Welcome to the October edition of the ASQA Update, prepared by the Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA)—the new national vocational education and training (VET) regulator.

The ASQA Update is sent monthly to ASQA registered training organisations (RTOs), course owners, stakeholders and subscribers.

ASQA updates and additional information about ASQA are available on our website at www.asqa.gov.au.

Current applications with ASQA

To guarantee the privacy of your RTO’s business, all future ASQA application updates should be requested by sending an email to enquiries@asqa.gov.au.

This email must be sent by one the contacts for your RTO listed on www.training.gov.au.

ASQA info line staff are unable to provide application status updates without written confirmation of identity.

The finer points of ASQA’s ‘Schedule of fees and charges’

Changing RTO scope and CRICOS scope for the same qualification:
When you submit an application to change RTO scope and an application to change CRICOS scope for the same qualification, you only need to pay the CRICOS change of scope fee.

Here’s how you do it:

- Submit an ‘Application to change scope of RTO registration’ using ASQA’s online application system, ASQAnet. (You can access ASQAnet at www.asqa.gov.au/asqanet.html.)
- Pay the required fee for changing your RTO scope of registration (this fee is automatically generated by ASQAnet, based on your application).
- Complete the ‘Application to amend CRICOS registration’ form, which can be found at www.asqa.gov.au/forms.html.
- Email the completed ‘Application to amend CRICOS registration’ form to registration@asqa.gov.au.
- Ensure that you quote the application reference number from your ASQAnet application in this email.
- Pay the additional cost—the difference between the RTO fee (charged by ASQAnet) and the fee for your CRICOS application—so that in total you only pay the CRICOS change of scope fee.

Amending both student capacity and delivery sites (CRICOS):
When completing an ‘Application to amend CRICOS registration’ form, if you are applying to both amend student capacity and add additional delivery sites, please ensure that:

- you submit a single application, and
- you only pay single fee of $700 (in total).

If you submit separate applications for a change of student capacity and additional site changes, ASQA will charge you two fees of $700 (i.e. a total of $1400).

Registration renewal assessment fees—transitioning RTOs from NSW:
The registration renewal assessment fee does not apply to RTOs transitioning from NSW for their first renewal of registration with ASQA. Transitioning RTOs have already paid this fee in their annual fees—as set by VETAB.

Further information on ASQA’s Schedule of fees and charges can be found on the ASQA website, or for help understanding which fees apply to you, call the ASQA info line on 1300 701 801.
ASQA Commissioners—formal appointments

The Minister for Education, Employment and Workplace Relations has formally appointed Mr Chris Robinson as ASQA’s Chief Commissioner, and Dr Dianne Orr as ASQA’s Commissioner (Compliance).

Mr Robinson’s and Dr Orr’s appointments commenced on 1 October 2011. The appointments are for a period of five years.

Mr Robinson and Dr Orr have been acting in these roles since ASQA commenced operations on 1 July.

The process to appoint a third Commissioner of ASQA, who will have responsibility for ‘Risk Analysis and Investigations’, is underway, and is expected to conclude in the coming months.

Apply through ASQAnet

ASQA’s online registration system, ASQAnet, is now available.

Registered training organisations (RTOs) and applicants wishing to become RTOs can now use ASQAnet to make the following applications:

- Application for initial RTO registration
- Application to renew RTO registration
- Application to change scope of RTO registration
- Application to withdraw RTO registration.

Detailed video tutorials on the ASQA website take you through the steps of registering to use ASQAnet, logging in, managing your details and submitting registration applications.

- Find out more about ASQAnet.

With the introduction of ASQAnet, **ASQA will no longer accept hard copy applications for the four VET applications listed above.**

**Please note:** All evidence requirements should be submitted to ASQA via email.

National Skills Standards Council publishes clarification on the new Standards

The National Skills Standards Council (the NSSC) is the national body that sets and maintains the standards used to assess providers of vocational education and training.

The NSSC recently published a communiqué providing clarification on its role, and on the standards for the regulation of VET.

- Read the NSSC’s first communiqué.

The NSSC operates independently of ASQA (and of regulators of vocational education and training in non-referring states). This separation of the standard-setting function from the regulatory function is designed to maximise the independence of the respective bodies, improve probity and minimise conflicts of interest. Despite this separation, the NSSC and ASQA will remain interconnected and will closely affect the work of each other through sharing of information.

Further information


Call the ASQA info line on 1300 701 801 to speak to an adviser, Monday to Friday, from 9.00 am to 7.00 pm EST.

You can also ask ASQA a question or provide feedback by emailing [enquiries@asqa.gov.au](mailto:enquiries@asqa.gov.au).