

Review of Vocational Education Reform

Announcement FAQs – Provider

02 August 2019

Q. Where do I find out exactly what the Government decision is?

A. We have collated all relevant Reform of Vocational Education information on our [website](#).

Q. What do the changes mean to me as a provider?

A. The announcement has indicated that there is still a valuable role providers (PTEs) can play alongside the new NZ Institute of Skills and Technology (NZIST) and the Workforce Development Councils (WDCs). However, they will have to operate within the standards that are set by the WDCs.

Q. Will Competenz keep signing up and supporting learners?

A. Yes. All signups will continue through Competenz (the ITO) until the end of 2022. For now, the reforms won't change anything for providers as our transition will take time to work through. Competenz will continue to support you to enrol learners until such time as we can communicate the transitional arrangements.

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

A. Financial arrangements will remain as contracted for all trainees currently enrolled. The Tertiary Education Commission (TEC) has provided guidance that they will continue to support all learners who are enrolled until the end of 2019. Should there be any changes in commercial arrangements for 2020 and beyond, we will provide you with ample notice of this change.

Q. I am a non-accredited provider and I currently rely on funding and assessing capability through the ITOs? What happens for me?

A. You will continue to work with Competenz until transitional arrangements are communicated. Our transition will take time to work through. Competenz will continue to support you to enrol learners in the meantime.

Q. What is the role of the Workforce Development Council (WDC) for providers?

A. The role of the WDC in brokering relationships between employers and training providers, including the NZIST is likely to be of interest to you in the future. The decision paper provides little detail on this area and will be one of the priority areas to work through in the design phase with officials over the next six months. WDCs will come into effect from 1

April 2020 and will become operational between then and June 2021. We will keep you informed of any outcomes in this area as it becomes clearer.

Q. What is the Unified Funding System that has been referred to?

- A. The Unified Funding System announcement provides a set of principles the system will be designed to. However, there is no detail, and it's expected that the system will be co-designed by providers, ITOs and other key stakeholders. Timelines indicate that the initial design phase will be completed by April 2020. The bulk of the funding system will be implemented after June 2021.

Q. Where will my funding come from in the future?

- A. Until the Unified Funding System is finalised you will continue to enrol learners through Competenz. We will keep you informed of any outcomes from the design phase once it becomes clearer.

Q. When can I expect to see changes with Competenz?

- 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 the Government and industry we'll communicate this to you.

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

- A. Yes, 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.