



Australian Government
Department of Education and Training

real skills for
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FACT SHEET

VET REGULATORS

The Australian vocational education and training (VET) system is nationally regulated. Every course and training organisation is risk-assessed against nationally approved quality standards by one of the following independent statutory agencies – also known as VET regulators:

- Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA)
- Victorian Registration & Qualifications Authority (VRQA)
- Training Accreditation Council (TAC) Western Australia.

QUICK FACTS

Australia's VET system includes more than 4,500 registered training organisations (RTOs) and 750 accredited courses. In May 2018, the regulation of these was as follows:

- 90% of RTOs and 69% of accredited courses are regulated by ASQA
- 5% of RTOs and 19% of accredited courses are regulated by VRQA
- 5% of RTOs and 12% of accredited courses are regulated by TAC.

AUSTRALIAN SKILLS QUALITY AUTHORITY

The Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA) is the national regulator for Australia's VET system. ASQA regulates training organisations and courses to ensure a national quality framework is met.

Established in 2011, ASQA is the regulatory body for VET in the following states and territories:

- Australian Capital Territory
- New South Wales
- Northern Territory
- Queensland
- South Australia
- Tasmania.

These jurisdictions are termed referring states and territories, because they referred their regulatory powers to ASQA in 2011-12. Victoria and Western Australia are termed *non-referring states*, because have not referred their regulatory powers.

ASQA is also responsible for regulating all RTOs that offer courses to overseas students studying in Australia on student visas, regardless of where the RTO is located.



QUALITY STANDARDS USED BY ASQA

ASQA regulates RTOs against the *Standards for Registered Training Organisations (RTOs) 2015*, and it regulates accredited courses against the *Standards for VET Accredited Courses 2012*.

VICTORIAN REGISTRATION & QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY

The Victorian Registration & Qualifications Authority (VRQA) is the regulatory body for VET in Victoria, and it is responsible for the following:

- Regulating RTOs that deliver training to domestic students **in Victoria only**
- Accrediting courses, but only if the course is owned by the Victorian Government, or if the course owner is an RTO registered by VRQA.

QUALITY STANDARDS USED BY VRQA

VRQA regulates RTOs against the *AQTF Essential Conditions and Standards for Continuing Registration* and the *VRQA Guidelines for VET Providers*, and it regulates courses against the *AQTF 2007 Standards for Accredited Courses*.

TRAINING ACCREDITATION COUNCIL WESTERN AUSTRALIA

The Training Accreditation Council (TAC) is the regulatory body for VET in Western Australia, and it is responsible for the following:

- Regulating RTOs that deliver training to domestic students **in Western Australia only**
- Accrediting courses, but only if the course owner is an RTO registered by TAC.

QUALITY STANDARDS USED BY TAC

TAC regulates RTOs against the *Standards for Registered Training Organisations (RTOs) 2015*, and it regulates courses against the *AQTF 2007 Standards for Accredited Courses*.

KEY WEBSITES

- Australian Skills Quality Authority
<https://www.asqa.gov.au/>
- Training Accreditation Council of Western Australia
<http://www.tac.wa.gov.au/Pages/default.aspx>
- Victorian Registration & Qualifications Authority
<https://www.vrqa.vic.gov.au/Pages/default.aspx>

RELATED TOPICS

- Registered Training Organisations
- Training Products
- VET Quality Standards

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FAQS

VET REGULATORS

WHAT IS A REGISTERED TRAINING ORGANISATION (RTO)?

An RTO is an organisation that has been registered by an independent statutory agency to deliver and assess nationally recognised training, and issue nationally recognised qualifications, in accordance with relevant VET quality standards.

HOW DOES AN ORGANISATION BECOME AN RTO?

To become an RTO, an organisation must meet a range of mandatory requirements to ensure its training and assessment services are delivered to the high standards expected by students and employers. These requirements include:

- Submitting an application to the statutory agency responsible for regulating RTOs in its state or territory
- Meeting the quality standards for RTOs that apply in its state or territory.

WHAT IS AN RTO'S SCOPE OF REGISTRATION?

An RTO's scope of registration is the total number of qualifications, accredited courses and units of competency that the RTO has been registered to deliver and assess. This is recorded on the National Register of VET.



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WHAT IS THE AUSTRALIAN SKILLS QUALITY AUTHORITY (ASQA)?

ASQA is the national regulator for Australia's VET system. It is responsible for regulating training organisations and accrediting courses in the Australian Capital Territory, New South Wales, Northern Territory, Queensland, South Australia and Tasmania. It is also responsible for regulating training organisations that offer courses to overseas students studying in Australia on student visas, regardless of where the training organisation is located.

WHAT IS THE VICTORIAN REGISTRATION & QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY (VRQA)?

The Victorian Registration & Qualifications Authority (VRQA) is the regulatory body for VET in Victoria, and it is responsible for the following:

- Regulating RTOs that deliver training to domestic students in Victoria only
- Accrediting courses, but only if the course is owned by the Victorian Government, or if the course owner is an RTO registered by VRQA.

Victoria has not referred its regulatory powers to ASQA, so it is termed a *non-referring* state in the Australian VET system.

WHAT IS THE TRAINING ACCREDITATION COUNCIL (TAC) WESTERN AUSTRALIA?

The Training Accreditation Council (TAC) is the regulatory body for VET in Western Australia, and it is responsible for the following:

- Regulating RTOs that deliver training to domestic students **in Western Australia only**
- Accrediting courses, but only if the course owner is an RTO registered by TAC.

Western Australia has not referred its regulatory powers to ASQA, so it is termed a non-referring state in the Australian VET system.