





Issue 79 - December 2022

# **Welcome to the December TAC Update**

Welcome to the final TAC Update of 2022. It has been another busy year for the VET sector with a continued and increased focus on vocational education and training as a key contributor to the Western Australian workforce and productivity, creating increased opportunities and pathways for learners. The Council acknowledges the substantial efforts of TAC regulated Registered Training Organisations (RTOs) over the year and their ongoing commitment to their learners and the delivery of quality training and assessment.

The Council remains a key contributor to RTO professional development in the sector to encourage and promote compliance practices and quality training outcomes. Over the past 12 months the Council has provided:

- 15 <u>webinars</u> or <u>workshops</u> including 2 regional workshops;
- one TAC event on <u>Supporting Quality in the VET Sector</u>;
- new and revised TAC Fact Sheets and TAC Talks Podcasts episodes; and
- a continuing <u>TAC LinkedIn</u> profile and <u>YouTube Channel</u>.

The next year also looks to be incredibly busy for national Skills Reform including the revised Standards for RTOs, <u>qualifications reform</u> and the introduction of <u>Jobs and Skills Councils</u>. The current consultation process on the revised Standards provides a unique opportunity for WA stakeholders to provide input to ensure the Standards are fit-for-purpose and effective in meeting the needs of the VET sector and the Council encourages RTOs to engage in this consultation process.

Finally, the TAC Secretariat will close for a short period from Monday 26 December 2022, re-opening on Tuesday 3 January 2023. The Council and Secretariat staff wish you all a wonderful festive season and look forward to working with you in 2023.

# What's in this edition?

- TAC Education Program
- Strategic Industry Audit into Units of Competency leading to High Risk Work Licences in Western Australia

- Revision of the Standards for RTOs
- Qualification Model Consultation
- Release of Version 5 of the TAE Training Package
- New Podcasts TAC Talks
- Transition Extensions
- Other important updates



# **TAC Education Program - upcoming events**

Register now for one TAC's Education Program webinars in 2023.















Recordings and resources from previous sessions are also available to view on the <u>TAC website</u>.



# Strategic Industry Audit into Units of Competency leading to High Risk Work Licences in Western Australia

The Council's <u>Focus on Quality: Regulatory</u>
<u>Strategy 2021-2023</u> identifies units of competency leading to High Risk Work Licences as an area of focus. Issues that have come to the attention of the Council include: the amount of training; meeting the requirements of the training package;



assessment, including recognition of prior learning and the use of national assessment instruments; vocational competencies and industry currency of trainers and assessors; facilities and equipment; third party agreements; industry engagement; and information provided to prospective learners and marketing.

Planning for the SIA has commenced and TAC RTOs selected to participate in the review will be contacted shortly.

For further information please refer to the <u>TAC Special Bulletin - HRWL SIA.</u>



## **Revision of the Standards for RTOs**

As part of the national skills reform agenda, the Commonwealth Government's Department of Employment and Workplace Relations (DEWR) has released the draft revised Standards for RTOs.

The Council encourages all providers and stakeholders to participate in the consultation process to ensure the draft revised Standards are fit-for-purpose and effective in meeting the needs of the VET sector. You can participate in the consultation process by:

- Reading the consultation paper and supporting resources.
- Providing written feedback using the <u>online survey tool</u> by 31 January.



# **Qualifications Model Consultation**

The Commonwealth Government's Department of Employment and Workplace Relations (DEWR) are seeking your feedback on the proposed qualifications model through an <u>online survey</u>.

Before completing the survey, read about the proposed qualifications model on the <u>Department of Employment and Workforce Relations</u> website. The survey will close on **17 March 2023**.



# Release of Version 5 of the TAE Training Package

Version 5 of the TAE Training Package was approved by the Australian Industry Skills Committee on 8 November 2022 and endorsed by Skills Ministers on 18 November 2022.

Version 5 includes a new TAE40122 Certificate IV in Training and Assessment that supersedes and is equivalent to TAE40116 Certificate IV in Training and Assessment.

