

TO: Organisations with NZQA accreditation for level 6 and 7 computing unit standards and qualifications

**ATTENTION: CEOs
Academic Managers
Heads of Department
Tutors**

**c.c: NZQA Course Approvals
NZQA Provider Registration and Accreditation
Tertiary Education Commission**

Exit from Standard Setting Responsibility – Computing unit standards and qualifications at level 6 and 7

In May 2006, the New Zealand Qualifications Authority's (NZQA) National Qualifications Services team proposed a final date of July 2009 for the award of Computing unit standards and qualifications at level 6 and 7.

After further feedback and consultation, National Qualification Services now intends to establish a three year transition period and set the final date for award of the unit standards and qualifications categorized for deregistration as December 2011. This will impact on the following domains and qualifications:

- Computer management
- Computer operations
- Computer support
- Software development – design
- Software development – multimedia
- Software development – programming
- Software development – system assurance and documentation.
- National Diploma in Computing (Level 7) with optional strands in Management, Operations, Support, and Software Development
- National Diploma in Computing (level 6) with optional strands in Management, Operations, Support, Generic Computing, and Software Development.

Additionally, the National Diploma in Computing (level 5) with optional strands in Management, Operations, Support, Generic Computing, and Software Development will

be reviewed in conjunction with the level two, level three and level four qualifications after which a decision regarding its retention will be made.

The proposed transition period will allow:

- currently accredited providers time to revert to provider developed courses
- standard setting bodies time to revise any qualifications containing effected standards.

During the transition period, existing providers will be able to continue to enrol students providing their programme of study is shorter than the transition period and providers can ensure completion of the programme before the final date for the award.

Confirmation of the final date for award will occur once the application for deregistration has been assured by NZQA's Framework Registration team.

Providers should seek advice from the Tertiary Education Commission (TEC) in regard to any possible funding implications associated with these changes.

Please refer any enquiries relating to this circular to National Qualification Services.

National Qualification Services Email: nqs@nzqa.govt.nz
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Circulars are available from the New Zealand Qualifications Authority website (www.nzqa.govt.nz/publications/circulars).