

Australian **Qualifications *Framework***

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2011

Implementation Arrangements



The Ministerial Council for Tertiary Education and Employment approved revisions to the AQF and the following implementation arrangements in March 2011.

1 Implementation of the AQF will commence on 1 July 2011.

For the higher education sector, use of the AQF will commence from the date of commencement of the regulatory functions of the Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency. Implementation may commence voluntarily from 1 July 2011.

For the VET sector, use of the AQF will commence from 1 July 2011.

For the school sector, use of the AQF in the school sector may commence voluntarily.

2 All requirements of the AQF will be met from 1 January 2015.

3 From 1 January 2015, all new enrolments will be in qualifications that meet the requirements of the AQF. From this date, students already enrolled in qualifications may complete the qualification in which they enrolled or may transfer without disadvantage to an equivalent qualification that meets the requirements of the AQF. Authorised issuing organisations¹ will have publicly available policies or procedures to assist with this transition.

4 Accrediting authorities² and developers of AQF qualifications³ will have in place policies and processes in sufficient time to ensure that the implementation arrangements are met.

¹The authorised issuing organisations for AQF qualifications currently (2010) in place are:

- State and territory government authorised statutory bodies responsible for issuing the Senior Secondary Certificate of Education in their own state and territory.
- State and territory government accrediting authorities for vocational education and training responsible for authorising registered training organisations (RTOs) to issue AQF qualifications.
- State and territory government accrediting authorities for higher education responsible for authorising non-self accrediting higher education institutions to issue AQF qualifications.
- Universities and other self-accrediting higher education institutions responsible for issuing their own AQF qualifications.

²The accrediting authorities, currently (2010) in place are:

- State and territory government authorised statutory bodies responsible for the *Senior Secondary Certificate of Education*.
- State and territory government accrediting authorities for *vocational education and training* responsible for accrediting AQF qualifications and for authorising registered training organisations (RTOs) to issue AQF qualifications. The National Quality Council, a committee of the Ministerial Council for Tertiary Education and Employment, is responsible for the endorsement of AQF qualifications in national Training Packages.
- State and territory government accrediting authorities for *higher education* responsible for accrediting AQF qualifications and authorising non-self accrediting higher education institutions to issue them.
- Universities and other self-accrediting higher education institutions responsible for accrediting and issuing their own AQF qualifications.

³The developers of AQF qualifications for accreditation currently (2010) are:

- State and territory government authorised statutory bodies responsible for the Senior Secondary Certificate of Education.
- Industry Skills Councils in the vocational education and training sector responsible for developing AQF qualifications in national Training Packages.
- Registered training organisations (RTOs) and other stakeholder groups responsible for developing AQF qualifications for accreditation for their own use.
- Higher education institutions in the higher education sector responsible for developing AQF qualifications for accreditation for their own use.
- Universities and other self-accrediting higher education institutions responsible for developing and accrediting AQF qualifications for their own use.