



Training Accreditation Council

Focus on Quality:

TAC Regulatory Strategy 2023-2025

The Training Accreditation Council's (TAC or the Council's) primary role as a VET regulator is to assure the quality of training services delivered in the VET sector in Western Australia through effective regulation of providers and accreditation of courses within the scope of its jurisdiction.

The [TAC Risk Framework](#) outlines the Council's risk-based approach that applies appropriate and proportionate regulatory responses in the management of risk. A core element of this framework is ongoing review of risks to the quality of VET and publication of the Council's Regulatory Strategy.

Stakeholder consultations, research and data analysis have informed the priorities outlined in this document and the planned regulatory responses. In publishing this document, the Council seeks to engage and motivate RTOs to achieve quality VET outcomes for Western Australia.

As part of its regulatory approach, the Council publishes annual compliance trends and provides an extensive education program to encourage and support providers to maintain quality training outcomes. The TAC Education Program continues to provide professional development opportunities through a variety of modes. Education program events are promoted via the [TAC Update](#), [YouTube](#) and [LinkedIn](#). Guidance material, session recordings and an event calendar are available on the [TAC website](#).

During 2023-2025, the Council will:

- continue its commitment to an education program that delivers practical information to support quality outcomes and compliance practices;
- focus regulatory activities on areas deemed to pose a risk to quality training outcomes. These focus areas are categorised under three headings – Standards for RTOs; Training Products; and Sector Monitoring. The latter involving a review of training providers that have had minimal or no regulatory assessment to ensure sufficient oversight of the sector;
- aim to reduce regulatory burden where RTO registrations are due to expire during 2023 – 2025, by identifying opportunities to combine renewal of registration audits with monitoring audits on training products identified in the Strategy; and
- undertake specific education and support strategies for training providers in relation to VET quality reform including the planned revised Standards for RTOs.

1. Standards for RTOs

Training and assessment are at the core of quality outcomes for learners. During 2023-2025, the Council will continue to actively monitor RTO training and assessment practices, as well as whether the RTO has sufficient resources for its scope of registration.

The quality of assessment for Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) has also been identified by both industry and RTO stakeholders as an area warranting review by TAC.

Audits undertaken by the Council will focus across the following clauses* of the Standards for RTOs:

- meeting the requirements of the training package and amount of training (Clauses 1.1 and 1.2);
- sufficient trainers and assessors, educational and support services, learning resources, and facilities and equipment (Clause 1.3);
- assessment and RPL (Clauses 1.8 and 1.12); and
- trainer and assessor competencies (Clauses 1.13-1.16).

* or similar, as applicable in proposed revised Standards.

In relation to RPL, further work will be undertaken to assess the issue and determine the Council's regulatory response.

2. Training Products

Early Childhood Education and Care Qualifications

Ensuring early childhood educators and carers receive quality training and assessment that meet the requirements of the training package is critical to meeting workforce development needs. It is also essential that those delivering the training and assessment have the necessary industry currency and vocational competency. The industry regulator and stakeholders expressed a desire for ongoing monitoring in this area to assure child safety and wellbeing. A focus on the quality of specific training pathways such as traineeships and VET delivered to secondary students (VDSS) was also seen as important.

TAC will undertake **monitoring audits** 18 months after RTOs add the updated products of *CHC30121 Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care* and *CHC50121 Diploma of Early Childhood Education and Care* to their scope of registration and where applicable, these audits will include consideration of traineeship and VDSS delivery.

Audits of RTOs with the *CHC30121 Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care* on scope of registration will include first aid units in the audit sample.

Applications to add the *CHC30121 Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care* and/or *CHC50121 Diploma in Early Childhood Education and Care* will require an audit.

Prepare to work safely in the construction industry

The unit CPCWHS1001 Prepare to work safely in the construction industry leads to the 'White Card' and is critical in ensuring safety in the construction industry. Industry regulator and stakeholder feedback highlighted concerns with the quality of training and therefore a continued focus on training and assessment practices, trainer and assessor vocational competencies and use of online delivery will be maintained.

Monitoring audits of RTOs with the *CPCWHS1001 Prepare to work safely in the construction industry* on scope of registration will be undertaken over the period of the Strategy.

Applications to add the unit of competency *CPCWHS1001 Prepare to work safely in the construction industry* on scope of registration will require an audit.

Training Products subject to audit upon application

The ongoing monitoring of a number of other training products identified as posing risks to quality training will also remain an area of focus. The Council is committed to ensuring:

- training and assessment meets the requirements of the training product, including RPL;
- amount of training meets the requirements of the training product, the existing skills and knowledge of the learner, and mode of delivery;
- RTOs have sufficient trainers and assessors, education and support services, learning resources and facilities and equipment;
- RTOs provide accurate and accessible information and marketing; and
- learners are properly informed.

With a focus on the above elements of training quality, the following training products are identified as warranting particular focus in the Strategy:

- **CHC33021 Certificate III in Individual Support**
Concerns were raised during consultations about the pressures on RTOs due to the high volume of training required to meet labour market demand, access to appropriate mandated work placements, and the language and numeracy needs of learners.
- **RIIWHS202E Enter and work in confined spaces and RIIWHS204E Working Safely at Heights**
Stakeholder consultations indicated some concerns with the quality of training provided in the mining and civil construction sectors and the safety implications if delivery doesn't meet the unit requirements.
- **SIT20322 Certificate II in Hospitality**
Stakeholders indicated concern with the skills observed in new employees entering the workforce and the challenge for RTOs in meeting some assessment requirements when delivering to secondary school students.
- **TAE40122 Certificate IV in Training and Assessment**
A highly skilled knowledgeable and professional VET workforce is the cornerstone of quality training outcomes and plays a vital role in passing on industry relevant knowledge and skills to learners.

Based on TAC data analysis feedback from stakeholders and having regard to focus areas in the 2021-2023 Regulatory Strategy, the Strategy includes the following:

Applications to add the following training products to an RTOs scope of registration, and **applications to renew RTO registration** that contain the following training products will require an audit:

- CHC33021 Certificate III in Individual Support
- RIIWHS202E Enter and work in confined spaces
- RIIWHS204E Work safely at heights
- SIT20322 Certificate II in Hospitality
- TAE40122 Certificate IV in Training and Assessment

3. Sector Monitoring

Recognising the impact of VET quality reform, sector changes and the finalisation of the planned revised Standards for RTOs during the period of this Strategy, the Council sees benefit in engaging with RTOs that have had minimal or no regulatory assessment in recent years. The Council will continue its recently introduced practice of monitoring the quality and compliance of RTOs at appropriate intervals to ensure any risks are identified and mitigated.

Over the period of the Strategy, the Secretariat will focus on **monitoring** RTOs that have had no or minimal regulatory assessment by the Council in the last three years or more.

Renewal of registration applications for RTOs that have had no or minimal regulatory assessment by the Council in the last three years or more will be audited.

The Council considers and responds to risks to the VET sector as they arise. New risks that emerge following publication of this document will be considered and regulatory strategies responding to those risks will be announced via the Council's established communication strategies.