



TAC Regulatory Strategy 1 January 2026 – 30 June 2027

Quality outcomes in the Vocational Education and Training (VET) sector are fundamental to the development of a skilled workforce to meet the needs of industry, productivity and the State Government's workforce agenda. As the Western Australian VET regulator, the Training Accreditation Council's (TAC or the Council) primary role is to assure the quality of training services through effective regulation of providers and accreditation of courses.

The <u>TAC Risk Framework</u> outlines how the Council manages risk through the strategies it uses to identify, quantify and treat risks, at all times seeking to apply targeted, proportionate and timely regulatory responses. A fundamental aspect in the Council's risk approach is the ongoing review of risks to the quality of VET and the publication of the TAC Regulatory Strategy.

In developing the *Focus on Quality: TAC Regulatory Strategy 1 January 2026 - 30 June 2027* (the Strategy), the Council has considered the current significant VET reforms and additional pressures these may create for the sector, including the implementation of the <u>Registration Standards 2025</u> (2025 Standards) from 1 January 2026.

The priorities and regulatory activities outlined in the Strategy have been informed by research, data analysis and extensive stakeholder engagement with industry, government and community.

As part of its regulatory approach, the Council also maintains regular communication with all stakeholders through <u>TAC Updates</u> and <u>LinkedIn</u> posts and undertakes a comprehensive Education Program, which provides professional development to Registered Training Organisations (RTOs) through webinars and guidance materials available on the <u>TAC website</u>.

The Council has established the <u>TAC Registration Standards 2025 Hub</u> as a key mechanism to support RTOs in their transition to the 2025 Standards and serves as a reliable source of truth for WA RTOs.

During 2026-2027, the Council will:

- Continue to support RTOs as they implement the 2025 Standards.
- Focus regulatory strategies on areas deemed to pose a risk to quality outcomes, categorised under three headings – 2025 Standards; Training Products; and Sector Monitoring. The latter involving a review of RTOs that have had minimal or no regulatory assessment to ensure sufficient oversight of the sector.
- Continue to provide a comprehensive education program that supports quality outcomes and compliance practices.

1. Registration Standards 2025 (2025 Standards)

During the period of the Strategy, the Council will actively monitor RTOs against requirements related to assessment practices; VET workforce; and third-party arrangements, in addition to focusing on new RTO requirements contained within the 2025 Standards related to Training; VET Student Support; and Governance.

Audits undertaken by the Council will focus on the following Outcome Standards:

Training and Assessment

- 1.1 Training is engaging, well-structured and enables students to attain skills/knowledge consistent with the training product.
- 1.3 The assessment system is fit-for-purpose and consistent with the training product.
- 1.4 The assessment system ensures assessment is conducted in a way that is fair and appropriate and enables accurate assessment judgement of VET student competency.
- 1.6 VET students with prior skills, knowledge and competencies are supported to seek recognition of prior learning to progress through the relevant training product.
- 1.8 Facilities, resources and equipment for each training product are fit-for-purpose, safe accessible and sufficient.

Due to stakeholder concerns with the quality of assessment undertaken through **Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)**, further work will be undertaken to identify the best approach to target assessment of RPL compliance in priority areas..

VET Student Support

- 2.1 VET students have access to clear and accurate information concerning the provider, the relevant training product, and students are made aware of any changes that may affect them.
- 2.2 VET students are advised, prior to enrolment, about the suitability of the training product for them, taking into account the student's skills and competencies.

VET Workforce

- 3.1 The workforce is effectively managed to ensure appropriate staffing to deliver services.
- 3.2 Training and assessment is delivered to VET students by credentialled people with current skills and knowledge in training and assessment.
- 3.3 Training and assessment is delivered by people with current industry skills and knowledge relevant to the training product.

Governance

- 4.2 Roles and responsibilities of WA registered provider staff and third parties are clearly defined and understood.
- 4.3 Any risks to VET students, staff and the provider itself are identified and managed.
- 4.4 A WA registered provider undertakes systematic monitoring and evaluation of the provider to support quality delivery and continuous improvement of services.

Audits undertaken by the Council will also focus on the following Compliance Standard: Compliance Standard: 17 - Third Party arrangements.

