




Australian Government  
Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency



**TEQSA**

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# PROSPECTIVE HIGHER EDUCATION PROVIDERS UPDATE

For January – March 2017

May 2017

# 1. OVERVIEW

Since the inception of TEQSA in January 2012, **130** organisations have submitted or indicated their intention to submit applications for initial registration to TEQSA.

Applicants for registration as higher education providers are subject to a two-stage process: preliminary assessment; and substantive assessment (subject to the requirements of section 19 of the *Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency Act 2011* and prospective providers' intent). Registration applications must include applications for accreditation of one or more course(s) of study, and are therefore assessed against all of the Standards in the Higher Education Standards Framework (Threshold Standards) 2011 or the Higher Education Standards Framework (Threshold Standards) 2015, depending on the date of submission. This differs from the reduced requirements for renewal of registration applications under TEQSA's Core+ model of assessment.

## 2. PROSPECTIVE HIGHER EDUCATION PROVIDERS

This report, drawn from data captured on 31 March 2017, provides summary statistics of the status of applications and prospective Higher Education Providers (HEPs), organised by:

- ▶ *pre-submission prospective providers* (pre-sub) - those who have indicated an intention to submit an application for registration but are yet to do so; and
- ▶ *post-submission prospective providers* (post-sub) - those who have submitted registration applications, the assessment of which has not yet been finalised.

It is intended that this report be published quarterly.

## 3. STATISTICS OF NOTE

- ▶ While the total number of post subs has reduced due to the number of withdrawals and rejections of applications, there has been a growth of applicants under **substantiative assessment** from **20** in **Q2 2016/17** to **28** in **Q3 2016/17 (40% increase)**.
- ▶ There continue to be more **new prospective providers** indicating intent to submit an application to be registered as a HEP. However, the number **decreased** from **10** in **Q2 and Q3 2016/17** to **7** in **Q3 2016/17**. The percentage of these new prospective providers that are a registered training organisation (RTO) remains consistent with **80% in Q2 2016/17** identifying as RTOs versus **71% (5 out of 7) in Q3 2016/17**.
- ▶ The number of **applications withdrawn** by prospective providers increased from **1** in **Q1 and Q2 2016/17** to **6** in **Q3 2016/17**. This figure includes those applications that had been submitted as part of the high number of prospective providers applying for registration during Q1 and Q2 2016/17.

## 4. QUARTER OVERVIEW

The following statistics in the 'Quarter overview' represent the numbers of providers in each status/decision category *during* the relevant quarter. **Note:** these figures **are not** cumulative (e.g. *From 1 January – March 2017 (Q3)* 7 new providers were recorded with TEQSA).

Provider status/decision	Q1 2016/17	Q2 2016/17	Q3 2016/17
▶ Decisions to register new providers	1	2	1
▶ Registration applications withdrawn	1	1	6
▶ New prospective providers (total)	10	10	7
▶ New prospective providers (RTO)	3	8	5
▶ Prospective HEPS now under assessment	8	14	1

## 5. PROSPECTIVE PROVIDER BREAKDOWN

The following statistics in the 'Prospective provider breakdown' represent the number of providers in each status/category as at the relevant quarter end date. **Note:** these figures **are cumulative** (e.g. as at 31 March 2017 (end Q3) a total of 57 prospective providers were recorded at pre-sub stage with TEQSA).

Overall these statistics provide an indication of some of the characteristics of entities that are intending to apply or have applied to TEQSA to be registered as Higher Education providers in the 2016/2017 financial year thus far.

### 5.1 Prospective providers assessment status

The following table represents the number of prospective providers that are pre-sub or post-sub in a particular quarter, it includes a breakdown of the current stage that each application is at within TEQSA's assessment process.

All Prospective Providers	Q1 2016/17			Q2 2016/17			Q3 2016/17		
	Pre-sub	Post-sub	Total	Pre-sub	Post-sub	Total	Pre-sub	Post-sub	Total
Under preliminary assessment		3		11			0		
Awaiting substantive assessment		2		4			0		
Under substantive assessment		19		20			28		
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>85</b>

## 5.2 Prospective providers that are RTOs<sup>1</sup> by State<sup>2</sup>

The following table represents the number of prospective providers in each category (pre-sub and post-sub) which are known to be registered as an RTO. These numbers are further broken down to indicate the location of each prospective provider by state (already registered as an RTO).

RTO Prospective Providers	Q1 2016/17			Q2 2016/17			Q3 2016/17		
	State	Pre-sub	Post-sub	Total	Pre-sub	Post-sub	Total	Pre-sub	Post-sub
New South Wales	7	4	11	12	4	16	15	4	19
Victoria	9	2	11	10	5	15	12	2	14
Queensland	6	3	9	7	5	12	6	4	10
South Australia	1	1	2	2	1	3	2	0	2
Australian Capital Territory	1	0	1	2	0	2	2	0	2
Western Australia	0	2	2	1	1	2	1	0	1
Unknown	6	0	6	0 <sup>3</sup>	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>48</b>

<sup>1</sup> Not including RTOs that are related entities.

<sup>2</sup> Head office location may not be the same as the provider's delivery site(s).

<sup>3</sup> Unknown prospective provider location data corrected to relevant states.

### 5.3 Prospective providers that are RTOs with current CRICOS registration

The following table represents the number of prospective providers in each category (pre-sub and post-sub) which are known to be registered as an RTO *and* also currently registered in accordance with the *Education Services for Overseas Students Act 2000* (ESOS Act) to deliver courses to international students.

RTOs with CRICOS	Q1 2016/17			Q2 2016/17			Q3 2016/17		
	Pre-sub	Post-sub	Total	Pre-sub	Post-sub	Total	Pre-sub	Post-sub	Total
<b>Total</b>	19	7	<b>26</b>	20	11	<b>31</b>	26	6	<b>32</b>

### 5.4 Most prevalent Broad FoE<sup>4</sup> course applications

The following table represents the type of courses, identified by Broad Field of Education (FoE), that are most common in the proposed/submitted course accreditation applications from prospective providers that accompany a proposed/submitted application for registration.

Broad FoE	Q1 2016/17		Q2 2016/17		Q3 2016/17	
	Pre-sub	Post-sub	Pre-sub	Post-sub	Pre-sub	Post-sub
08 Management and Commerce	25	14	34	22	32	19
02 Information Technology	8	1	10	4	5	4
06 Health	3	4	6	4	2	3
09 Society and Culture	4	3	4	3	4	0

<sup>4</sup> Some providers intend to offer courses in two Broad Fields of Education, and have therefore been counted against both.