



## ITO sector update

## Issue 2018-1

8 March 2018

Welcome to our first sector update for 2018. In this issue, we discuss:

- › Finalising 2017 data
- › Over-enrolment offset for 2017
- › Incomplete enrolment information in the ITR
- › Fees Free for first-time learners
- › Joint Ventures and Amalgamation Projects funding
- › Qualification Development Fund funding
- › Modern Apprenticeship enrolments
- › NZQA's consultation on micro-credentials

### 2017 data closes-off on 31 March 2018

A friendly reminder that you have until 31 March 2018 to ensure all your 2017 data is up to date and complete in the ITR. We will take a snapshot on 1 April and this will be used to calculate your 2017 funded delivery, any recoveries, and your educational performance for the year.

We expect to have the wash-up process completed by early April and any 2017 recovery letters to you by mid-April. Recoveries will be offset against your May 2018 payment.

### We are seeking approval to waive the over-enrolment offset for apprentice STMs

Alongside the finalisation of 2017 data we will seek approval to waive the over-enrolment offset. The waiver will only apply to apprenticeship programmes over 70 credits per annum.

As you are aware, from 2018, the over-enrolment offset has been amended to allow up to 75 credits year. This means we will no longer seek to waive the offset.

### Enrolment information in the ITR needs to be complete

Please remember to enter all details from a learner's training agreement in the ITR. There are a number of fields that are frequently left incomplete which is problematic for our analysis and reporting. In particular, fields for 'ethnicity' and 'post-school qualification' should be entered as these details are recorded through your enrolment processes.

It is also important that the 'employee type' is completed correctly. For example; volunteers must be reported as volunteers and not as employees.

## Fees Free is for first-time trainees and apprentices

To be eligible for Fees Free, both the learner and the programme must meet the fees-free criteria. This means the apprenticeship or industry training programme must start in 2018. If a programme started in 2017 (or earlier), even if the learner is eligible because they had achieved less than 60 credits by 1 January 2018, their programme is not eligible because it started before 2018.

It does not matter if the learner has paused or stopped their training programme and started again. To be considered eligible, the learner would need to change to a completely new programme (for example, the learner could change from a plumbing apprenticeship to an electrical engineering apprenticeship).

If a learner commenced training prior to 2018, they are not eligible for Fees Free if they were to continue with their current training. We are advising any trainees or apprentices to contact you if they think their apprenticeship should have started in 2018 and not earlier.

## We are inviting expressions of interest for Joint Ventures and Amalgamation Projects (JVAP) funding

We recently advised you that we are now inviting expressions of interest for JVAP funding. Further information on JVAP funding is available on our [website](#). Completed expressions of interest are due to the Sector Helpdesk ([sectorhelpdesk@tec.govt.nz](mailto:sectorhelpdesk@tec.govt.nz)) before **5pm, Friday 20 April 2018**. We will advise you if you have been shortlisted (or not) to submit an application after the deadline closes.

## We will be inviting applications for the Qualification Development Fund very soon

The Qualification Development Fund is due to open shortly. We will be seeking applications from organisations that would benefit from co-investment in 2018 to support the development and/or review of qualifications at levels 1 to 6 on the NZQF.

Qualification review and development was previously supported through the Strategic Leadership Fund which was only available to ITOs. The Qualification Development Fund will be open to a broader range of organisations.

## Any remaining Modern Apprentices need to be withdrawn or transferred

Funding for Modern Apprenticeships ceased at the end of 2017. Any Modern Apprentices that are yet to complete their apprenticeship programme and want to continue will need to transition to another programme of training. This might be a New Zealand Apprenticeship or an industry training-funded programme.

We expect ITOs to support these learners to complete their programmes. This transition provides an opportunity for each ITO to review the progress and achievement of each affected apprentice.

As we advised in an earlier email (15 February 2018), we will withdraw any Modern Apprenticeship enrolments that have not been appropriately amended in the ITR.

## NZQA has opened consultation on the recognition of micro-credentials

For those interested in the broader discussion on micro-credentials NZQA has produced a consultation document and is seeking feedback. Further information on the consultation process is available on NZQA's [website](#).

At this stage, we do not fund micro-credential-based programmes but this may change in the future as their relevance and value is established.



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