

Qualification Title: New Zealand Certificate in Apparel and Fashion Technology (Level 3)

Qualification number: 2607

Date of review: 3 November 2016

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 that the fashion manufacturing sector graduates will be able to:

- Safely set up, use and maintain industrial sewing equipment under limited supervision
- Select appropriate fabric and pattern, cut out and sew garment parts to recognised industry quality standards using prepared job breakdowns
- Demonstrate behaviour and workplace communication appropriate for fashion and apparel manufacturing
- Meet the entry requirements for level 4

Tertiary Education Organisations with sufficient evidence

Tertiary Education Organisation	Final rating
New Zealand Institute of Fashion Technology Limited	Sufficient

Introduction

This 120 credit qualification provides the apparel and fashion manufacturing sector with people who are able to use industrial sewing machines to accurately produce a variety of products to job and organisational requirements. Graduates will be able to gain work in the apparel and fashion manufacturing sector and will be capable of working under limited supervision.

At the time of this review the organisation presenting had 56 graduates from this qualification for 2015.

Evidence

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

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

The criteria used to judge the evaluation question were (p10 NZQA consistency guidelines):

- 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

An appropriately aligned range of diverse and distinctive evidence was submitted to demonstrate the education organisations graduates had skills and knowledge consistent with those specified in the graduate profile of the qualification and met the required threshold.

Evidence included:

Programme fit with graduate outcomes

Evidence of active leadership in the Targeted Review of Qualifications (TRoQ) that ensured the New Zealand Institute of Fashion Technology Limited (NZIFT) programme offered was designed specifically to meet the new qualification and its graduate profile ensuring graduates are able to use industrial sewing machines to accurately produce a variety of products to job and organisational requirements.

Programme evaluation

Evidence was provided of extensive feedback gathering (relative to the graduate profile) from tutors (using observations, diary notes and written feedback), work experience hosts (using an assessment form), confidential student evaluations and internal moderation results to confirm that the graduates fit the graduate profile at the threshold decided.

Entry into the next level of the programme

Good evidence was seen of students progressing to the level 4 programme with 95.5% of the 2015 level 3 students progressing to the level 4 programme in 2016.

Feedback was gathered from tutors on the cohort of students who had graduated from the first year of the programme and moved into the level 4 programme. The feedback showed most students were prepared for the next level having good basic sewing knowledge and a good attitude to learning.

Work experience:

Work experience is vital to the success of the programme, the students and industry, as the work experience gained is from a diverse range of sewn products industries with differing needs. Excellent evidence was produced of industry feedback to show students are able to gain experience in the apparel industry to safely set up and use industrial sewing machines to accurately produce a variety of products to job and organisational requirements.

Internal moderation

Evidence of regular rigorous internal moderation considering fair, valid and consistent assessment, ongoing evidence collection, and clear assessment results confirm that assessments are at the correct level and context.

External moderation

No evidence was available of external moderation as this had not been undertaken by the Industry Training Organisation (ITO) concerned for the 2015 programme.

NZIFT have decided to organise external moderation (with an expert in the field) and will also discuss this and other options with the ITO to gain the best outcome.

Student/Graduate feedback

During the process NZIFT had identified the need for higher student engagement in their learning progress and as a result have plans in place to encourage the use of social media through NZIFT Instagram and Facebook and the taking of photos of work progress and completion. An alumni group is to be established to enable ease of contact with graduates.

Employer engagement and feedback - real world training

Employer engagement is with the work experience component and with the work done in supporting the students with real world work. All future reviews will be strengthened by stronger graduate surveys extended beyond surveying employment outcomes to specifically survey graduate and employer confidence in graduates attaining the graduate profile outcomes.

The above evidence makes a convincing case for this evidence to demonstrate that the graduates match the graduate outcomes at the appropriate threshold.

Examples of good practice

Being part of a competition using their skills as level 3 students to assist the level 5 diploma students to create tissue paper dresses for external critique and judging.

To ensure robust external moderation does occur NZIFT will organise external moderation (an expert in the field).

NZIFT will encourage a higher level of student engagement in their learning and pathway progress by the use of social media through NZIFT Instagram and Facebook and encourage the taking of photos of work-in-progress and completed work.

Issues and concerns

External moderation had had not been undertaken by the ITO concerned, and following discussion it was noted by the ITO that this would be undertaken as required in the Consent and Moderation Requirements.

Recommendations to Qualification Developer

N/A