

# TACUPDATE

Issue 100 November 2024

Issue 100 - November 2024

# **Welcome to the November Update**

As we mark our centennial issue, we reflect on a remarkable journey of 15 years of providing timely and valuable information to our stakeholders. Since its inception in September 2008, the TAC Update has been a cornerstone of our communication efforts, keeping you informed about the latest developments in Vocational Education and Training (VET).

Over the years, we've shared updates on Council initiatives, state and national VET policy, regulatory changes, mandatory RTO reporting requirements and our Education Program. We thank you for your readership and engagement with us and in maintaining a quality VET sector.



**Diversity and Inclusion:** TAC has collaborated with Kambarang Services, an Aboriginal owned and operated organisation, to deliver a two-part live webinar series on cultural awareness and safety. Under Standard 2.5(b) of the revised Standards RTOs are to demonstrate that they foster a culturally safe learning environment for First Nations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) people.



**Continuous Improvement:** The webinar will focus on Standard 4.4 of the revised Standards for RTOs to explore how an RTO can undertake systematic monitoring and evaluation to support the delivery of quality services and continuous improvement.

Registration details for webinars are contained further in the newsletter.

### What's in this edition?

- TAC Education Program
- Online Guidance Hub: Self-Assurance Considerations and Reflective Questions
- Focus Article: Child Safe Organisations
- Training.gov.au: Information Sessions
- Fit and Proper Person Declarations
- Other important updates

# **TAC Education Program**

## **Upcoming Events:**

<u>Register now</u> for our upcoming events. You can also be alerted to new events by following TAC's Event Page on Humanitix.



#### Part I: Cultural Awareness by Kambarang Services For TAC RTOs Only

Mon 2 December Oct 2024, 10am - 12pm AWST Register Now



# Part II: Cultural Safety by Kambarang Services For TAC RTOs Only

Mon 9 December 2024, 10am - 12pm AWST

Register Now



#### **Continuous Improvement**

Fri 6 December 2024, 10:00am - 11.30am AWST

Register Now

## **Webinar Recordings:**

View the TAC <u>Education Program</u> to access professional development opportunities, support and guidance materials and access previous webinar <u>recordings and resources</u>.

# Revised Standards for RTOs: An overview webinar

This webinar provides a high-level overview of the key changes introduced in the Standards.



#### **Creating a Child Safe Organisation Webinar**

In this webinar the Child Safe Manager at WACOSS addresses the revised Standards for RTOs Governance Quality Area of Risk Management 4.3(d). The webinar covers:

- 1. National Principles on Child Safety; and
- 2. Mandatory reporting requirements of child abuse under the Reportable Conduct Scheme.



# Child Safe Organisations

# **Focus Article: Child Safe Organisations**

The revised Standards for RTOs clearly outline the RTO's responsibilities regarding child safety. Specifically, Standard 4.3 mandates that RTOs identify and manage risks to VET students, staff, and the organisation. For VET students aged under 18 years, this includes ensuring safety and wellbeing in alignment with principles for child-safe organisations, considering training content and delivery methods.

Every organisation working with children and young people has a duty to prioritise their safety and wellbeing. Child safe organisations foster cultures where these principles are paramount, with proactive measures to identify risks and protect children from harm.

The National Principles for Child Safe Organisations provide a framework for embedding child safe practices across various sectors and organisations. These 10 principles guide organisations in creating a safe environment for children and young people:

- 1. Child safety and wellbeing is embedded in organisational leadership, governance and culture.
- 2. Children and young people are informed about their rights, participate in decisions affecting them and are taken seriously.
- 3. Families and communities are informed and involved in promoting child safety and wellbeing.
- 4. Equity is upheld and diverse needs respected in policy and practice.
- 5. People working with children and young people are suitable and supported to reflect child safety and wellbeing values in practice.
- 6. Processes to respond to complaints and concerns are child focused.
- 7. Staff and volunteers are equipped with the knowledge, skills and awareness to keep children and young people safe through ongoing education and training.
- 8. Physical and online environments promote safety and well-being while minimising the opportunity for children and young people to be harmed.
- 9. Implementation of the national child safe principles is regularly reviewed and improved.

