



Catherine Williams  
**Deputy Chief Executive  
 Strategic and Corporate  
 Services Division**

Catherine joined NZQA in 2007 as Chief Information Officer and was appointed to her current role in October 2008.

Catherine previously had a long career with the National Australia Bank in a variety of strategic and change management roles internationally. She has significant experience in corporate service functions, much of it gained through her background in the management of technology.

The Strategic and Corporate Services Division is responsible for:

- strategic functions – planning and performance, operational policy and international
- corporate functions – finance, information services, human resources, administration and legal services
- internal audit
- leadership and management of NZQA's Pasifika Strategy.



## Our role

The New Zealand Qualifications Authority ensures that New Zealand qualifications are valued as credible and robust, both nationally and internationally.

A Crown Agency, NZQA is one of six government education agencies. We seek to be known for the quality of our services, which span the secondary and tertiary education sectors. We administer the National Certificate of Educational Achievement (NCEA) for secondary school students, are responsible for the quality assurance of non-university tertiary education organisations, and promote the understanding, comparability and recognition of New Zealand qualifications internationally.

We develop, register and support the New Zealand Qualifications Framework (NZQF), a directory of all New Zealand qualifications. We maintain the Directory of Assessment Standards – national standards used in qualifications.

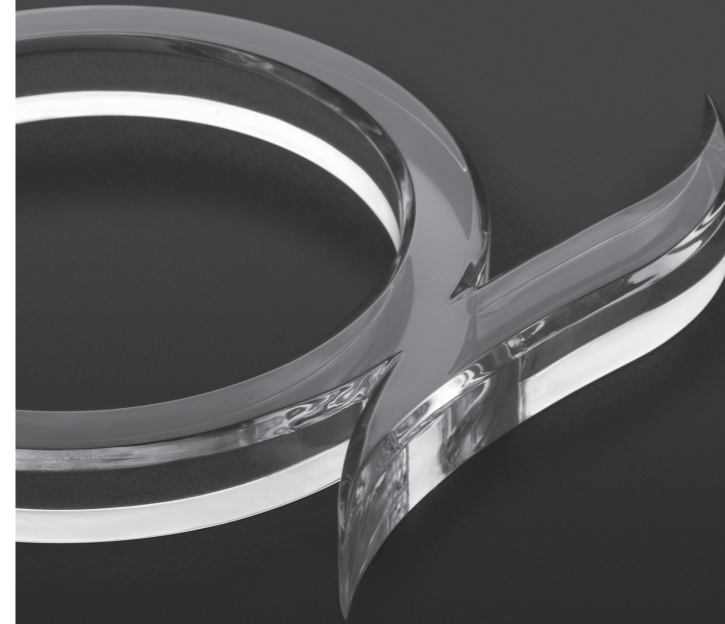
NZQA has a team of approximately 430 (full-time equivalent) staff. Most of our employees are located in our Wellington office, though we have a small Auckland office and a small number of staff throughout the country. NZQA also contracts a specialist workforce around the country to set, administer and mark exams.

NZQA has an annual budget of approximately \$80m. This is fairly evenly split between Crown revenue and third party revenue.

NZQA is governed by an independent board of eight to ten members appointed by the Minister of Education. These members reflect industry, community and education interests. The Board is responsible for setting the strategic direction of NZQA, in consultation with appropriate Ministers. The Board ensures that NZQA carries out its legislative functions, monitors the organisation's performance and appoints the Chief Executive.

For more information on our role and functions see:

[www.nzqa.govt.nz](http://www.nzqa.govt.nz)



NEW ZEALAND QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY  
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NEW ZEALAND QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY  
 MANA TOHU MĀTAURANGA O AOTEAROA

NZQA Strategic  
 Management Team

NEW ZEALAND QUALIFICATIONS

AUTHORITY

## Introducing the Strategic Management Team

The New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA) is led by its Strategic Management Team, which comprises the Chief Executive, and four Deputy Chief Executives.

NZQA is organised into three divisions:

- Qualifications
- Quality Assurance
- Strategic and Corporate Services.

Each division is managed by one of the Deputy Chief Executives, and the Deputy Chief Executive Māori is supported by the Office of the Deputy Chief Executive Māori.

The Strategic Management Team values its relationships with its clients and we look forward to working with you.



Dr Karen Poutasi  
**Chief Executive**

Karen was appointed Chief Executive of NZQA in May 2006. Previously Karen was Director-General of Health, having worked for more than 25 years in senior roles in health services management. Karen is a medical graduate of Otago University and her area of specialisation is public health medicine. She has Otago and Harvard management qualifications.

**The Office of the Chief Executive**, managed by Gwenda Jenkins, is responsible for:

- executive support to the Chief Executive and Board
- communications
- Ministerial liaison.



Daryn Bean  
**Deputy Chief Executive Māori**

Daryn joined NZQA in May 2009. He has extensive public sector experience at the interface of Māori development and brings high-level relationship management skills, strategic and leadership development capabilities in the areas of education, international business and community development.

From Te Arawa, Daryn holds a Masters in Public Administration (Exec) from Victoria University and the Australian School of Government (ANZSOG) as well as a post-graduate degree in Management and a Bachelor of Business Studies degree from Massey University.

**The Office of the Deputy Chief Executive Māori** is responsible for:

- leadership and management of *Te Rautaki Māori* – NZQA's Māori Strategy
- managing strategic relationships with Māori/iwi, including Nga Kaitūhono and NZQA's Māori Economic Forum
- Supporting NZQA's commitment to higher Māori education achievement.



Richard Thornton  
**Deputy Chief Executive  
Qualifications Division**

Richard joined NZQA in January 2012 having been a National Manager with the Education Review Office and a secondary school Principal for ten years prior to that. Richard has also had ten years of extensive management experience in the business sector.

Richard has a maths teaching background and has chosen to work in low decile, multi-cultural communities. He was a member of the National Executive of the Secondary Principals' Association of New Zealand and on the Executive of the Auckland Secondary School Principals' Association.

**The Qualifications Division** is responsible for:

- unit standard-based tertiary qualifications – records, assessment support material and moderation
- working with tertiary providers to ensure their internal assessments of unit standard qualifications are at the national standard
- developing and maintaining unit standards and national qualifications on the New Zealand Qualifications Framework that are in areas of government priority and generic in nature, or in Field Māori
- maintaining the standards based Record of Achievement
- secondary qualifications – setting, preparing and marking secondary school examinations (NCEA and NZ Scholarship), liaising with secondary schools on assessment matters, moderation of internal assessment
- quality assuring the assessment practice of secondary schools and other secondary providers
- providing a qualifications recognition service for people from overseas wishing to live, work or study in New Zealand.



Tim Fowler  
**Deputy Chief Executive  
Quality Assurance Division**

Tim joined NZQA in February 2009. Tim has had a career in the higher education and international business sectors in both Australia and New Zealand. He brings to NZQA extensive experience in business process re-engineering, building service delivery teams and achieving outcomes through performance and relationship management systems.

**The Quality Assurance Division** is responsible for:

- making rules in regard to qualifications, programmes and training schemes that apply across the tertiary education sector
- registering private training establishments
- accrediting and quality assuring private training establishments, government training establishments, wānanga, industry training organisations and institutes of technology and polytechnics
- approving all qualifications and programmes developed by private training establishments, government training establishments, wānanga and institutes of technology and polytechnics
- registering and quality assuring standards and national qualifications as part of the Directory of Assessment Standards
- administering the New Zealand Qualifications Framework
- overarching quality assurance projects.