

Australian Qualifications Framework

Newsletter

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AQF Policy for the addition or removal of qualification types: Final draft

The purpose of the Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) policy for the addition or removal of qualifications types is to ensure that the AQF has flexibility and is responsive to Australia's changing education and employment environment. This policy will ensure that changes to the structure of the AQF are able to be made and do not compromise the stability of the AQF.

Principles for the addition or removal of qualification types from the AQF were included in the paper *Strengthening the AQF: An architecture for Australia's qualifications* in September 2009 that was circulated to all stakeholders for comment. Feedback indicated that the principles were received positively and this feedback has been incorporated into the new AQF *Policy for the addition or removal of qualification types*.

The AQF Council will include this new policy in its advice to the Ministerial Council for Tertiary Education and Employment (MCTEE) on Strengthening the AQF later this year.

A copy of the policy is available on the AQF website (links through the home page www.aqf.edu.au)

AQF Qualification Issuance Policy: Second draft for discussion

This policy sets out the AQF policy for issuing AQF qualifications and provides the basis for the protection of the titles of AQF qualifications through consistency in their application across the education and training sectors.

The draft policy was circulated to all stakeholders for comment during 2009 and feedback was received from 32 VET and higher education stakeholders across Australia.

The direction of the policy and protocols was supported by all respondents who agreed that specifying the minimum content on testamurs added to the protection of Australian qualifications. Many comments and suggestions were provided and many of these have been incorporated into the second draft.

The AQF Council is seeking further comment from stakeholders.

The consultation paper and letter to stakeholders is available on the AQF website at <http://www.aqf.edu.au>

Submissions can be sent to the AQF Council at aqfc@sa.gov.au by 30 April, 2010.

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Testing the AQF - online survey

An on-line survey is currently gathering data to empirically test the AQF levels criteria, the qualification type descriptors and where existing AQF qualification types should be placed in a strengthened AQF.

To do the survey please go to www.aqf.edu.au and click on the link to the survey. It will take about 20 minutes to complete.

Contact Suzy McKenna for more information.