The Trainer and Assessor qualification requirements in Schedule 1 of the Standards for Registered Training Organisations remains unchanged and there is currently no requirement for existing trainers and assessors to 'upgrade' to TAE40122 Certificate IV in Training and Assessment.

For further information please refer to the <u>TAC Special Bulletin</u>.



# **New Podcasts - TAC Talks**

Two new podcasts are now available:

- <u>Ep9 Transition Arrangements</u>
- <u>Ep10 Protecting Learners when there are Industry Licensing Outcomes</u>



These podcasts can be listed to via PodBean app, Google Podcasts, Apple, Spotify or YouTube



#### **Transition Extensions**

At the December meeting, the Council agreed to extend the transition period for one qualification from the Construction, Plumbing and Services (CPC) Training Package.

A full list of training products approved for an extended transition period is available on the <u>TAC Website</u>.

The Council may consider requests to extend the transition period of a superseded training product when certain conditions apply. Further information is available on the <u>TAC Website</u>.



# Other important updates

#### **Jobs and Skills Councils**

The Commonwealth Government has announced the establishment of 10 new Jobs and Skills Council's for Australia's vocational training system. These organisations will collaborate with Jobs and Skills Australia (JSA), industry and a range of key stakeholders to address the many workforce planning and skills development challenges facing the nation. The Jobs and Skills Council's will be established from January 2023 and will be in place for all major sectors of the economy.

The new arrangements will replace the current Australian Industry and Skills Committee (AISC), Industry Reference Committees (IRC) and Skills Service Organisations (SSO). The AISC, IRCs and SSOs will remain in operation until 31 December 2022 to ensure continuity and stability of the VET system during transition to the new arrangements.

To find out more about the Jobs and Skills Councils arrangements visit the Australian Government Department of Employment and Workplace Relations New industry engagement architecture

## **Ombudsman WA - Reportable Conduct Scheme**





The Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse highlighted the numerous times and ways in which children reported abuse and were not believed, or no action was taken. The Royal Commission recommended that States and Territories establish Reportable Conduct Schemes to prevent harm to children by holding organisations accountable for the conduct of their staff.

The Ombudsman WA is expected to commence WA's Reportable Conduct Scheme on **1 January 2023**. Providers of education services who have care, supervision or authority over children (under 18), such as RTOs, will be expected to comply with this scheme. Information for RTOs such as frequently asked questions, information sheets and webinars is available on the Ombudsman's website.

## **Extension to WHS Risk Management Units of Competency**

Under Work Health and Safety (Mines) Regulations 2022, a number of health and safety risk management units have been approved for individuals appointed to statutory positions.



WorkSafe advises the period of recognition of issued Units of Competency has been extended from 1 January 2023 to 31 March 2023. This date has been selected to align with the first anniversary of the WHS (Mines) regulations coming into effect. Further queries can be directed to <a href="Worksafe">Worksafe</a>.

# Inquiry into the Perceptions and Status of Vocational Education and Training

On 30 November 2022, the House Standing Committee on Employment, Education and Training (the Committee) commenced an inquiry into the perceptions and status of vocational education and training.

The Committee invites interested persons and organisations to make a submission to the inquiry addressing the <u>terms of reference</u> by 1 March 2023.

#### The Australian Skills Guarantee

The Australian Skills Guarantee (the Guarantee) is an Australian Government commitment which aims to ensure one in 10 workers on major, federally funded government projects is an apprentice, trainee or paid cadet.

To inform the design and implementation of the Guarantee, stakeholders are invited to read the <u>Australian Skills Guarantee Discussion Paper</u> and make a submission by 22 December 2022.



### **Latest NCVER Reports**

NCVER have released the following new reports:



- Government-funded students and courses January to June 2022
- NCVER annual report 2021-22
- Delivery of VET: emerging trends in response to the COVID-19 pandemic





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The Training Accreditation Council acknowledges Aboriginal peoples as the first sovereign Nations of Western Australia. We acknowledge their ancestral ties to the land and spiritual connection to Country. We acknowledge Elders both past and present, and value the contribution of Aboriginal people within our organisation. We support the Uluru Statement from the Heart and embrace its invitation to walk alongside Aboriginal people, united in a movement for a better future for all Australians.