



NEW ZEALAND **QUALIFICATIONS** AUTHORITY
MANA TOHU MĀTAURANGA O AOTEAROA



The New Zealand
Qualifications Authority's
Future State work programme
for quality assurance

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New Zealand tertiary education context

- Population of 4.5 million
- diverse
- globalised
- export-led
- Approximately 50% hold tertiary education qualification
- 17% hold Bachelor's Degree or higher
- 92,000 international students
- Diverse tertiary education institutions

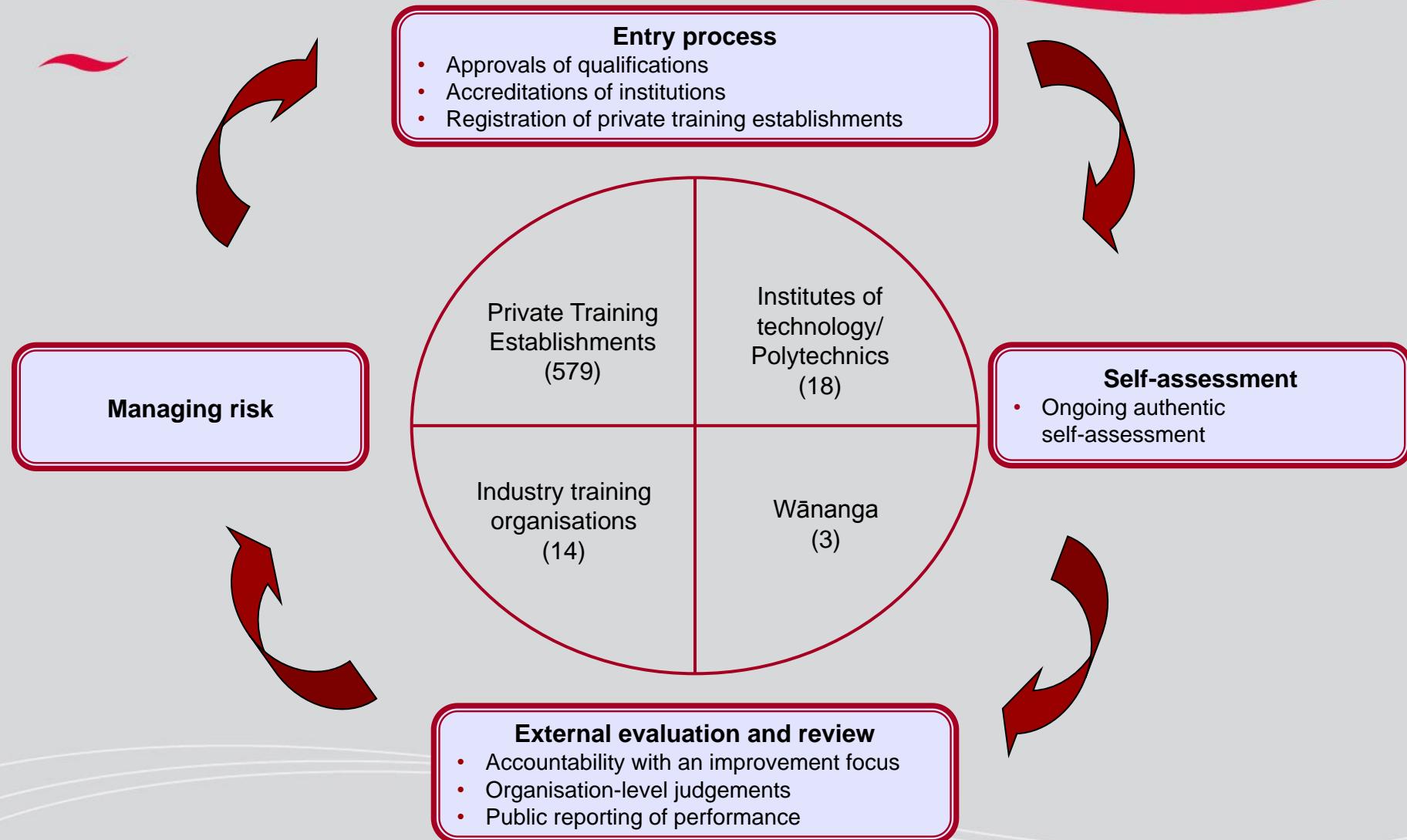


The New Zealand Qualifications Authority's role in tertiary education

- Quality assuring the non-university tertiary education sector:
 - institutes of technology and polytechnics
 - wānanga (Māori institutions)
 - private training establishments
 - industry training organisations
 - government training establishments
- Ensuring institutions comply with rules established under the Education Act 1989

NZQA's evaluative quality assurance framework (EQAF)

- Evaluative approach for determining quality and the outcomes of quality education
- Principle-based approach
 - High trust, high accountability
 - Dynamic concept of quality
 - Practical focus on outcomes
 - Strategic and needs-based
 - Flexible
- Introduced across non-university tertiary education sector in 2009



The New Zealand Qualifications Framework

The New Zealand Qualifications Framework (NZQF) is designed to optimise the recognition of educational achievement and its contribution to New Zealand's economic, social and cultural success.

