



Tertiary Education Report: Information for Learners Update

Date:	15 May 2018	TEC priority:	Medium
Security level:	Medium	Report no:	B/18/00201
		Minister's office No:	

ACTION SOUGHT		
	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Chris Hipkins Minister of Education	<p>Note the upcoming release of the Rate My Qualification (MyQ) graduate satisfaction survey results designed to strengthen learners' tertiary education decisions.</p> <p>Agree that the Tertiary Education Commission release this briefing in full following the publication of the MyQ results at a time to be agreed with your office.</p>	
Enclosure: No	Round Robin: No	

CONTACT FOR TELEPHONE DISCUSSION (IF REQUIRED)				
Name	Position	Telephone	1st contact	
Section 9(2)(a)	Acting Deputy Chief Executive Information	Section 9(2)(a)		✓

THE FOLLOWING DEPARTMENTS/AGENCIES HAVE SEEN THIS REPORT

- DPMC MPI ENZ ERO MBIE MoE MFAT
 MPP MSD NZQA NZTE TEC TPK Treasury

- Minister's Office to Complete:** Approved Declined
 Noted Needs change
 Seen Overtaken by Events
 See Minister's Notes Withdrawn

Comments:

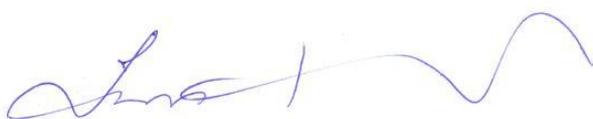
Recommendations

Hon Chris Hipkins, Minister of Education

It is recommended that you:

1. **note** the upcoming release of the Rate My Qualification (MyQ) graduate satisfaction survey results designed to strengthen learners' tertiary education decisions.
2. **agree** that the Tertiary Education Commission release this briefing in full following the publication of the MyQ results at a time to be agreed with your office.

AGREED / NOT AGREED



Tim Fowler

Chief Executive
Tertiary Education Commission

15 May 2018

Hon Chris Hipkins

Minister of Education

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Purpose

1. This briefing provides you with an update on the Information for Learners programme and seeks your input on the timing of the publication of the Rate My Qualification (MyQ) graduate survey results on our careers.govt.nz website.
2. Further, this briefing advises that you may receive correspondence from Universities New Zealand who do not support MyQ and have opted out from having their detailed results published.

The Information for Learners programme helps learners make informed study decisions

We have developed two learner information tools to equip learners with the resources they need to make better decisions

3. Information provision is one of the Tertiary Education Commission's (TEC's) core functions. It is a part of our role to build strong connections from education to employment, and to promote and enable lifelong career development and pathway planning for all New Zealanders.
4. We created the Information for Learners programme to focus on providing information to prospective learners. Its goal is to help learners make better decisions about what and where to study by equipping them with the resources to make informed decisions.
5. This is part of a specific strategy to "power up" the demand side of the tertiary education equation. Our intention is to provide easy public access to government sourced, repeatable and comprehensive information on key aspects of tertiary education. This information allows students, parents and advisors to make informed decisions.
6. The Information for Learners products are not the only sources of information that a prospective learner will use to make decisions about their tertiary education. Students and their whānau already have access to comprehensive information and marketing from tertiary education organisations (TEOs). There are also various private businesses in the careers guidance sphere.

We have engaged extensively during the development of these information products

7. We engaged extensively with learners and tertiary education organisations to ensure the information products we have developed are fit for purpose. In November 2014, a working group was established consisting of TEC and tertiary education organisation (TEO) representatives. The working group has provided valuable feedback and insights throughout the development of both of these information products. We have also worked closely with University Vice Chancellors. The TEC has also carried out pilot evaluations with learners, technical and methodological assessments and continuous feedback from the working group.

Key Information for Students (KIS) provides a standardised data set to help prospective learners easily compare qualifications

8. The KIS was our first Information for Learners product, which we released in April 2017. The KIS is a standardised information set for all Student Achievement Component (SAC)-funded qualifications at level 5 and above. It contains data that prospective learners told us was most valuable to them in choosing what and where to study, including course entry requirements, tuition fees, learner success rates and graduate outcomes. The graduate outcomes include the percentage of graduates in employment, on a benefit and the potential earning range upon completion of a qualification.

