

Field Māori

Review of Governance of Māori Authorities unit standards

Subfield	Domain	ID
Whenua	Governance of Māori Authorities	16070, 18096, 21652, 21653, 21654, 21655, 21656, 21657, 21659, 21660, 26425, 29296

The Māori Qualifications Services has completed the review of the unit standards listed above.

Date new versions published **November 2025**

Planned review date December 2030

Summary

As part of the scheduled review cycle, Māori Qualifications Services (MQS), in collaboration with the Whakaruruahu and Wharehukahuka, reviewed the Māori Governance unit standards. While there were no current users, the review ensured the standards remain relevant, future-focused, and aligned with the aspirations of ākonga, whānau, hapū, iwi, and hapori.

Main changes

The following overarching improvements were made across multiple standards to enhance clarity, accuracy, and relevance:

- Minor wording updates to outcomes and performance criteria for improved relevance, consistency, and clarity for both ākonga and pouako.
 - Correction of grammatical errors to ensure professional standard and readability.
 - Refinements to range statements to provide greater flexibility and applicability across learning contexts.
 - Updated guidance information, including verification of current legislation and enhancements to resource and support materials.
 - Adjustments to credit values, either increased or decreased, to more accurately reflect the time and effort required to meet standard expectations.

Key Standard-Specific Changes

Standard 21653

- Outcomes 2 and 3 were removed and restructured into two new standalone standards.
 - The Whakaruruha recommended separating the three modules of learning for better delivery and assessment.

Standard 21654

- Performance Criterion was removed and incorporated into Standard 21656, as its learning intent aligned better there.
 - Outcome 3 was removed and a new standard was created to accommodate the content as a standalone learning component.

Standard 21656

- Performance Criterion 1.3 was added, incorporating content from Standard 21654.
 - The title, purpose, and outcomes were amended to reflect this addition and to ensure coherence.

Standard 21660

- Outcome 2 was amended to specifically include aspects of behaviours and communication.
- The original Outcome 2 content was moved to Outcome 3, and the previous Outcome 3 content is now Outcome 4.

Standard 29296

- Outcome 3 was removed and restructured into a new standalone standard.
- The Whakaruruhau considered that the learning focus would be better offered and delivered as a separate standard

Standard 21657

- Performance Criterion 1.2 was removed and restructured into a new standard for dedicated delivery.
- Performance Criterion 2.2 was also removed, as it was found to be repetitive of earlier learning.

Standard 21659

- Outcomes 3, 4, and 5 were removed and consolidated into a new standalone standard.

Standard 26425

- An additional Performance Criterion was added to Outcome 2 to include Māori authority/entity roles, broadening the standard's scope.

Category C unit standards will expire at the end of December 2026

The last date for assessment of superseded versions of Category B unit standards is December 2027

Impact on existing organisations with consent to assess

Current consent for			Consent extended to		
Nature of consent	Classification or ID	Level	Nature of consent	Classification or ID	Level
Standard	21653	4	Standard	33498	4
			Standard	33489	4
			Standard	33490	4
Standard	21654	4	Standard	33499	4
			Standard	33491	4
			Standard	33492	4
Standard	21659	4	Standard	33500	4
			Standard	33493	4
Standard	29296	4	Standard	33501	4
			Standard	33488	4

Key to review category

A	Dates changed, but no other changes are made - the new version of the standard carries the same ID and a new version number
B	Changes made, but the overall outcome remains the same - the new version of the standard carries the same ID and a new version number
C	Major changes that necessitate the registration of a replacement standard with a new ID
D	Standard will expire and not be replaced

Maori > Whenua > Governance of Māori Authorities

ID	Title	Level	Credit	Review Category
16070	Explain the work of the Māori Land Court	3	2	B

ID	Title	Level	Credit	Review Category
18096	Demonstrate knowledge of Māori decision-making processes and evaluate its implementation in a Māori authority/entity	4	3	B
21652	Describe tikanga and its influence in the governance of a Māori authority/Māori entity	4	5	B
21653	Describe the characteristics of Māori Land Trusts, Reservations, and Incorporations	4	7	C
33489	Describe the purpose and requirements of a Māori Reservation and the implications of the Resource Management Act 1991	4	3	NEW
33498	Describe the characteristics of Māori Trusts established by Te Ture Whenua Māori Act 1993 through the Māori Land Court	4	2	NEW
33490	Describe the purpose, establishment requirements, and key legislative responsibilities related to Māori Incorporations	4	2	NEW
21654	Describe a holistic view of Māori governance roles, responsibilities and processes for a Māori authority/Māori entity	4	4	C
33491	Describe a holistic view of Māori governance roles, responsibilities and processes for a Māori authority/Māori entity	4	5	NEW
33492	Describe the emerging challenges and opportunities faced by a Māori authority/Māori entity	4	6	NEW
33499	Describe the reports and returns required for a Māori authority/Māori entity	4	5	NEW
21655	Describe the function of, and procedures for an application to the Māori Land Court	4	4	B
21656	Describe the implications and requirements of constitutional documents and legal frameworks within a Māori authority/Māori entity	4	4 5	B
21657	Describe tikanga based governance and management practices and implementation in a Māori authority/Māori entity	4	7	B
21659	Describe compliance and due diligence requirements of a Māori authority/Māori entity	4	12	C
33493	Describe compliance and due diligence requirements of a Māori authority/Māori entity	4	7	NEW
33500	Describe ideal financial practices, behaviours and use of financial reports in Māori authority/Māori entity	4	7	NEW
21660	Describe meeting procedures and practices, designated roles and remuneration for a Māori authority/Māori entity	4	5	B
26425	Demonstrate knowledge of strategic planning in a Māori authority/Māori entity	4	8	B

ID	Title	Level	Credit	Review Category
29296	Demonstrate knowledge of strategies for risk management to enhance outcomes within Māori authorities/Māori entities	4	4	C
33501	Demonstrate knowledge of measuring and mitigating risk to enhance outcomes within Māori authorities/Māori entities	4	4	NEW
33488	Describe strategies to nurture and protect the management of taonga and resources as a Māori authority/Māori entity.	4	2	NEW