

Qualification Title: New Zealand Diploma in Audio Engineering and Production (Level 5)

Qualification number: 3422

Date of review: 7 March 2022

This report refers to graduates awarded this qualification prior to: 31 December 2021

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 of graduates being able to:

- apply a range of audio software and hardware to produce complex music
- produce complex music using a range of audio software and hardware, and a range of audio engineering techniques and processes
- create and produce complex music, recordings and other sound-related works
- apply music and sonic theory to produce complex music
- apply a broad range of research and analytical skills to inform own practice
- manage and take responsibility for own professional practice
- analyse characteristics of the audio and related music industry to develop own career plan.

The organisations present at the review agreed the threshold is the same as the graduate profile outcomes in the qualification.

Education Organisations with sufficient evidence

The following education organisations have been found to have sufficient evidence.

MOE Number	Education Organisation	Final rating
6015	Southern Institute of Technology Ltd	Sufficient
8174	School of Audio Engineering (NZ) Limited	Sufficient

Introduction

The purpose of this Level 5, 120 credit, diploma qualification is to provide the music industry with people who have a range of audio engineering skills to produce complex music, recordings and sound-related works.

This qualification may build on the New Zealand Certificate in DJ and Electronic Music Production (Level 4) [Ref: 3414] and the New Zealand Certificate in Entertainment and Event

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Technology (Level 4) with strands in Entertainment Rigging, Lighting, Live Sound, Stage Management, Entertainment Video, Stage Mechanics and Scenic Construction [Ref: 3417]. Graduates of this qualification may progress onto the New Zealand Diploma in Audio Engineering and Production (Level 6) [Ref: 3423], or degree study in the music field.

Graduates can move into employment or self-employment as an audio engineer.

The qualification was developed by an Industry Training Organisation that is now transitioned to Toi Mai, the Workforce Development Council for the creative industries, in collaboration with the sector. A review is planned for December of this year.

There were two education organisations with programmes of study leading to the award of this qualification. These organisations had a total of 81 graduates over the reporting period. The consistency review was held via a video-conference meeting, and was attended by representatives of the education organisations, and a representative from Toi Mai, the qualification developer.

Evidence

The education organisations 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.

The evidence included:

- Programme design to show how the programme components (courses, learning outcomes, and assessment activities) align to the qualification's graduate profile.
- Internal and external moderation evidence to provide assurance the programme was assessed at an appropriate level, and assessment was valid.
- Feedback from graduates, employers, and next level tutors to confirm that the programme had provided graduates with a range of skills aligned to the graduate profile.
- Destination data to show whether graduates had moved into employment, either with an employer, or in self-employment or had progressed to further education in the field.

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

Organisations submitted evidence that could be triangulated to demonstrate that their graduates match the graduate outcomes at the appropriate threshold.

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The education organisations provided good evidence relating to their approved programme of study and showed how the course and learning outcomes were mapped against the qualification's graduate profile outcomes, and of the quality and suitability of assessments. The moderation evidence for one organisation demonstrated good internal moderation processes and positive results, with external moderation being strengthened.

Graduate survey results and feedback confirmed that graduates had gained, and were using, the skills and knowledge outlined in the graduate profile.

Destination data was strong, showing that the majority of graduates had followed the qualification's educational pathway, and were continuing to study in the music field, either in diploma or degree programmes. Next-level tutor feedback supported the conclusions that graduates had met the outcomes of the qualification and were well prepared for the next level of study.

Overall, the self-assessment and supporting evidence supplied by the organisation found sufficient, demonstrates that their graduates meet the graduate outcomes at the determined threshold.

Issues and concerns

N/A

Recommendations to Qualification Developer

The Qualification Developer, Toi Mai, the Workforce Development Council for creative industries, participated in the review meeting. A review of the qualification is planned for later this year.

The educational organisations are keen to engage in this review to ensure best possible alignment with the higher-level programmes that graduates pathway to, as well as ensuring the graduate profile outcomes reflect the current requirements of the music industry.