9. The data in the KIS is TEO and government-sourced, and provides a comprehensive, reliable and managed set of data about tertiary education that allows easy comparison between qualifications.
10. Today, all TEOs offering SAC level 5 and above qualifications publish the KIS. 88 TEOs do so directly on the qualification pages of their own websites, while the remainder provide links to the central KIS repository of 4,487 qualifications on our careers.govt.nz website. See appendix A for an example of the KIS. We are considering an option as to how we will accommodate Fees Free information within the KIS.

The Rate My Qualification (MyQ) survey gives a voice to recent graduates

11. MyQ was an initiative of the previous government following trans-Tasman discussions on information brokerage to support better learning outcomes. It was a government manifesto policy that was a part of wider work to improve the relevance of tertiary education by measuring how well graduating students think it fulfils labour market requirements. The TEC took over implementation of Rate My Qualification in July 2015 after a Ministry of Education pilot in 2014-2015.
12. We launched the MyQ graduate satisfaction survey in December 2016 and actively promoted the survey to graduates through multiple channels. The survey asks recent graduates simple satisfaction-style questions about their tertiary education experience including how well it prepared them for the workforce.
13. MyQ complements the KIS by capturing information from graduates about how well particular qualifications prepared them for the workplace and their career goals. See appendix B for an example.

We are now ready to publish the first MyQ results on careers.govt.nz

14. MyQ results become publishable when the number of eligible responses is reached, as shown in the table below.

Number of graduates that completed the qualification in the last 3 years	Number of eligible responses required to publish MyQ results
250+ graduates	50
51 – 250 graduates	25
50 or fewer graduates	5

The overall survey results show graduates are positive about their experiences of tertiary education in New Zealand

15. More than 12,000 recent graduates have completed the survey. The results tell a positive story for tertiary education in New Zealand, with 93% of respondents feeling satisfied with their qualification.

16. The table below summarises the responses to each question.

Measure	Respondents who agreed with the statement
I am satisfied with my qualification	93%
My qualification prepared me well for work	86%
My qualification helped progress my career	85%
My qualification has improved my chances of getting a job	87%
I use the knowledge gain from my qualification in my current role	76%
I would recommend my qualification to others	83%

17. There are two levels of results, which allows us to display data against every qualification:

- National results will be published by narrow field NZ standard classification of education (NZSCED) and qualification type as per the Employment Outcomes of Tertiary Education (EOTE) data in the KIS.
- Detailed results will be published for individual qualifications at a TEO that meet the thresholds.

18. In this first publication, national level results will be displayed for 1,151 qualifications. Of these, 26 qualifications will display detailed TEO-specific MyQ results, with a further 45 close to meeting the threshold.

The publishing rules are based on sound peer-to-peer satisfaction survey methodology

19. In April 2017, we engaged Kantar TNS, a market research consultancy with expertise in survey methodology and development, to help us determine the minimum response rates required to publish results. Their recommendations included using:

- A sliding sample size based on a target maximum margin of error of 13%
- A scaled sample size per graduate pool, with the largest sample size of 40 individual responses
- A smaller sample size for qualifications with a smaller graduate pool and using Finite Population Correction to maintain a maximum margin of error of 13%.

20. In addition, we engaged three other specialist companies (Compass Analytics, Research Now and Nielsen NZ) to peer-review the survey methodology. All provided expertise to ensure the methodology is sound for such a peer-to-peer satisfaction style survey.

21. We also compared MyQ with Australia's Quality Indicators for Learning and Teaching (QILT). QILT provides information on study experience and employment outcomes for Australian tertiary education institutions. The Australian Government Department of Education and Training funds QILT, with all data administered by the Social Research Centre a subsidiary of the Australian National University. QILT applies a publishing rule of a minimum of 25 respondents in a subject area at a tertiary education organisation.

22. Finally, we discussed the methodology and reviews with the sector working group and the university Vice-Chancellors throughout 2017. They proposed using a 10% response threshold for publishing; however, this would mean that no results would be published given the large class sizes of many courses.
23. As a compromise, we increased the largest minimum sample size to 50 individual responses to reduce the margin of error. We are comfortable that our revised approach is methodologically safe, has been externally validated and exceeds the minimum requirements of the Australian comparison.

We have worked with University Vice-Chancellors' to address their concerns about MyQ

24. We have engaged with Universities New Zealand on MyQ throughout its development. They have been clear that they do not support a government initiated student satisfaction survey as they periodically run their own graduate survey. They have voiced their concerns around confidence in the survey methodology, verification of graduates and the likelihood of responses being biased towards dissatisfied graduates. We have comprehensively addressed these issues.
25. This ongoing engagement to ensure a level of comfort with the university Vice-Chancellors has ultimately led to a better, more robust product but has also caused significant time delays and costs to the project.
26. The total cost of the Rate My Qualification project to date is \$1.6m. This cost has primarily been driven by the I.T. related costs to develop the product platform, but also includes the initial marketing costs. Ongoing costs to maintain the survey, to continue to promote it to graduates and release results will be included in the broader Careers System Strategy budget at approximately \$150k per year.

