

Qualification title: New Zealand Diploma in Audio Engineering and Production (Level 6)

Qualification number: 3423

Date of review: 11 August 2022

This report refers to all 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 who, working independently, are able to:

- Record, mix and master a wide variety of material to produce music to a professional level
- Apply a range of creative and technical audio engineering techniques and processes to produce music to a professional level
- Create, produce and manipulate music, recordings and other sound-related works to a professional level
- Analyse and contribute to music arrangements and compositions to produce music to a professional level
- Research and analyse material and contexts for application to audio engineering and production
- Analyse and reflect on audio engineering and production work to improve practice
- Manage own professional practice, professional development, and industry knowledge to develop employment opportunities.¹

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 Limited	Sufficient

¹ This threshold statement is drawn directly from the graduate profile outcomes of the qualification as review participants agreed that they were all relevant and of importance. The qualification is currently undergoing scheduled review.

Final Consistency Review Report

Introduction

The New Zealand Diploma in Audio Engineering and Production (Level 6) is a 240-credit, technician-level, qualification intended for individuals who wish to develop their career as a professional audio engineer in the music industry.

This qualification provides the music industry with people who have a range of audio engineering skills to produce a wide variety of music, recordings, and sound-related works to a professional level. It may lead to employment or self-employment in a wide range of roles in the audio engineering industry.

There have been 28 graduates in the period of 2019 to 2021.

There was one education organisation with graduates who was represented in an online consistency review meeting. Their programme is delivered face-to-face variously at campuses in Auckland, Christchurch, and Invercargill and utilises internships to simulate real-world situations.

Skills Active Aotearoa Ltd² was the qualification developer, and a representative of Toi Mai Workforce Development Council (New qualification developer) participated in the online review meeting. The qualification was approved in 2016 and a scheduled review of the qualification is about to begin, facilitated by Toi Mai Workforce Development Council.

Evidence

The education organisation presented a range of evidence to demonstrate that their graduates met the graduate profile outcomes (GPOs).

The criteria used to judge the evaluation question were:

- The nature, quality and integrity of the evidence presented by the education organisations
- How well the organisations have analysed, interpreted, and validated the evidence, and used the understanding gained to achieve actual or improved consistency
- The extent to which the education organisations 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.

Evidence provided included:

- Confirmation that the education organisation had two coherent programmes of study, both of which ensured that programme components and assessments led to the graduate profile
- Evidence of internal and external moderation that assured the programme was assessed at an appropriate level
- Records of feedback from graduates and next level tutors, confirming that the programmes had provided students with a range of skills and knowledge aligned to the graduate profile and appropriate to a role in the audio engineering industry.

² Since transferred to Toi Mai Workforce Development Council

Final Consistency Review Report

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

The education organisation submitted a range of evidence that could be triangulated to demonstrate that their graduates meet the graduate outcomes at the agreed threshold. This included assessment and moderation evidence; programme to GPOs alignment; graduate and next level tutor feedback as well as destination data.

The education organisation provided good evidence related to the alignment of their approved programmes of study with the GPOs and of the quality and suitability of the programmes and assessments in terms of supporting graduate consistency with the graduate outcomes. The education organisation provided evidence that their programmes provided opportunities for assessments within realistic contexts aligned to the qualification.

The evidence relating to moderation was strong, demonstrating good internal and external moderation processes.

Graduate engagement and feedback from next level tutors supported the premise that graduates had gained, and were using, the skills and knowledge outlined in the graduate profile or that they were working part-time or full-time in roles that required the application of skills and knowledge outlined in the graduate profile.

There was however no formal feedback from employers. This is partially related to the fact that many graduates in this industry are employed on a piecemeal basis related to specific events or productions.

Overall, the self-assessment and supporting evidence supplied by the education organisation was sufficient to demonstrate that their graduates meet the graduate outcomes at the determined threshold.

Special Focus (includes special focus on a strand or outcome)

None

Issues and concerns

None

Recommendations to Qualification Developer

None