2. Training products

Early Childhood Education and Care

Quality delivery in early childhood education and care (ECEC) qualifications continue to be a focus for stakeholders and the safety and protection of children is a high priority for all governments.

The Council is committed to continuing to work collaboratively with the Department of Communities' Education and Care Regulatory Unit, to identify emerging risks and address concerns about the quality of training and assessment in the CHC30121 Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care and the CHC50125 Diploma in Early Childhood Education and Care.

Early Childhood Education and Care Qualifications

Applications to add and **renewal of registration applications** that include the CHC30121Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care and/or CHC50125 Diploma in Early Childhood Education and Care will require an audit.

Prepare to Work Safely in the Construction Industry

Stakeholder concerns regarding the quality of training and assessment in *CPCWHS1001 Prepare to work safely in the construction industry*, particularly in relation to online delivery and engagement of learners remain. The unit of competency plays a critical role under the Work Health and Safety (WHS) legislation in Western Australia and is linked to the general construction induction training card (the White Card), which applies to all workers doing construction work at a workplace in Western Australia.

General Construction Induction Training (White) Card

Applications to add and **renewal of registration applications** for the *CPCWHS1001 Prepare to work safely in the construction industry* unit of competency will require an audit.

Monitoring audits of RTOs with the *CPCWHS1001 Prepare to work safely in the construction industry* on scope of registration will be undertaken and include RTOs:

- who were **not** audited during the 2023-2025 Strategy; or
- found non-compliant at main audit during the 2023-2025 Strategy to assess ongoing compliance.

3. Strategic Industry Reviews

Approved WHS Risk Management Units for Statutory Positions in the Mining Sector

'Appointed statutory positions' are prescribed in the *Work Health and Safety (Mines) Regulations 2022* for designated roles within a mining operation. Eligibility for appointment requires a person to have completed one or more units of competency in health and safety risk management, selected from either the Business Services Training Package or the Resources and Infrastructure Training Package. Due to their critical role in maintaining health and safety in mining operations and significant risks if quality training and assessment is not maintained, these units of competency will be a focus for the Council over the period.

Applications to add units of competency linked to Approved WHS Risk Management units for Statutory Positions in the **Business Services (BSB) Training Package** and the **Resources and Infrastructure (RII) Training Package** to scope of registration will require an audit.

The Council will undertake **further consultation** with stakeholders in the first half of 2026 to jointly develop a targeted, risk-based audit strategy for units of competency linked to approved WHS Risk Management units for Statutory Positions in the **Business Services (BSB) Training Package** and the **Resources and Infrastructure (RII) Training Package.** It is anticipated that an audit strategy be implemented in the 2026/2027 financial year.

Units of Competency that lead to High Risk Work Licences (HRWLs)

Concerns with the quality of training and assessment in units of competency that lead to HRWLs include RTOs with high volume enrolments, short duration of training, assessments being conducted on out-of-date or inappropriate equipment, and students not being job ready on completion.

Applications to add the following units of competency that lead to **High Risk Work Licences** to scope of registration will require an audit.

The Council will undertake **further consultation** with stakeholders in the first half of 2026 to jointly develop a targeted, risk-based audit strategy for the units of competency that lead to **High Risk Work Licences**:

- CPCCLDG3001 Licence to perform dogging
- CPCCLSF2001 Licence to erect, alter and dismantle scaffolding basic level
- CPCCLSF4001 Licence to erect, alter and dismantle scaffolding advanced level
- TLILIC0040 Licence to operate a non-slewing mobile crane (greater than (greater than 3 tonnes capacity).

It is anticipated that an audit strategy be implemented in the 2026/2027 financial year.

4. Sector Monitoring

To identify and mitigate risks to quality and compliance during the transition to the 2025 Standards, the Council will continue to maintain focus on monitoring RTOs that have had no or minimal regulatory assessment in the last three years.

Over the period of the Strategy, the Council will maintain focus on **monitoring** RTOs that have had no or minimal regulatory assessment in the last three years or more.

The Council considers and responds to risks to the VET sector as they arise. New risks that emerge following publication of this document will be considered and regulatory strategies responding to those risks will be announced via the Council's established communication strategies.