

Qualification Title: New Zealand Certificate in Apparel and Fashion Technology (Patternmaking) (Level 4)

Qualification number: 2608

Date of review: 3 November 2016

Final decision on consistency of the qualification: National consistency is Confirmed

Threshold:

The threshold to determine sufficiency with the graduate profile was determined as evidence that for the fashion manufacturing sector graduates will be able to:

- Make, adapt, test fit and grade, flat patterns for unstructured outerwear garments
- Identify fabrics, component and care labels appropriate to end use of a garment
- Prepare specification sheets and job breakdowns for garments
- Communicate patternmaking requirements to customers for a range of unstructured garments
- Meet the entry requirements for level 5

Tertiary Education Organisations with sufficient evidence

Tertiary Education Organisation	Final rating
New Zealand Institute of Fashion Technology Limited	Sufficient

Introduction

This 120 qualification provides the apparel and fashion manufacturing sector with people who, under broad guidance, are capable of self management and learning performance and who are able to make and adapt flat patterns for a range of unstructured garments according to customer requirements and organisational procedures. The qualification is for people who wish to train in patternmaking in the apparel and fashion manufacturing sector or for patternmakers already in industry.

At the time of the review the organisation had 23 graduates from this qualification for the 2015 year.

Evidence

The education organisation provided a range of evidence to demonstrate that their 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 criteria used to judge the evaluation question were (p10 NZQA consistency guidelines):

- 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

An appropriately aligned range of diverse and distinctive evidence was submitted to demonstrate the education organisations graduates had skills and knowledge consistent with those specified in the graduate profile of the qualification and met the required threshold.

Evidence included:

Programme fit with Graduate outcomes

Evidence of active leadership in the Targeted Review of Qualifications (TRoQ) that has ensured the New Zealand Institute of Fashion Technology Limited (NZIFT) programme offered was designed specifically to meeting the new qualification and its graduate profile ensuring graduates are capable of self management and are able to make and adapt flat patterns for a range of unstructured garments according to customer requirements and organisational procedures.

Programme evaluation

Extensive gathering of evidence (relative to the graduate profile) from tutors using observations, diary notes and written feedback, work experience hosts (using an assessment form), confidential student evaluations and internal moderation results confirm that the graduates fit the graduate profile at the threshold decided.

Entry into the next level of the qualification

Clear evidence was produced to show that a large number of graduates continued their learning journey by moving to the next level qualification (level 5) with 82.6% of the 2015 cohort progressing to the 2016 level 5 Diploma programme.

Feedback was gathered from tutors on the cohort of students who had graduated from the level 4 programme and moved into the level 5 programme. The feedback showed most students were prepared for the next level having the required sewing knowledge and a good attitude to learning.

Work experience

Work experience is vital to the success of the programme, the students, and industry as the work experience gained is from a diverse range of sewn products industries with differing needs. Evidence was produced of industry feedback to show students are able to gain experience in the apparel industry using a diverse range of sewn products using a variety of different approaches and techniques to make and adapt flat patterns for a range of unstructured garments according to customer requirements and organisational procedures.

Internal moderation

Evidence of regular rigorous internal moderation considering fair, valid and consistent assessment, ongoing evidence collection, and clear assessment results confirm that assessments are at the correct level and context.

External moderation

No evidence was available of external moderation as this had not been undertaken by the Industry Training Organisation (ITO) concerned. Following the consistency review it was noted that this was to be addressed immediately by the ITO.

NZIFT have decided to organise external moderation (with an expert in the field) and will also discuss this and other options with the ITO to gain the best outcome.

Student/Graduate feedback

During the process of preparing for the consistency event NZIFT had identified the need for higher student engagement in their learning progress and as a result have plans in place to encourage the use of social media through NZ Fashion Tech Instagram and Facebook and the taking of photos of work progress and completion. An alumni group is to be established to enable ease of contact with graduates.

Employer engagement and feedback - real world training

Confidence in those graduates who left for employment rather than progressing to the next level was evidenced by employer attestations of complying with standard workplace practices. This was via written verification in email, letter or survey form which provided evidence to show a good match between the qualification graduate profile outcomes and the skills and attributes exhibited by graduates

Employer engagement is with the work experience component and the level 4 students support the level 5 diploma students with real world work. All future reviews will be strengthened by stronger graduate surveys extended beyond surveying employment outcomes to specifically survey graduate and employer confidence in graduates attaining the graduate profile outcomes.

The above evidence makes a convincing case to demonstrate that the graduates match the graduate outcomes at the appropriate threshold.

Examples of good practice

Experiential learning undertaken via students visiting India to a sewing factory to experience and gain knowledge on a grand scale, of the type of industry they will eventually be involved in.

Being part of a competition using their skills as level 4 students to assist the level 5 diploma students to create tissue paper dresses for external critique and judging.

NZIFT will encourage a higher level of student engagement in their learning and pathway progress by the use of social media through NZ Fashion Tech Instagram and Facebook and encourage the taking of photos of work-in-progress and completed work.

Issues and concerns

External moderation had not been undertaken by the ITO concerned, and following discussion it was noted by the ITO that this would be undertaken as required in the Consent and Moderation Requirements.

Recommendations to Qualification Developer

N/A