

## Transcript - TAC TALKS SHORTS

### Complying with relevant legal requirements

Welcome to TAC Talks Shorts. My name is Mel Hartley from the Training Accreditation Council or TAC and today we are going to have a short talk about complying with relevant legal requirements.

Before we do I wish to acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land we are recording on, the Whadjuk people. We wish to acknowledge and respect their continuing culture and the contribution they make to the life of this city and this region.

Clauses 8.5 and 8.6 of the *Standards for Registered Training Organisations (RTOs) 2015*, state that RTOs must comply with Commonwealth, State and Territory legislation and regulatory requirements relevant to its operations; and that staff and clients need to be informed of these regulatory requirements and any changes that are made that affect the services delivered.

In Western Australia, the main legislation governing vocational education and training (VET) is the *Vocational Education and Training Act of 1996* and the *Vocational Education and Training General Regulations of 2009*. This Act sets out the framework for the delivery and regulation of VET in WA, and outlines the roles and responsibilities of key stakeholders involved in the VET system.

Under the VET Act, the key stakeholders in the Western Australian VET system include:

- The Minister for Training who is responsible for setting policy direction and overseeing the administration of the VET system in Western Australia.
- The Department of Training and Workforce Development which is responsible for administering the VET Act and supporting the delivery of VET programs in the state.
- TAC who is responsible for registering VET providers and accrediting courses in Western Australia, and for monitoring and auditing their compliance with quality standards.
- The State Training Board who is responsible for advising the Minister on skill needs and workforce development issues in the Western Australia.

In addition to the VET Act, there are a number of other pieces of legislation that impact on VET in Western Australia, including the *Work Health and Safety Act 2020*, the *Disability Services Act 1993*, and the *Equal Opportunity Act 1984*. These have implications for workplace training and the delivery of VET programs.

In addition to these key pieces of legislation, there may be other laws and regulations that are relevant to your specific business, depending on the industry you operate in and the type of products or services you provide. For example RTOs delivering in the maritime, nursing, rail, construction, aircraft, plumbing and aged care industry areas to name a few industries, all have individual legislation requirements specific to that industry.

It is your RTO's responsibility to ensure it is aware of all relevant requirements and that staff, clients and learners are made aware of any changes that may affect the services delivered. Although it would be useful, RTOs are not required to have policies or procedures in this area. RTOs could demonstrate compliance by showing how they have advised of changes to legislation or other regulatory requirements. This could be done through publishing updates on legislation on the staff intranet, sending regular newsletters to staff and learners or even publishing online information about relevant changes.

The best place to check to see if your industry area has any legislative or regulatory requirements is in the relevant national training package or their companion volumes. There is also information available in the Users' Guide to the Standards for RTOs on the TAC website [wa.gov.au/tac](http://wa.gov.au/tac).

Once again thank you for listening to this TAC Talk Short on complying with relevant legal requirements.