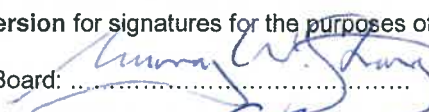



Final version for signatures for the purposes of section 253 of the Education Act 1989

NZQA Board:  Date: 18/04/2019

Minister of Education:  Date: 30/4/19

## NZQF Programme Approval and Accreditation Amendment Rules 2019

### 1. Authority

1.1 These Amendment Rules are made under section 253 of the Education Act 1989.

### 2. Commencement

2.1 These Amendment Rules commence 1 August 2019.

### 3. Principal rules

3.1 These Rules amend the NZQF Programme Approval and Accreditation Rules 2018 (the **principal Rules**).

### 4. Principal Rules amended

4.1 Replace Rule 18 with:

#### 18. English language requirements for international students

18.1 An institution (other than a university) must:

- (a) verify, prior to enrolling an international student in a programme (other than an English language programme) at level 3 or above, that the student has the necessary English language proficiency as demonstrated through the use of evidence of one of the kinds described in Rules 18.2 to 18.4; and
- (b) retain a copy of that evidence for at least two years from the date the student is enrolled in that programme.

18.2 Evidence that the student has:

- (a) achieved NCEA level 3 and has met New Zealand university entrance requirements; or
- (b) been awarded an International Baccalaureate Diploma or Cambridge A-level qualification for which the teaching and assessment was conducted in English; or
- (c) been awarded the Cambridge Certificate in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (CELTA) or the Trinity College London Certificate in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (CertTESOL); or
- (d) achieved, within the two years preceding the proposed date of enrolment, one of the internationally recognised proficiency test outcomes specified in

the Table in the Appendix for the level of the programme in which the student is enrolling.

18.3 Evidence that the student has:

- (a) completed all primary education (*being the equivalent of New Zealand primary school years 1 to 8*) and at least three years of secondary education (*being the equivalent of three years from New Zealand secondary school years 9 to 13*) at schools in one of the countries listed in Rule 18.5 where the student was taught using English as the language of instruction; or
- (b) completed at least five years of secondary education (*being the equivalent of New Zealand secondary school years 9 to 13*) at schools in one of the countries listed in Rule 18.5 where the student was taught using English as the language of instruction; or
- (c) been awarded a Bachelor's degree, Graduate Certificate, Graduate Diploma, Bachelor Honours Degree, Postgraduate Certificate, Postgraduate Diploma, Master's Degree or Doctoral Degree with English as the language of instruction from a tertiary education provider from one of the countries listed in Rule 18.5.

18.4 Evidence that the student has been granted a New Zealand Short Term Training Scholarship by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade and has:

- (a) completed all primary education (*being the equivalent of New Zealand primary school years 1 to 8*) and at least three years of secondary education (*being the equivalent of three years from New Zealand secondary school years 9 to 13*) at schools where the student was taught using English as the language of instruction; or
- (b) completed at least five years of secondary education (*being the equivalent of New Zealand secondary school years 9 to 13*) at schools where the student was taught using English as the language of instruction.

18.5 The countries for the purpose of paragraphs (a) – (c) of Rule 18.3 are: New Zealand, Australia, Canada, the Republic of Ireland, South Africa, the United Kingdom and the United States.

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### Explanatory note

This note is not part of the Rules but is intended to indicate their general effect.

This amendment to the principal Rules, which commences on 1 August 2019, makes a series of changes to the types of English language proficiency evidence institutions need to verify before enrolling international students.

The proposed changes remove the student visa decline rate as a measure for determining when prior schooling where English was the language of instruction may be accepted as evidence of English language proficiency under Rule 18.

Prior schooling where English was the language of instruction will still be an option in Rule 18, but only for students who completed the required duration of schooling in New Zealand, Australia, Canada, the Republic of Ireland, South Africa, the United Kingdom or the United States.

Students who have been granted a New Zealand Short Term Training Scholarship by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade will continue to be able to use prior schooling where English was the language of instruction as evidence under Rule 18.

The proposed changes also add a provision for the award of an International Baccalaureate Diploma or Cambridge International A Level qualification for which the teaching and assessment was conducted in English to be accepted as evidence of English language proficiency under Rule 18.

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*These Rules are administered by the New Zealand Qualifications Authority*

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