

Review of Vocational Education Reform

Announcement FAQs – Schools

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. We currently use Competenz units (or Tools 4 Work) in our technology department. What happens to these units for 2020?

A. Please continue to liaise with Competenz on any curriculum requirements that you might have in your engineering departments.

Q. Can we expect to see any other changes to curriculum as a result of this announcement?

A. In the future, Workforce Development Councils (WDCs) will better align the industry skills standards with NCEA. The announcement also talks about a Vocational Entrance Award that will be developed by the Workforce Development Councils, NZQA, providers and schools in the future.

Q. What will happen with Gateway programmes?

A. The Gateway programmes will continue into 2020 and offer a great option for learners to get an introduction into a chosen industry.

Q. Will Competenz keep signing up and supporting apprentices?

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

Q. My student is thinking of signing up to a 4 year apprenticeship. 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 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.

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 was looking at putting a student forward for the ATNZ Group Apprenticeship Scheme – what is happening with them?

A. We do not anticipate any changes to ATNZ or their apprentice secondments, they will continue to operate as usual. If you have a candidate interested in an apprenticeship in engineering, plastics, print or automotive, please continue to discuss potential job vacancies with someone from ATNZ, or visit the ATNZ website [[hyperlink to job board](#)]

Q. Will Competenz still have a careers team for me to contact?

A. Yes – the careers team will continue to be part of Competenz for the immediate future. 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.