Plan Amendments](#)

Proposed criteria will clarify when providers can make changes to their funding allocations without TEC approval and when they need to gain approval for changes. It applies to all providers receiving funding, not just those who submit an investment plan.

One proposed change worth noting is that a PTE will need TEC approval if it proposes to decrease or stop priority provision or if it proposes to stop provision where it is the only TEO offering that provision in New Zealand.

2. [TEC Refreshed Response Framework for Educational Delivery and Performance](#)

TEC are also consulting on a refreshed and renamed Performance Consequences Framework designed to reflect current context and policies. It contains no new information; it describes their existing approaches for managing educational delivery and performance where they need to improve, and presents the information in a clearer way.

Both TEC consultations close on 15th November, 5pm

[Video information session](#) on both

[Q&A](#)

We will be happy to hear your views on any of these consultations

Review of micro-credentials and training schemes

NZQA have announced that from January 2025, they will begin the review of the following types of micro-credentials and former training schemes:

- former training schemes delivered to domestic learners, except those that are basic first aid-related
- former training schemes of less than 12 weeks' duration delivered to international learners (e.g. people studying or training under student or working visas), except those that are English language tuition-related
- micro-credentials that were not listed under the current rules.

From January 2025, they will email providers who deliver the training schemes described above.

For more information, see [NZQA newsletter](#)

Aviation industry report highlights training shortages

A new report by Scarlatti and commissioned by Ringa Hora WDC and the Aviation Industry Association (AIA) provides detailed information on the aviation training sector and evidence that the industry is facing severe pilot and flight instructor shortages.

A cap on the number of domestically funded students and a cap on the amount of student loan available to individuals has locked many New Zealanders out of training.

In their media release, AIA calls for international students to be granted post study work rights so that they can stay on and work as flight instructors.

In 2019 the industry was contributing \$86 million in GDP, with 652 international students enrolled. 2023 figures show 186 students.

[See the AIA media release with a link to the full report here](#)

[See Ringa Hora article here](#)

How vocational education impacts wellbeing

Research conducted by the New Zealand Policy Research Institute, Te Kāhu Rangahau Mana Taurite aimed to quantify the wellbeing impacts of vocational education qualifications and explored the association between

post-school qualifications and wellbeing trajectories of learners. The findings were broken down by WDC and found that:

1. Demographic characteristics of learners differ by WDC.
2. Wellbeing outcomes differ by WDCs.
3. Wellbeing profiles also differ within WDCs.
4. Wellbeing outcomes change over time – but the directions differ by wellbeing type.
5. Higher qualification level is associated with better wellbeing outcomes.
6. Wellbeing outcomes differ by gender.
7. Wellbeing outcomes differ by ethnicity.

You can [read the full report here](#)

The study complements an earlier one titled [“Learner Pathways by Workforce Development Council”](#), which focuses on labour market and educational pathways.

ITENZ webinars

Two recent ITENZ webinars can be viewed on the [Member Resources](#) page of the website:

- Workforce Engineering - Presentation by People Partners
- Fintech in education - Presentation by Flywire

Upcoming webinar: **Immigration New Zealand updates and insights**

4 December 1-2pm NZT

In this informative session, we'll cover key updates and insights to help providers navigate the ever-evolving immigration landscape. Topics include:

1. **Immigration Update Overview**

Get the latest on recent changes and developments affecting immigration policies and processes.

2. **Preparing for the Upcoming Peak Period**

Key considerations and best practices for providers to ensure smooth operations during the busy peak season.

3. **Looking Ahead: 2025 and Beyond**

Insights into future immigration trends and what to expect in 2025 to help you plan ahead.

As with all webinars, a calendar invite will be sent to the main contact in each member organisation

ITENZ Communities of Practice

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

Business and Compliance CoP

We look forward to seeing you at our next meeting from 3 – 4 pm on Thursday 28 November 2024 – the last meeting of the year! We are delighted that **TEC staff will be attending the meeting** from 3 pm for approximately 20 minutes to answer questions from participants. Please email me any questions (in as succinct form as possible) by 9 am 11 November 2024.

Our monthly meetings are an informal get-together for administrators

working with PTE compliance and reporting, with a check in and discussion about any issues or questions. We share concerns or interesting developments related to funding, meeting compliance requirements and maintaining business viability/growth. New participants are welcome. Please email jill.tuwhare@spcnm.ac.nz if you'd like to be added to the mailing list.

We look forward to seeing you at our next meeting from **3 – 4 pm on Thursday 28 November 2024.**

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

Foundation and Youth Guarantee CoP

The YG and Foundation Community of Practice met on 15 October. The discussions included the vocational pathway unit standards for 2025, changes to NCEA and extension for the 266 series as co-requisites, and proposed changes to the NZQCF and NZQA rules. The next meeting is scheduled for the 12th of November.

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International Education Forum

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

ITENZ Conference 2025

We are excited about the 2025 Conference, which will be held at the Millennium Hotel in Queenstown on 16th and 17th September.

ITENZ has held rooms at the Millennium Hotel, too, if you wish to book accommodation.

The ITENZ website will shortly contain more information.

Keep an eye out for flight deals!



ITENZ Conference 2024 photos

ITENZ Conference photos are now available [to be viewed here.](#)



New members

We are pleased to welcome new ITENZ member, [Stratcom Security](#), who specialise in security and hospitality courses.

Reminders

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

- [How to upload Code attestation](#)

- [Code implementation for self review](#)

2. ITENZ membership information for 2025 due 1 November

3. The next peak bodies meetings will be on 27th November. If you have questions you would like raised, please let us know **by 7th November**.



Ngā mihi nui
Wayne

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