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Tēnā koe

### **Update on identity verification and extramural delivery**

I am writing to inform you about amendments to identity verification conditions and update you on our expectations of extramural delivery.

#### **Amendments to conditions relating to verification of identity and certified copies**

As a result of the restrictions on face-to-face interactions during COVID-19 Alert Level 4, the TEC amended funding conditions to provide an alternative way for learners to obtain certified copies of documents where they were unable to do so in the usual way (for example, getting documents witnessed by a Justice of the Peace or a lawyer).

The change to that condition allowed learners to self-declare that an electronic copy of their identity documentation was a true copy. It was a temporary change and was intended to be in place during the most restrictive periods of COVID-19 lockdown.

Now that New Zealand has moved to COVID-19 Alert Level 1, the TEC considers that there is no longer a need for an alternative process. Accordingly, from 14 July 2020, the TEC will revoke the amendment made on 14 April 2020 and revert back to the original wording of the condition.

However, we recognise that, in certain circumstances, it may not be possible for learners to verify their identity in-person (whether as a result of COVID-19 or other extenuating circumstances). In such circumstances, we may allow you to use an alternative process to verify a learner's identity.

We have made changes to reflect the above by amending your funding conditions. Please review the changes to your conditions attached, which will also be made available on our website. The funding conditions catalogue will be updated to reflect the changes as soon as possible.

#### **Update on conditions and expectations relating to extramural delivery**

Again as a result of COVID-19, the TEC responded to the need for TEOs to engage in extramural delivery such as providing online classes and other forms of remote teaching.

In a letter to you on 30 April 2020, the TEC:

- granted a temporary approval for extramural delivery to providers who required it under the current conditions of their funding (Student Achievement Component and Youth Guarantee funding);
- amended the condition on Youth Guarantee funding that restricted providers from providing extramural delivery; and
- clarified that TEC did not expect face-to-face delivery of literacy and numeracy and ACE programmes during COVID-19 restrictions on face-to-face interactions.



Those changes were treated as having been in effect from 1 January 2020. As you may have seen, the Ministry of Education (the Ministry) has stated that systems for extramural delivery should be maintained. The New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA) has announced that any temporary approvals they have given to allow online delivery will remain in place until 31 December 2020.

For consistency with the approaches of the Ministry, and the NZQA, the TEC has decided that all of the changes outlined in the letter of 30 April 2020 will remain in place until 31 December 2020.

For clarity, if you intend to make any permanent changes to your mode of delivery (eg, from face-to-face to fully extramural), this will require TEC approval (and where applicable NZQA approval) and will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

**Contact the TEC**

If you wish to discuss this letter further, please contact the Customer Contact Group on 0800 601 301 or email [customerservice@tec.govt.nz](mailto:customerservice@tec.govt.nz) with the subject line 'Provider# – Amendments to Identity Verification Conditions' or 'Provider# – Updates to Extramural Delivery'.

Once again, thank you for the efforts you are all putting in to ensuring the best possible education for learners, especially during this time as the country recovers from the effects of COVID-19.

Nāku noa, nā



Gillian Dudgeon  
Deputy Chief Executive, Delivery



We ensure New Zealand's future success.