Universities NZ have collectively opted out of publishing MyQ results for their qualifications

27. At the most recent Vice-Chancellors' meeting on Friday 13 April 2018, the universities collectively opted out of publishing MyQ results for their qualifications, based on their residual concerns with the MyQ methodology. It is possible that you will receive correspondence on this matter from Universities New Zealand.
28. We have responded to these concerns and have released the MyQ methodology and the Kantar TNS methodological report to all Vice-Chancellors. We have liaised with three universities to promote the MyQ survey to their recent graduates. In November 2017, Waikato University promoted the survey through their social media channels. We will continue to work with the universities to opt in to the publication of their results.

We would release summarised results if they are requested under the Official Information Act

29. We are allowing any TEO to opt out of publishing MyQ results for their qualifications. They may opt back in at any time.
30. Although TEOs are able to opt-out, we would have no reason to withhold this data were it requested under an Official Information Act request.
31. **Section 9(2)(g)(i)**

Next steps in the Information for Learners programme

32. We are expanding Key Information for Students to include Level 3 and 4 qualifications. Our engagement with TEOs on this topic will start in mid-2018.
33. It is clear we still need to drive greater participation in the MyQ graduate survey. We will use the publication of the first MyQ results to actively drive further input from recent graduates so that we can release more detailed results and promote its relevance to support informed learner decisions. We will continue our partner-based approach where several TEOs have direct marketed MyQ to their recent graduates.
34. We want to promote the MyQ survey to employers, working through our partner agencies as a part of the product suite to support the Future of Work strategy. We will also use the results publication to start these conversations.
35. Alongside the Careers System Strategy we are designing a central repository of information to support pathways management across education and employment.

Appendix A: Key Information for Students on careers.govt.nz

Bachelor of Landscape Architecture

Unitec Institute of Technology

Subject area



Landscape Architecture

Qualification



Bachelor Degree Level 7

Duration ⓘ



4 Years

Total student fees



\$27,226
over 4 Years - details ↓

Qualification summary

This information is provided by New Zealand Qualification Authority and the Tertiary Education Commission.

Key Information for Students

Entry Requirements

Minimum requirements: ⓘ Applicants may be admitted under general admission with NCEA level 3 credits and English language requirements. Admission under special or discretionary entry may be possible.

Detailed requirements: See provider website for more details about entry to this qualification.

Duration ⓘ

4 Years

Tuition Fees

	Annual	Total qualification
Student fees <small>(what you pay)</small>	\$6,806 ⓘ	\$27,226 ⓘ
Government tuition subsidy <small>(what the government pays)</small>	\$10,861 ⓘ	\$43,446 ⓘ
Total	\$17,668 ⓘ	\$70,671 ⓘ

[StudyLink website – information about student loans](#) ⓘ

A Compulsory Student Services Fee may be charged, see your provider for details.

Student Success

Successful course completions **87%** ⓘ

Key Information for Students

This information is provided by the Tertiary Education Commission and the Ministry of Education.

The KIS various fields allow a prospective student to easily compare qualifications.

Student fees: the fees payable by a student to study this qualification, beyond what the government contributes. (This is an average based on recent course enrolments and may differ depending on course selections).

Government tuition subsidy: the average amount paid by the government towards the tuition fees for this qualification, additional to what the student pays. (This is an estimate based on the fees subsidy paid by government to tertiary providers in the last year.)

Student Success: The percentage of students who successfully completed courses towards this qualification last year.

National Graduate Outcomes

Outcomes for students who completed qualifications at the same level and in the same subject area, three years after completion:

Median earnings	\$44,716 ⓘ
Earnings range	\$35,410 - \$53,519 ⓘ
In employment	63% ⓘ
In further study	30% ⓘ
On a benefit	2% ⓘ

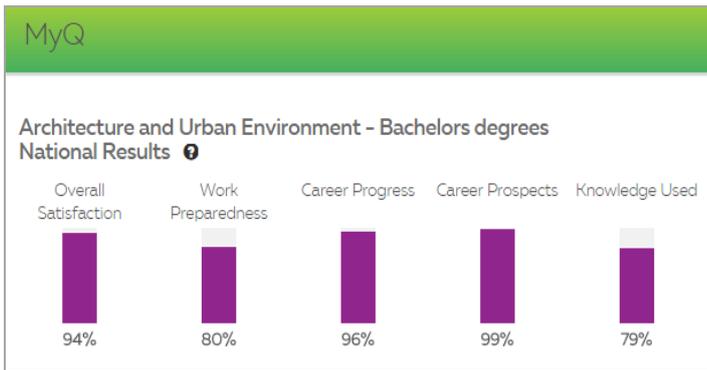
All KIS information is the most recent data available and relates to domestic students only.