The New Zealand Qualifications Framework

Qualifications on the NZQF:

- quality assured
- defined by qualification type and level
- outcome statement includes graduate profile, education and employment pathways
- allocated a credit value
- assigned to a subject classification
- indicates a qualification's status as *current*, *expiring*, or *discontinued*

Future State Work Programme

- The New Zealand Qualification Authority (NZQA) has a Future State Strategy responding to the likely future needs of New Zealand.
- What's driving this strategy?
 - Increasing technological change offering different ways to deliver learning
 - Increasing globalisation breaking down barriers between countries and institutions
 - Increasing learner expectations for individualised service

~ NZQA's Future State programme (cont.)

A key focus is “Quality assurance in a borderless world”. NZQA is undertaking four quality assurance projects as part of its Future State programme.

- Strengthening the Evaluative Quality Assurance Framework
- Mātauranga Māori evaluative quality assurance
- Work associated with strengthening the NZQF
- Credit recognition and transfer

Strengthening the Evaluative quality assurance framework

- The project to strengthen EQAF follows an independent international review of the EQAF in 2012, which commended the framework.
- In 2013, NZQA:
 - Introduced criteria to strengthen reporting on educational performance in external evaluation and review (EER)
 - Introduced requirements for all institutions to specifically report on the achievement of both Māori and Pacific learners
 - Introduced a compliance declaration process to ensure compliance with legal and professional body requirements

~ Strengthening the EQAF (cont.)

- In 2014, NZQA will continue to establish sustainable EQAF capability across NZQA and the tertiary education sector by:
 - Strengthening the pool of evaluators to ensure EER continues to combine evaluation capability and strong sector knowledge
 - Introducing ‘associate’ evaluators with sector expertise and experience
- In to 2015, NZQA will continue to strengthen its role to influence performance using analysis of EER information

~ Mātauranga Māori

- Māori are indigenous people of New Zealand
- Mātauranga Māori is a body of knowledge specific to Māori people
- NZQA has an explicit focus on supporting Māori educational achievement
- New Zealand recognises indigenous knowledge on the NZQF

Mātauranga Māori evaluative quality assurance (MM EQA)

- Jointly developed with Māori
- Partnership to maintain the integrity of both mātauranga Māori and evaluative quality assurance
- Core principle - what is of value to Māori?
- Mātauranga Māori outcomes, philosophy, and processes are recognised on their merits
- Mātauranga Māori specific evaluation questions and criteria
- MM EQA quality mark (pictured) awarded to those qualifications achieving excellent or outstanding results



Strengthening the New Zealand qualifications system

- In 2008-9, an NZQA-led targeted review found the number of quality-assured qualifications had grown out of proportion with the needs of the country.
- In response, a package of changes to the qualifications system was agreed, covering three broad areas:
 - A single unified New Zealand Qualifications Framework
 - Developing new design rules for qualifications to address employer and societal needs
 - Introducing a strengthened approval process for new qualifications and a regular review of all qualifications to ensure consistency of all programmes that lead to the same qualification.

Strengthening the New Zealand qualifications system (cont.)

The NZQF now has:

- A more streamlined and simplified qualifications system – qualifications are useful and relevant
- Stronger emphasis on flexible pathways to qualifications
- Fewer qualifications (reduced by over 60%)
- Qualifications focused on learner outcomes
- Requirements for qualification developers to engage with industry and employers to develop qualifications
- An independent analysis concluded that it now much better meets the needs of learners than in 2009

Credit recognition and transfer

- Technology is leading to changing learner demands and institutions are changing in response
- NZQA is working with sector experts to embrace these opportunities, specifically seeking their views on the role of MOOCs (Massive, Open, Online Courses) in the New Zealand tertiary education system
- NZQA is undertaking a long-term project to understand likely future quality assurance needs for credit recognition and transfer and recognition of prior learning

Summary

- The Future State work programme is ensuring NZQA keeps pace with rapid change
- The EQAF project is enhancing NZQA's ground-breaking quality assurance processes
- The MM EQA ensures quality assurance of mātauranga Māori is driven from an authentic Māori worldview
- NZQA is continuing to strengthen the NZQF to create a simpler vocational education and training system that better meet the needs of learners and communities

~ Contact details

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