

# Review of Vocational Education Reform

## Announcement FAQs - Industry

01 August 2019

### Business

**Q. What do the changes mean to me as an employer?**

A. For now, the reforms won't change anything for you as the transition will take time to work through. Competenz will continue to support you and your current trainees and apprentices, and we will continue to sign up new trainees and apprentices. By the end of 2022, this support will come from a different organisation.

**Q. Will Competenz keep signing up and supporting learners?**

A. Yes. All signups will continue through Competenz (the ITO) until the end of 2022.

**Q. What do I tell my apprentices / trainees?**

A. Competenz will continue to support you and your apprentices / trainees. By the end of 2022 support for apprentices and trainees will come from a different organisation. Competenz is committed to keeping you as informed as possible throughout the transition.

**Q. Am I likely to see any changes to the financial arrangements with Competenz over the next 12 months?**

A. Pricing arrangements will remain as contracted for all trainees and apprentices currently enrolled. Should there be any changes in pricing for 2020 and beyond, we will provide you with ample notice.

**Q. My apprentice is on a 4 year qualification. Who will be supporting them after 2022?**

A. At this stage, we don't know which provider will be supporting the employers and learners beyond 2022. We are committed to ensuring the transition to any future provider is as smooth and seamless as possible. Once we've worked through our transition arrangements we'll be in contact.

**Q. When can I expect to see some changes?**

A. Over the next six months we will be consulting with Tertiary Education Commission (TEC) and Ministry of Education (MOE) on the transition arrangements for Competenz. When we've worked through the approach and it's endorsed by government and industry we'll communicate this to you.

**Q. Will learners still get a qualification from an ITO?**

A. Competenz will still be awarding qualifications for some time. At some point the qualifications will be awarded by vocational education providers.

**Q. Will the current qualification still be recognised in the future?**

A. Yes. NZQA qualifications awarded through Competenz will continue to be recognised in the future.

**Q. What is happening with fees-free?**

A. The government is committed to delivering on its promise of fees-free for the first two years of industry training (subject to eligibility criteria) for its current term of government. So we expect that fees-free will remain in place for 2019 and 2020.

**Q. I have an apprentice with ATNZ – what is happening with them?**

A. We do not anticipate any changes to ATNZ or their apprenticeship secondments. They will continue to operate as usual.

**Q. I have had my Competenz training advisor / account manager for a long time – will that change?**

A. Not in the short term. The relationship between apprentices, trainees and employers is very important in maintaining continuity of training. While we cannot promise that your training advisor/account manager will be constant throughout the apprenticeship, it is our intention that we minimise disruption to our employers and learners while we work through this transition.

**Q. What will happen to block courses?**

A. For 2019, there will be no changes to block courses. We also expect block courses for 2020 to continue as normal, and preparation is underway for negotiations with our providers.

**Q. When will we know a detailed transition plan?**

A. Over the next six months we will be consulting with TEC and MOE on the transition arrangements for Competenz. When we have worked through the approach and it's endorsed by government and industry we will communicate this to you.