[Click here for more information about the Key Information for Students](#) ⓘ

National Graduate Outcomes

This information is provided by the Ministry of Education and is based on Employment Outcomes of Tertiary Education (EOTE) data from Statistics New Zealand.

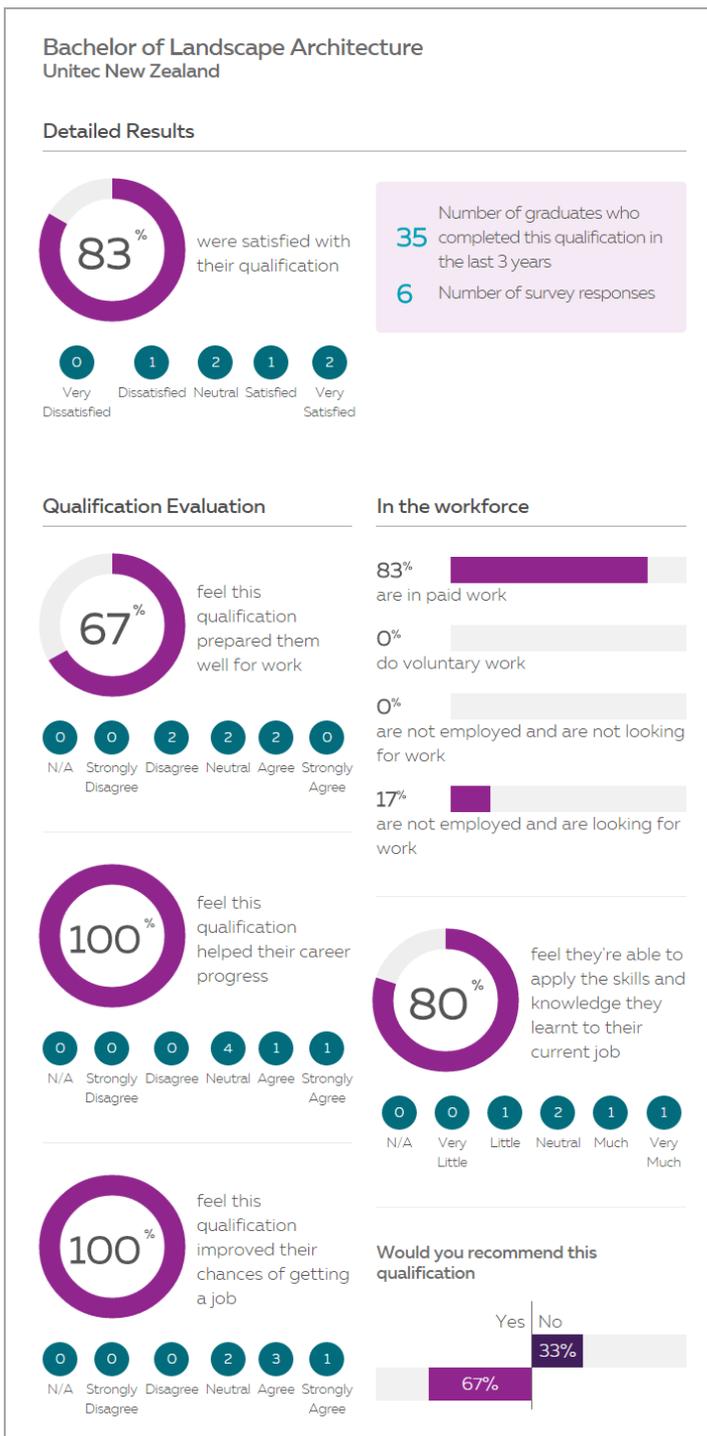
Appendix B: Proposed MyQ results section of careers.govt.nz website



National Results

This shows the aggregated results for all MyQ responses for qualifications at the same level and in the same subject area.

The subject area is based on the NZSCED classification.



Detailed results

MyQ responses displayed for a specific qualification delivered by a specific TEO.