10. Policies and procedures document how the organisation is safe for children and young people.

RTOs must also be aware of the Ombudsman WA's mandatory Reportable Conduct Scheme. This scheme provides independent oversight of how organisations handle allegations and convictions of child abuse by their staff, ensuring accountability and transparency.

For more information on child safe organisations see the <u>creating child safe organisations</u> webinar and a full complement of valuable resources and handouts.

# Online Guidance Hub: Self-Assurance Considerations and Reflective Questions

The <u>TAC online guidance hub</u> is where you can find a comprehensive suite of guidance material to help transition to the revised Standards. The hub has recently been updated to include self-assurance considerations and reflective questions.

The revised Standards for RTOs have been designed to allow for more flexibility and innovation and recognise that RTOs are diverse and operate within different settings and delivery contexts. When reviewing the self-assurance statements and reflective questions, RTOs are encouraged to review their processes to ensure these align with, and support achievement of, the outcomes described in the Standard.

The self-assurance statements and reflective questions may be used by RTOs as a professional development opportunity with their staff, as well as to inform how they are tracking towards compliance. They should NOT be used solely to determine compliance, and RTOs should refer to the specific Quality Areas and associated Standards.

# **Training.gov.au Information Sessions**

The enhanced Training.gov.au (TGA) went live on Wednesday 23 October. It can be found at <a href="mailto:training.gov.au">training.gov.au</a>. The improved TGA is more intuitive and accessible includes a range of new features.

For tips for success on using the new features on training.gov.au the VET Development Centre (VDC) hosts webinars and information sessions. <u>Register here</u> to express your interest in attending a session.



# **Fit and Proper Person Declarations**

Anyone who manages an RTO including Executive Officers, High Managerial Agents, Legally Responsible Officers, Owners, or Persons of Control and Influence must satisfy Fit and Proper Person Requirements (FPPR) as outlined in Schedule 3 of the Standards for RTOs and the *Vocational Education and Training (General) Regulations 2009.* 

Meeting the FPPR is a requirement for registration with the Training Accreditation Council (TAC). RTOs must make a 'Fit and Proper Person Declaration' when the organisation applies for initial registration, renews registration or employs a new executive officer/s, legally responsible officer, high managerial agent/s, owner/s or person/s of control or influence.

We would like to remind RTOs that when assessing whether a person meets the FPPR that each person includes **all convictions** on the FPP declaration:

- whether they have been found guilty of an offence (regardless of whether a conviction was recorded or not) against a law of the Commonwealth, State or Territory of Australia or a law of another country, and
- where there was a conviction recorded whether it had been spent or not.

More information is on the TAC website.

# Other important updates

- Strong and responsive VET pathways | Jobs and Skills Australia
- Online job ads drop but stay higher than 2019 levels | Jobs and Skills Australia
- New research reveals emerging roles in Australia's labour market | Jobs and Skills Australia
- <u>An industrial strategy for domestic manufacturing of onshore and offshore wind energy towers and equipment | The Australia Institute's Centre for Future Work</u>

## **Latest NCVER Reports**



NCVER has released the following new report:

- Apprentices and trainees 2024: March guarter 9 Oct
- VET qualification completion rates 2023 24 Oct



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The Training Accreditation Council acknowledges Aboriginal peoples as the first sovereign Nations of Western Australia. We acknowledge their ancestral ties to the land and spiritual connection to Country. We acknowledge Elders both past and present, and value the contribution of Aboriginal people within our organisation. We support the Uluru Statement from the Heart and embrace its invitation to walk alongside Aboriginal people, united in a movement for a better future for all Australians.

#### Register Now

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