



AUSTRALASIAN CURRICULUM, ASSESSMENT AND CERTIFICATION AUTHORITIES

18 May 2010

Hon John Dawkins AO
Chair
Australian Qualifications Framework Council
GPO Box 320
ADELAIDE SA 5001

Dear Mr Dawkins

I am writing at the request of the Chief Executives of the Australasian Curriculum, Assessment and Certification Authorities (ACACA) in each state and territory regarding the redevelopment of the Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) and the Council's Qualifications Issuance Policy.

The ACACA Chief Executives understand that the Council is considering the placement of the Senior Secondary Certificate at a specific level in the redeveloped AQF.

The Chief Executives have asked me to convey their strong and considered view that the strengthened AQF should not ascribe the Senior Secondary Certificate of Education to any one specific AQF level and that it should instead incorporate the Senior Secondary Certificate of Education in ways that faithfully reflect the following:

The Senior Secondary Certificate of Education is a qualification that marks completion of the equivalent of a two-year full-time program of studies in senior secondary education and training as a preparation for tertiary studies, employment or further education and training.

Students may meet the requirements of the Senior Secondary Certificate of Education with programs of studies with outcomes that align well with AQF level 2 or well with AQF level 3 or above.

The program of studies that a student has completed to meet the requirements of a Senior Secondary Certificate of Education may be a program with the majority of outcomes at levels 2, 3 or above.

Additional information provided by respective Senior Secondary Certificate of Education authorities identifies the details of the program of studies such that a user can see whether the majority of the outcomes are at level 2 or level 3 or above

On the matter of the Council's Qualifications Issuance Policy, the ACACA Chief Executives consider that the proposed policy is compatible with their respective administration and management procedures.

However, the implementation process and timeframe for the policy will have significant implications for their respective agencies. The ACACA Chief Executives request and would welcome the opportunity to discuss further with the Council the implementation process and timeframe for the policy.

Yours sincerely

JOHN FIRTH
Chair



15 June 2010

Ms Anne Doolette
Executive Director
AQF Council
Level 3
11 Waymouth Street
ADELAIDE SA 5001

Dear Anne

I am writing to provide the AQF Council with a copy of the ACACA 2008 VET Report.

This report outlines the range and scope of VET undertaken by senior secondary students throughout Australia as part of their senior secondary certificate studies.

I would be happy to discuss any question or issues arising from the report.

Yours sincerely

JOHN FIRTH
Chair - ACACA