

NATIONAL SKILLS STANDARDS COUNCIL MEETING COMMUNIQUÉ

Melbourne, 26 October 2011

The National Skills Standards Council (NSSC) met in Melbourne on Wednesday 26 October 2011.

The meeting canvassed a range of standards related matters, including the Quality Indicators for RTOs, standards underpinning the VET workforce, Determination for trainer and assessor competencies, Training Packages, the standards for RTO registration and the standards for regulators (i.e. Registering Bodies and Course Accrediting Bodies).

In addition, the NSSC discussed a number of operational matters such as its reporting requirements to the Standing Committee of Tertiary Education, Skills and Employment, which includes providing advice on the operation of the regulators of VET, and principles for the governance arrangements established for each NSSC Work Plan project.

Summarised below are a number of key outcomes from the meeting that the NSSC wishes to highlight to the VET sector.

Determination for Trainers and Assessors

The NSSC, as a successor of the National Quality Council, is responsible for setting the competencies that VET trainers and assessors are required to hold if they are delivering training and assessment services (refer to AQTF Standard 1.4(a), and SNR 4.4(a) and SNR 15.4(a)).

At its meeting of 26 October 2011, the NSSC agreed that the *Determination of Trainer and Assessor Competencies for Trainers and Assessors* (currently published within the [AQTF Users' Guide's](#)) be amended such that:

1. Trainers must at a minimum hold TAE40110 Certificate IV in Training and Assessment or demonstrate equivalence of competencies;
2. Persons delivering training who are working under the direct supervision of a trainer that holds the Certificate IV in Training or Assessment or has demonstrated equivalent competency (as per #1 above), must at a minimum hold the 'Enterprise Trainer Skill Set' as identified in the TAE10 Training and Education Training Package or demonstrate equivalence of competencies; and
3. The period during which trainers (as per #1) and persons delivering training under direct supervision (as per #2) can work without holding the minimum competencies relevant to their roles is limited to two years.

The amended determination will be published in mid December 2011, with RTOs required to comply by 1 July 2013.

The competency requirements applying to assessors remain unchanged. The requirement to demonstrate vocational competencies at least to the level being assessed also remains unchanged.

The NSSC agreed to not amend the *Determination of Trainer and Assessor Competencies for Trainers and Assessors* to require equivalent competency to be demonstrated through a formal RPL process, which was recommended by the [Productivity Commission's Research Report on the VET Workforce](#) (April 2011).

Standards for RTO registration

The NSSC agreed to undertake, as a priority, a broad-scale review of the standards for the registration of RTOs. This review will encompass the standards and conditions contained within both the [AQTF Essential Conditions and Standards](#) and the [VET Quality Framework](#).

Consultation regarding the potential revision of the standards will be undertaken throughout 2012, with all stakeholders within the VET sector given the opportunity to provide input into the review. Appropriate implementation arrangements will be established to support any changes made to the standards.

Further information regarding the review will be communicated shortly.

Training Package endorsements

Since its establishment on 1 July 2011, the NSSC has endorsed the following Training Packages:

Innovation and Business Skills Australia

- TAE10 Training and Education Training Package Version 2
- BSB07 Business Services Training Package Version 6
- FNS10 Financial Services Training Package Version 2
- CUL11 Library, Information and Cultural Services Version 1

Manufacturing Skills Australia

- LMF02 Furnishing Training Package Version 7
- MSA07 Manufacturing Training Package Version 7
- LMT07 Textiles, Clothing and Footwear Training Package Version 4
- PMA08 Chemical, Hydrocarbons and Refining Training Package Version 3

Construction and Property Services Industry Skills Council

- CPP07 Property Services Training Package Version 8
- CPC08 Construction, Plumbing and Services Training Package Version 7

Agrifood Skills Australia

- FDF10 Food Processing Training Package Version 2

EE-Oz Training Standards Australia

- UEG11 Gas Industry Training Package Version 1

Details of each of the endorsed Training Packages will be reflected on www.training.gov.au shortly.

Other matters

The NSSC agreed that the Chair will provide a verbal update on the work of the NSSC at the next Standing Committee of Tertiary Education, Skills and Employment (SCOTESE) meeting, planned for 25 November 2011.

The next meeting of the NSSC will be held in Melbourne on Thursday, 8 December 2011.