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What are nationally recognised training and non-nationally recognised training?

What is nationally recognised training?

Nationally recognised training (NRT) leads to vocational qualifications and credentials that are recognised across Australia. It consists of the following types of training:

- training package qualifications
- accredited qualifications
- accredited courses
- training package skill sets
- units of competency and accredited modules.

All nationally recognised training is listed on the National Register of Vocational Education and Training (VET) (training.gov.au) and only registered training organisations (RTOs) can deliver NRT and issue nationally recognised qualifications or statements of attainment on the full or partial completion of training.

Training package qualifications

Training packages specify the knowledge and skills (known as competencies) required by individuals to perform effectively in the workplace. Training packages also detail how units of competency can be packaged into nationally recognised qualifications that align to the Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF).

Training packages consist of the following nationally endorsed components:

- units of competency, which specify the standard of performance required in the workplace
- assessment requirements (associated with each unit of competency)
- packaging rules for qualifications that are consistent with the AQF (certificate I to advanced diploma, and graduate certificate and graduate diploma)
- credit arrangements, specifying existing arrangements between training package qualifications and higher education qualifications in accordance with the AQF.

Training packages also include one or more non-endorsed components consisting of skill sets and quality assured companion volumes.

Accredited qualifications

Accredited qualifications refer to nationally recognised courses that lead to a qualification outcome not specified in a national training package. For more information see https://www.aqf.edu.au/>.

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Accredited courses

Accredited courses have been assessed by a VET regulator as compliant with the Standards for VET accredited courses 2021. For more information see https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/F2021L00269>.

Training package skill sets

Training package skill sets are defined as single units of competency, or combinations of units of competency from an endorsed training package, which link to a licensing or regulatory requirement, or a defined industry need.

Units of competency and accredited modules

Units of competency and accredited modules define the skills and knowledge to operate effectively in a workplace context. They are the smallest units/modules that can be assessed and recognised. Where a student enrols in a unit/module not part of one of the categories above, they are reported as 'subjects not delivered as part of a nationally recognised program'.

What is non-nationally recognised training?

Non-nationally recognised training is training that does not lead to nationally recognised certification. It includes:

- locally developed programs and skill sets
- non-accredited modules.

Non-nationally recognised training is not listed on the National Register of VET (training.gov.au) and can be delivered by all training providers (not just RTOs).

Locally developed programs and skill sets

Locally developed programs and skill sets are constructed by training providers, industry, enterprise, community education or professional bodies to meet an identified training need. They may be comprised of units of competency and accredited modules.

Non-accredited modules

Non-accredited modules are a self-contained block of learning that can be completed on their own or as part of a program.