

Qualification Title: New Zealand Certificate in Project Management (Level 4)

Qualification number: 2462

Date of review: 20 March 2019

This report refers to graduates awarded this qualification prior to: **31 December 2018**

Final decision on consistency of the qualification: National consistency is confirmed

Threshold:

The threshold to determine sufficiency with the graduate profile was determined as evidence of:

Graduates being able to support the management of a project(s) under broad guidance. They will display; technical project management skills (as defined in the graduate profile outcome statement), people skills including leadership, and affective skills which models self-management and professional, legal, ethical and culturally appropriate behaviour.

Education Organisations with sufficient evidence

The following education organisations have been found to have sufficient evidence.

Education Organisation	Final rating
The Skills Organisation	Sufficient
Southern Institute of Technology	Sufficient
Ara Institute of Canterbury (TANZ)	Sufficient
Universal College of Learning (TANZ)	Sufficient
Eastern Institute of Technology (TANZ)	Sufficient
Nelson Marlborough Institute of Technology (TANZ)	Sufficient
Otago Polytechnic (TANZ)	Sufficient
Northland Polytechnic (TANZ)	Sufficient
MSL Training	Sufficient
Te Wānanga o Aotearoa	Sufficient

Introduction

This level 4 qualification of 60 credits is intended to provide New Zealand business entities with people who can carry out a broad range of support roles as a project team member and take responsibility for some parts of a project(s).

Programme design and delivery, and all assessment is required to be conducted in and for the context of a real or realistic business entity, and in light of the requirements of that context. A business entity can be an organisation, or a commercial or other enterprise, not

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necessarily for profit, and can be a discretely managed business unit within a larger organisation.

This qualification may equip graduates towards achievement of Project Management Institute and other professional credentials.

The programmes of study being taught are done so in a range of contexts, e.g. business, government and not-for-profit, using a variety of delivery methods. The qualification developer commented that the development steering group would be particularly gratified as this is the way they envisaged it being delivered.

There was a total of 922 graduates from 10 education organisations reported in 2016, 2017 and 2018.

Evidence

The education organisations provided a range of evidence to demonstrate that their graduates met the graduate profile outcomes.

The criteria used to judge the evaluation question were:

- The nature, quality and integrity of the evidence presented by the education organisation.
- How well the organisation has analysed, interpreted and validated the evidence, and used the understanding gained to achieve actual or improved consistency.
- The extent to which the education organisation can reasonably justify and validate claims and statements relating to the consistency of graduate outcomes, including in relation to other providers of programmes leading to the qualification

Evidence provided for this review included:

- Confirmation that each of the education organisations had a coherent programme of study which ensured that programme components led to the graduate profile. The programmes in some of the education organisations included a capstone assessment directly aligned to the graduate outcomes.
- Graduate and employer surveys which confirmed that graduates had gained, and were using, the skills and knowledge outlined in the graduate profile.
- Feedback from industry assessors verifying that graduates were meeting industry expectations that conformed with the graduate profile.
- Two of the education organisations had reliable evidence from employers that their graduates demonstrated skills and knowledge consistent with the graduate outcomes. Reliable graduate - employer evidence is an important aspect of triangulation for consistency.

How well does the evidence provided by the education organisation demonstrate that the graduates match the graduate outcomes at the appropriate threshold?

The evidence presented before, and at the review meeting was sufficient to demonstrate that the graduates from the education organisations listed above, match the graduate outcomes and that their graduates meet the threshold.

All education organisations provided strong evidence related to the alignment of their approved programme of study with the graduate outcomes. Education organisations also presented graduate destination data, and several had useful feedback from graduates that directly aligned to the graduate outcomes.

Overall, organisations provided a self-assessment with enough supporting evidence to make a convincing case demonstrating that their graduates match the graduate outcomes at the appropriate threshold.

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Special Focus (includes special focus on a strand or outcome)

None

Examples of good practice

All education organisations' have generally aligned graduate and employer/industry surveys to the graduate profile.

Issues and concerns

One education organisation stated that only 20 per cent of its graduates' gained employment and only half of those actually work in employment contexts where they use the project management skills and knowledge. This leads the reviewer to question whether the education organisation is using the correct qualification to achieve it's the aims of its programme of study.

Recommendations to Qualification Developer

No specific recommendations. The Qualification Developer was represented at the meeting. The qualification is due for review in the over the next few months with the first meeting of the qualification review scheduled for the week following the consistency review. The developer representative noted a number of points to take forward.