

Understanding VET Regulators

A 'regulator' can be defined as "an independent body working to supervise and/or exercise autonomous authority over some area". The roles and responsibilities of a Vocational Education and Training (VET) regulator include:

- Registering training providers
- Accrediting VET courses
- Monitoring the quality of the services provided by registered training providers
- Investigating any quality concerns raised in the sector
- Ensuring compliance with the various applicable frameworks and legislation

If you are unsure as to which body regulates your RTO, please check your registration on training.gov.au for confirmation.

Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA)

The Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA) serves as the national regulatory body for Registered Training Organisations (RTOs) within Australia's Vocational Education and Training (VET) sector. The primary goal of ASQA is to ensure quality and integrity across all RTOs operating in the country.

ASQA's regulatory function is supported by a comprehensive framework of legislation and standards that maintain the quality of education provided. This includes the VET Quality Framework, the Standards for VET Accredited Courses, and legislation relating to Education Services for Overseas Students (ESOS).

ASQA manages registration of most training providers, with the exception of some providers in Victoria and Western Australia. ASQA regulates ALL training providers in the ACT, NSW, NT, QLD, SA and TAS. RTOs in Victoria and Western Australia will be regulated by ASQA only if they offer courses to students in the above-listed states or deliver to students studying in Australia on student visas.

Training Accreditation Council (TAC)

The Training Accreditation Council (TAC or the Council) is Western Australia's independent statutory body, responsible for quality assurance and recognition of vocational education and training (VET) services. TAC registers training providers under the *Standards for Registered Training Organisations (RTOs) 2015* and accredits VET courses under the Australian Quality Training Framework (AQTF).

TAC oversees the registration and regulation of VET training providers delivering nationally accredited qualifications exclusively to domestic students in Western Australia, and those in both Western Australia and Victoria. Western Australian-based providers that deliver VET courses outside of Western Australia, including online, or those that deliver to international students studying in Australia on student visas are regulated by the Australian Quality Skills Authority (ASQA), not the TAC.

Victorian Registration & Qualifications Authority (VRQA)

The Victorian Registration and Qualifications Authority (VRQA) is the statutory body in Victoria, responsible for the regulation and quality assurance of Vocational Education and Training (VET) in the state. The VRQA operates in accordance with the Australian Quality Training Framework (AQTF) requirements and upholds the 'Essential Conditions and Standards for Continuing Registration' of the AQTF. The VRQA also adheres to the '2016 VRQA Guidelines for VET Providers' when auditing Registered Training Organisations (RTOs) within its jurisdiction.

The VRQA oversees the registration and regulation of VET training providers that deliver nationally accredited qualifications exclusively to domestic students in Victoria, and those in both Victoria and Western Australia. Victorian-based providers that deliver VET courses outside of Victoria, including online, or those that deliver to international students studying in Australia on student visas are regulated by the Australian Quality Skills Authority (ASQA), not the VRQA.

Note: This VET Fact Sheet provides general information and should not be considered as legal advice.