



Terms of Reference

International Education Strategic Review

The Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA) is undertaking a strategic review of international VET and English language education services delivered by ASQA-regulated providers (International Education Strategic Review) under the *National Vocation Education and Training Regulator Act 2011*.

International education is Australia's third largest export, generating \$29.4 billion in export earnings annually. The Australian Government's *National Strategy for International Education 2025* seeks to foster this industry by capitalising on increasing global demand for education services.

Given the vital role that the sector plays in our national economic and social prosperity, it is crucial that the regulatory framework is robust and able to protect the reputation of this sector. The Government's National Strategy recognises this imperative and includes a commitment to a robust quality assurance and regulatory environment with a focus on continual improvement. The International Education Strategic Review will contribute to the goals of the National Strategy to maintain strong quality assurance systems and ensure effective student protection.

Purpose of the International Education Strategic Review

The purpose of the International Education Strategic Review is to ensure that the quality of Australia's international VET and English language education services delivered by ASQA-regulated providers remains at a high standard, students are protected, and Australia's reputation as a destination of choice for international students is enhanced.

The International Education Strategic Review will:

1. document the full range of international VET and English language education services delivered by ASQA-regulated providers
2. document and analyse available data on the activity levels and trends in the delivery types
3. document the regulatory arrangements and agency responsibilities for each delivery type across the student lifecycle
4. outline ASQA's regulatory approach and recent regulatory activity
5. identify risk indicators and access relevant data held by government agencies to identify a sample of ASQA-regulated providers of interest to be the subject of a

- targeted assessment of practices and behaviours as well as compliance of systems and processes to test risk indicators, data sources and regulatory strategies
6. document examples of provider best practice
 7. research the regulatory approaches of comparable international jurisdictions, to identify world's best regulatory practice
 8. enhance the communication with the regulated community to improve their compliance with legislative requirements, including student protection requirements, and
 9. make any relevant findings and recommendations in a report aimed at protecting the quality of international VET and English language education services delivered by ASQA-regulated providers.

International Education Reference Committee

Ensuring the quality of Australia's international VET and English language education services remains at a high level requires the support and co-operation of a range of stakeholders.

The International Education Strategic Review will be guided by a reference committee comprising senior representatives from the following organisations:

- Australian Skills Quality Authority (Chair and Secretariat)
- International Education Association of Australia
- Australian Council of Private Education and Training (ACPET)
- TAFE Directors Australia (TDA)
- English Australia
- Council of International Students Australia (CISA)
- Overseas Students Ombudsman
- Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ACCI)
- Australian Industry Group (AiG)
- Department of Industry New South Wales
- Study Queensland
- Department of Economic Development Victoria
- Department of Education Tasmania
- Department of Jobs, Tourism, Science and Innovation Western Australia
- Tertiary Education Quality Standards Agency (TEQSA)
- Australian Government Department of Home Affairs
- Australian Trade and Investment Commission (Austrade) and
- Australian Government Department of Education and Training.

The International Education Reference Committee (the Reference Committee) will provide advice to ASQA in the development of the International Education Strategic Review.

The Terms of Reference for the Reference Committee include:

1. review ASQA's analysis of delivery and regulatory arrangements, market trends, emerging systemic risks and international best practice
2. advise on additional emerging risks and concerns of their member organisations;
3. advise on examples of best practice quality education services and the delivery of student recruitment and support services

4. advise on enhancing information collection and sharing arrangements to improve the detection of systemic and provider risk and
5. advise on communication strategies to engage stakeholders, providers and students.

The role of the Reference Committee is to help inform and guide the Review. Final recommendations will be the responsibility of ASQA.

The Reference Committee will meet on an as needs basis. Out of session comment may also be sought.

Timing

ASQA expects to release its report, *Protecting the Quality of International VET and English Language Education Services*, in 2019.

Secretariat Functions

ASQA will provide secretariat support for the review, including to the Reference Committee. Contact with the secretariat can be made through: StrategicReviews@asqa.gov.au