

Final Report

Qualification Title: NZ Certificate in Foundation Construction (Level 3) with Strands in Pile Foundations, and Concrete Foundation Walls and Concrete Slab On-ground

Qualification number: 1814

Date and venue for review: 5 May 2015. BCITO office, Level 5, 234 Wakefield Street, Wellington

Final decision on consistency: *National Consistency Confirmed* - The evidence confirms that graduate outcomes are being achieved to a consistent and appropriate threshold.

Threshold

The threshold to determine TEO sufficiency with the graduate profile was agreed as evidence of:

- Appropriate mechanisms for delivery and assessment including a robust moderation processes.
- Effective self-assessment that includes:
 - Engagement with stakeholders in the delivery and review of the programme.
 - Engagement with graduates and employers to determine consistency with the graduate profile.
- Confirmation that graduate outcomes are consistent with the graduate profile.

Tertiary Education Organisations with sufficient evidence

Tertiary Education Organisation ¹	Final rating
BCITO	<i>Sufficient</i>

Introduction

This level three qualification of 46-67 credits is designed to provide the construction industry with trained people who have attained the practical skills, knowledge and aptitude to work professionally, constructing foundations for building projects. The qualification reflects the changed regulatory environment in the building industry.

The programme offered is specifically tailored to people working in the [foundation construction] industry. To date there have been ten trainees who have graduated Fourteen trainees are working towards this qualification. Trainees are located throughout New Zealand with clusters of trainees in areas where the [larger] scale of the construction industry makes the specialist nature of this sector economically viable.

¹ At the time of the review BCITO, the qualification developer, is the only provider of this qualification.

Evidence

A range of evidence was presented to demonstrate that graduates met the outcomes specified in the graduate profile. The evidence presented and discussed at the review included:

- A programme overview which explained that all trainees need to be working in the foundation construction field. They learn on the job and are assessed by Training Assessors (TAs) in consultation with the employer/verifiers.
- A comprehensive and professionally presented workbook which provides an overview of the programme, and includes learning materials, a workplace diary/task record used to record evidence of tasks completed, assessment guidelines and employer verification forms. The workbooks provide guidance for each trainee and are being used effectively to record skills, knowledge and progress. Assessments are directly related to the skills, knowledge and characteristics of the graduate profile.
- An overview of the moderation process followed to ensure validity of assessment.
- Examples of Training Plan Visit Reports produced by Training Advisors. These are detailed records of observations, attestations/verifications and general comments about the trainee's progress². The Training Plan Visit Reports sampled indicated that the TAs were observing skills knowledge and other characteristics in graduates which are consistent with the graduate profile for the qualification. TAs have ongoing contact with graduates and employers as they visit building sites in the course of their work.
- The checklist and verification procedure for ensuring that verifying employers themselves demonstrate "correct trade practices" which also helps to ensure consistency of graduate outcomes.

How well does the evidence provided by the education organisation demonstrate that its graduates match the graduate outcomes at the appropriate threshold?

The evidence provided was sufficient and demonstrated good evidence that graduates meet all, (or nearly all) of the most important outcomes of the graduate profile.

There is good evidence of highly effective processes for ensuring real-world validity of the judgements in relation to the graduate profile outcomes for the tertiary education organisation. For example:

- Trainees learn on the job working in the industry and undertake tasks directly relevant to the qualification outcomes
- There is a strong match between graduates and the graduate profile of this qualification

² A sample of approximately 50 percent of Training Plan Visit Reports for both current trainees and graduates, were viewed by the reviewer.

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- The practice of periodically sampling the assessments and judgements of each of their TAs to independently verify the validity and accuracy of assessments ensures consistency and reliability of judgements made
- Good effective procedures are in place to assure correct practices by verifying employers correct trade practices match the outcomes

Special Focus

There was no special focus for this review.

Examples of good practice

The practice of periodically sampling the assessments and judgements of TAs to independently verify the validity and accuracy of assessments ensures consistency and reliability of judgements made.

Issues and concerns

There are no issues or concerns

Recommendations to Qualification Developer

Review of the qualification should include clarification of the consistency arrangements for this qualification.