

Qualification Title: New Zealand Certificate in Fashion (Level 4)

Qualification number: 2630

Date of review: 29 July 2019

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

Final decision on consistency of the qualification: **National consistency is not yet confirmed**

Threshold:

Graduates of this qualification are able to:

- apply basic technical skills and knowledge to produce fashion items
- communicate and market fashion design concepts and
- assist in areas such as design, styling, retail/merchandising, and basic garment construction.

Education Organisations with sufficient evidence

The final decision on the sufficiency of an education organisation evidence, will be updated as other organisations show sufficient evidence.

Education Organisation	Final rating
Ara Institute of Canterbury	Sufficient
Otago Polytechnic	Sufficient

Introduction

This qualification is for people wanting to gain entry-level skills and knowledge of the fashion industry. The fashion industry and creative and cultural sector in Aotearoa New Zealand will benefit by having people trained in fashion to support operations. Graduates will be able to apply introductory skills and knowledge of fashion to assist in areas such as design, styling, retail/merchandising, and basic garment construction.

Possible pathways for the qualification are: the New Zealand Diploma in Fashion (Level 5) and the New Zealand Diploma in Fashion design (Level 6).

Evidence

The education organisations provided a range of evidence to demonstrate that their graduates met the Graduate Profile Outcomes (GPO).

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.

All demonstration of graduate profile outcomes must be in accordance with the relevant legislation, including:

- Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992
- Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996

A range of evidence was provided by most of the educational organisations that could be triangulated to demonstrate that graduates met the graduate outcomes at the appropriate threshold. These included:

- Mapping of graduate outcomes to learning outcomes and assessments
- Internal and external pre and post moderation (external moderation occurring fully with two of the four TEOs)
- Destination data with further data being gathered via direct email contact by one TEO following poor initial feedback
- Graduate feedback
- Employer feedback
- Next level tutor feedback

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 majority of the educational organisations provided good evidence of how their programmes (including learning outcomes, unit standards, courses, training activities and assessments) mapped against and provided good coverage of the required graduate outcomes.

Evidence of both internal pre and post and some external post moderation was provided by the majority of educational organisations although for most this area could be strengthened to firmly state that external moderation activities had occurred along with the resulting outcomes. At present some TEOs are noting plans only.

Employer survey responses, where available, confirmed that graduates had met the qualification outcomes and that the skills, knowledge and competencies they had acquired had helped with further study progressions. Most organisations represented at the meeting noted the challenges in obtaining destination feedback from employers. Most graduates have gone on to further study.

Most organisations had collected feedback from their graduates. Results were very positive. Some organisations present commented on the difficulties in obtaining evidence relating to the outcomes of their graduates and realised they needed to seek creative and relevant ways of achieving this.

Good destination data was presented from most TEOs showing that the graduates across all four TEOs were engaged in further study either at the same place or elsewhere – reinforcing the educational outcomes of this qualification.

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

Special Focus

The special focus area - demonstrate an awareness of the implications of the Treaty of Waitangi for fashion in Aotearoa New Zealand - was viewed as being important but it was noted that those present had not specifically addressed this aspect, although they had an awareness around it. The suggestion was that the significance of Māori design and culture should be signified as important as part of the review and update of the qualification.

Recommendations to Qualification Developer

This qualification is currently under review, and a few recommendations have already been received.

At this consistency review meeting, attendees noted several areas (important for learners and subsequent graduates) that could be considered for inclusion when reviewing and updating the suite of fashion qualifications. These included:

- Use of sustainable materials, production methodology and marketing - in relation to 'basic knowledge' of GPO 3
- Intellectual property - in relation to the conceptual and marketing aspects (including cultural) of GPOs 4 and 5, an applied understanding of intellectual property law, copyright, trademarking and patenting – NB <https://www.iponz.govt.nz/about-ip/maori-ip/register-ip-that-has-a-maori-element/> and <https://www.trademarkandcopyrightlawblog.com/2016/02/from-runway-to-replica-intellectual-property-strategies-for-protecting-fashion-designs/>
- Embedding Māori culture with a view to fully understand tradition to guide fashion innovation - within the general conditions for the programme e.g. Kāhui Māori Fashion Collective <https://www.asianz.org.nz/news/maori-fashion-meets-china/> - relates also to GPO 1