



NEW ZEALAND QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY
MANA TOHU MĀTAURANGA O AOTEAROA

QUALIFY FOR THE FUTURE WORLD
KIA NOHO TAKATŪ KI TŌ ĀMUA AOI

11 July 2022



Email: [Redacted]

Tēnā koe [Redacted]

Official Information Act Request

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) of 12 June 2022 seeking a copy of the report to the Minister about the 'simplifying qualifications and other credentials' consultation in 2021, and the following information:

1. *Who are the beauty therapy training establishments that you have consulted with, to arrive at the decisions you have regarding our qualifications framework and underlying courses? Technical Institutes and private training organisations? The training providers I have spoken to don't know anything about RoVE.*
2. *With NZQA's review of qualifications, who are the qualified beauty industry providers who are rewriting our qualifications for the qualifications and micro-credentials repository [QCR] including the new skill standards and 'national curriculum'?*
3. *Will our current NZ Certificate in Beauty Therapy level 4, NZ Diploma in Beauty Therapy level 4, NZ Certificate in Spa Therapy level 5, NZ Certificate in Specialised Skincare Therapy level 6 and NZ Certificate in Specialised Epilation Therapy level 6, be broken up into micro credentials?*
4. *With NZQA's comments that micro credentials are a lower qualification, what does this mean?*
5. *Who verifies that the providers of the micro credentials are qualified to deliver the course and that the content of the course is accurate and sufficient to deliver a therapist fit for purpose?*

Thank you for your time in speaking with Amy Davis, Principal Policy Analyst, RoVE Programme Integration on 15 June. I hope it has resolved some of your concerns about the scope of NZQA's work programme.

Report to the Minister

The report to the Minister has been proactively released and can be found at:

<https://assets.education.govt.nz/public/Documents/our-work/information-releases/Advice-Seen-by-our-Ministers/November-2021/13.-Next-steps-on-simplifying-the-quals-system-and-the-design-of-voca....pdf>.

We sought your agreement for parts of your submission to be included in the summary of the consultation, which can be found: <https://www.nzqa.govt.nz/assets/Providers-and-partners/RoVE/Summary-of-Feedback.pdf>. We did not use your quote in the final document.

Who are the beauty therapy training establishments that you have consulted with, to arrive at the decisions you have regarding our qualifications framework and underlying courses? Technical Institutes and private training organisations?

NZQA engaged extensively with a wide range of stakeholders between March 2020 and June 2021 on the simplification of qualifications and credentials. NZQA conducted public consultation between 27 April and 16 June 2021, receiving 428 submissions.

All registered private training establishments received communications from NZQA about the simplifying qualifications consultation.

We received your submission from the New Zealand Board of Professional Skin Therapies, as well as submissions from the New Zealand Hair and Beauty Industry Training Organisation, the New Zealand Association of Registered Beauty Professionals, the National School of Aesthetics / Te Kura Whakaoho ā Roto ā Waho, the Toitū te Waiora Workforce Development Council (WDC) Interim Establishment Board, and Te Pūkenga subsidiaries. Nail Prodigy also attended a post-consultation workshop. Individuals related to the beauty therapy industry may have made submissions, but did not state their affiliations.

With NZQA's review of qualifications, who are the qualified beauty industry providers who are rewriting our qualifications for the qualifications and micro-credentials repository [QCR] including the new skill standards and 'national curriculum'?

WDCs are responsible for developing and maintaining skill standards and qualifications for industry. Toitū te Waiora WDC represents skin and nail therapy services. The role of the WDCs is to ensure the vocational education system meets industry needs. WDCs work with their industries to develop and maintain a strategic view of the skills their industries require now and in the future.

Skill standards, 'national curricula', and the revised arrangements for micro-credentials are subject to the progress of the Education and Training Amendment Bill (No. 2). The Bill is expected to come into effect towards the end of 2022.

NZQA and WDCs are currently co-chairing a skill standard and 'national curriculum' sector working group. You can read more information about the sector working group and the participants on NZQA's website at: <https://www.nzqa.govt.nz/providers-partners/rove/simplifying-the-design-of-vocational-qualifications/working-group/>. This is a technical working group which is helping to develop a skill standards template, worked examples and guidance for how these products might be developed in the future. NZQA will undertake further consultation later in 2022 about rules for skill standards and 'national curriculum'.

The Qualifications and Credentials Repository (QCR) is an internal NZQA information system for recording qualifications, programmes, standards and micro-credentials. Qualifications are not being reviewed or re-written specifically for the new repository.

Will our current NZ Certificate in Beauty Therapy level 4, NZ Diploma in Beauty Therapy level 4, NZ Certificate in Spa Therapy level 5, NZ Certificate in Specialised Skincare Therapy level 6 and NZ Certificate in Specialised Epilation Therapy level 6, be broken up into micro credentials?

Toitū te Waiora is the qualification developer for these qualifications. It would be best placed to provide you with insight about any reviews of qualifications or new micro-credential development. I understand that you have been involved in Toitū te Waiora's current review of beauty therapy qualifications and have met with their Chief Executive.

With NZQA's comments that micro credentials are a lower qualification, what does this mean?

Micro-credentials have a smaller (or lower) credit value than qualifications which means their study duration is usually shorter. Micro-credentials recognise the achievement of a defined set of skills and knowledge and focus on smaller skill development opportunities.

Who verifies that the providers of the micro credentials are qualified to deliver the course and that the content of the course is accurate and sufficient to deliver a therapist fit for purpose?

NZQA is responsible for approving a micro-credential and the tertiary education organisation that will teach and assess it. NZQA requires a provider to demonstrate, among other things, support for the micro-credential from the relevant industries, employers, or communities and adequate and appropriate teaching staff.

As part of the commitment to open and transparent government, NZQA is proactively releasing responses to OIA requests which are of public interest. NZQA intends to publish its response to this request on its website with the next quarterly release of documents. Your name and contact details will be removed before publication.

If you require further assistance or believe we have misinterpreted your request, please contact Elizabeth Templeton in the Office of the Chief Executive's office by email elizabeth.templeton@nzqa.govt.nz or telephone (04) 463 3339. Amy Davis, Principal Policy Analyst, email amy.davis@nzqa.govt.nz or (04) 463 3171, would also welcome any further queries you have about NZQA's work related to RoVE.

If you are dissatisfied with our response, you have the right, under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act 1982, to lodge a complaint with the Office of the Ombudsman at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz. You can also telephone 0800 802 502 or write to the Ombudsman at PO Box 10152, Wellington, 6143.

Nāku nā



Dr Grant Klinkum
Pouwhakahaere/Chief Executive