

Qualification Title: NZ Diploma in Music (Level 5)

Qualification number: 3431

Date of review: 28 April 2022

This report refers to graduates awarded this qualification prior to: 31 December 2021

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

It was agreed at the review meeting that the threshold, for the purpose of this consistency review, was aligned with the graduate profile outcomes of the qualification.

Threshold:

The threshold to determine sufficiency with the graduate profile was determined as evidence of graduates who will be able to:

- apply music theory to read and write music to an advanced level
- apply composition, arranging and/or lyric writing techniques to create a variety of music
- perform music competently and creatively to engage an audience
- apply technical ability and artistic proficiency on a musical instrument(s)
- create music and sound recordings for critique using a range of recording, editing and mixing techniques
- research and analyse a range of influences to inform own practice
- manage and take responsibility for own professional practice
- analyse characteristics of the music industry to develop own career plan.

Education Organisations with sufficient evidence

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

MOE Number	Education Organisation	Final rating
9531	EXCEL Ministries School of Performing Arts	Sufficient
6007	Eastern Institute of Technology Ltd	Sufficient
6015	Southern Institute of Technology Ltd	Sufficient
6011	Nelson Marlborough Institute of Technology Limited	Sufficient
6014	Whitireia Community Polytechnic	Sufficient
6025	Toi Ohomai Institute of Technology Ltd	Sufficient

Introduction

This level 5 diploma qualification is intended for individuals who wish to develop their career as a performer in the music industry. Graduates will have a range of music performance and music production skills to perform competently and creatively, and contribute to the cultural, social and economic life of Aotearoa New Zealand.

This qualification builds on the New Zealand Certificate in Music (Level 4) [Ref: 3418] although it is not a pre-requisite and does not have to be completed prior to the entering into the level 5 diploma. This qualification can lead to the New Zealand Diploma in Music (Level 6) [Ref: 3432], or into degree programmes in the music field.

Graduates may gain employment or become self-employed as a performer at a range of events and venues and be involved in roles such as composing for personal repertoire, organising a personal group or gig, assisting in the production of live or recorded music, and music/media business occupations.

The qualification was developed by NZQA in collaboration with the music sector and education organisations. It was listed on the New Zealand Qualifications Framework in 2017. The responsibility for this qualification has now transferred to Toi Mai, the Workforce Development Council for the creative industries. Toi Mai is planning to conduct a review of the qualification this year.

There were six education organisations with graduates from their programmes of study, leading to the award of this qualification. These organisations had a total of 154 graduates over the reporting period.

The consistency review was held via video-conference meetings on 28 April 2022 and was attended by representatives of the education organisations and Toi Mai, and several observers.

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.

The evidence included:

- Confirmation that each education organisation had a coherent programme of study which ensured that programme components including course aims, learning outcomes and assessment activities were aligned to the graduate profile.

Consistency Review – Final Report

- Internal and external moderation evidence that assured the programme was assessed at an appropriate level, and assessment was valid.
- Feedback from graduates, next level tutors, some employers and music industry stakeholders confirming that the programme had provided graduates with a range of skills aligned to the graduate profile.
- Destination data including graduates in relevant employment/self-employment and performing, composing and assisting in live music events and continuing with study in the music field.

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

The six education organisations submitted a good range of evidence that was able to be triangulated to demonstrate that their graduates match the graduate outcomes at the appropriate threshold.

The education organisations provided good evidence relating to their approved programmes of study and how the courses, learning outcomes, and assessment activities were mapped against the qualification's graduate profile outcomes and of the quality and suitability of assessments. The programmes incorporated real-life learning and practice opportunities, although some of these were limited due to the Covid-19 lockdowns and restrictions in the past two years.

Generally, evidence relating to moderation was strong, demonstrating good internal moderation processes and positive results. This persuasive evidence of strong assessment practices attested to the validity of assessment results and supported graduates' consistency with the graduate outcomes. Where there had been gaps in practice or documentation the education organisations provided improvement plans, including adhering to moderation plans and increasing both internal and external moderation activity.

Graduate, next-level tutor, and a few employer and music industry stakeholder survey results and feedback confirmed that graduates had gained, and were using, the skills and knowledge outlined in the graduate profile.

Destination data was generally strong, showing graduates were studying in the next level qualification, had progressed to a music degree programme, or were working in the music industry in some way that required the application of skills and knowledge required by the graduate profile.

The stronger submissions demonstrated robust analysis, interpretation and triangulation of their evidence with clear and convincing arguments for how well each evidence source, and the evidence, taken as a whole, had shown the graduates were demonstrating the graduate profile outcomes.

Overall, the self-assessment and supporting evidence supplied by the education organisations demonstrate that their graduates meet the graduate outcomes at the determined threshold.

Issues and concerns

The collection of destination feedback from graduates who were working independently in the music industry, and employers was challenging for the education organisations, as they found

Consistency Review – Final Report

that the on-line surveying approach does not attract enough responses. This was discussed at the meeting and agreed that in this context other data collection methodologies, such as phone interviews or focus groups may achieve a better result.

Another issue discussed at the meeting related to the appropriateness and integrity of collecting feedback from next-level tutors, in situations where they had taught the graduate, and now had them as a student. It was agreed that the framing of questions and clarifying the purpose of collecting the feedback were important. Evidence of success at the next level could also be used as an indicator of graduates being prepared for the next level of study, and therefore having met the graduate profile outcomes of the qualification.

Recommendations to Qualification Developer

The qualification developer, Toi Mai, participated in the consistency review meeting. A review of this qualification is planned for this year. The education organisations expressed their interest in being involved in this review process.

Consistency Review – Final Report