

Qualification Title: New Zealand Certificate in Personal Financial Capability (Level 2)

Qualification number: 2248

Date of review: 16 July 2018

Final decision on consistency of the qualification: National Consistency Confirmed

Threshold:

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

At a basic level and under general supervision graduates will be able to:

- Recognise their own financial behaviours when making financial choices with financial agencies
- Use knowledge of a variety of income sources to identify and include methods and tools to manage personal income
- Use knowledge of different methods and associated costs of spending and impacts of personal money attitude on spending to make informed spending decisions.
- Manage own debt by recognising the impacts and responsibilities when borrowing money
- Identify and use tools and strategies to create and protect assets and wealth.

Tertiary Education Organisations with sufficient evidence

Tertiary Education Organisation	Final rating
Tai Poutini Polytechnic	Sufficient
Te Wananga O Aotearoa	Sufficient

Introduction

The New Zealand Certificate in Personal Financial Management (Level 2) is a 60-credit qualification that was approved by NZQA in 2014. This review covered graduates for the period 1 January 2015 to 31 December 2017. During this period there were a total of 323 graduates from two providers, Tai Poutini Polytechnic and Te Wananga O Aotearoa. Tai Poutini Polytechnic has indicated that it stopped offering the qualification in 2017.

Evidence

The TEO provided a range of evidence to demonstrate that their graduates met the graduate profile outcomes.

The criteria used to judge the evaluation question were:

- The nature, quality and integrity of the evidence presented by the education organisation
- How well the organisation has analysed, interpreted and validated the evidence, and used the understanding gained to achieve actual or improved consistency
- The extent to which the education organisation can reasonably justify and validate claims and statements relating to the consistency of graduate outcomes, including in relation to other providers of programmes leading to the qualification

Both providers delivered NZQA approved programmes with learning outcomes mapped to the graduate outcome statements. Evidence that learning outcomes were assessed appropriately was provided through moderation reports. Programme review reports provided confidence that programmes were maintained and remained relevant.

Both providers used graduate surveys and next user surveys or attestations to provide evidence that graduates met the graduate profile 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 from both providers shows they deliver approved programmes with learning outcomes aligned to the graduate profile. Appropriate assessment provides confidence that the graduate outcomes have been developed in the graduates.

Graduate feedback is an important source of evidence for this qualification because the graduate is the main beneficiary of the skills, attributes and knowledge described in the graduate profile. Graduate feedback was gained through surveys that were aligned to the graduate outcomes. The feedback supported that the graduates had gained the graduate outcomes at the threshold. This was strongly evident for graduate outcomes 1,2,3. Many graduates from one provider were still in school and had not experienced the need to manage debt or create wealth, and consequently they rated their ability for outcomes 4 and 5 lower. However, the provider's analysis of graduates' comments in the survey provided assurance that these graduates had achieved these graduate outcomes.

As mentioned earlier the graduate is the beneficiary of the learning in this qualification. This restricts sources of "next user" feedback. Although families may be one source of evidence generally graduates did not provide permission for them to be contacted. Surveys of tutors provided some evidence of graduates having gained the graduate attributes, but this is largely to be expected since they had already assessed this to be the case through the programme.

Overall the evidence provided makes a convincing case to demonstrate that its graduates match the graduate outcomes at the appropriate threshold.

Examples of good practice

- Graduate surveys that were well aligned with the graduate outcomes.
- Good analysis of the graduate survey comments.

Issues and concerns

Some evidence provided was not relevant or helpful. This evidence was template attestations by people who would have little knowledge of graduate performance in the real world.

Recommendations to Qualification Developer

The following items were identified for the qualification developer:

- Ensure the language in the graduate outcomes is appropriate for the target student group.
- For this level 2 qualification consider if the outcome that requires graduates "Manage own debt" is appropriate.
- Consider introducing cultural attitudes to money and its management.
- Consider introducing shops to graduate outcome 1, as this is where graduates are making many financial choices.