

Assurance Policy Statement

Policy

Version 2 | July 2022



Australian Government
Australian Skills Quality Authority

ASQA

(Working together)

ASQA plays a critical role in supporting the Australian Government's vision of a vocational education and training (VET) sector that delivers for students and employers and equips Australians with the skills needed for emerging jobs and to drive the nation's future economic growth. ASQA will contribute to this vision by achieving our purpose, which is:

To ensure quality vocational education and training so that students, employers, the community and governments have confidence in the integrity of national qualifications issued by training providers.

As a best practice regulator, we implement a co-ordinated approach to assurance to provide confidence, for ourselves and our stakeholders, in the efficacy and quality of what we do and to support the continuous improvement of our regulatory approach and practices. Effective assurance practices will ensure that we:

- deliver on our purpose and strategic objectives
- are focussed on the quality, efficiency and effectiveness of our work processes, deliverables and engagement
- assure project and programme benefits are being realised and produce outcomes to a quality standard
- undertake work which is consistent with best practice
- identify opportunities for continuous improvement
- comply with relevant legal and regulatory requirements
- operate within a robust system of governance that supports us to effectively plan our work, make evidence-based decisions, and monitor our efficiency and effectiveness.

As part of ASQA's four year strategic plan (2022-26), we will continue to integrate assurance activities across the agency – ensuring outcomes are used as a key source of information to drive better practice regulation, influence how we manage risk and make risk-based decisions, build capability, and instil a culture of continuous improvement. ASQA will ensure that assurance becomes:

- embedded in all of our activities and functions so that it supports us to achieve best practice in how we regulate and operate
- a key source of information to inform our decision-making through governance arrangements
- pivotal to ASQA's management practices at all levels, including accountability and transparency
- a routine part of the day-to-day work of everyone in ASQA as we use assurance outcomes to build individual capability
- a driver of continuous improvement within ASQA.

ASQA continues to build a positive culture of using assurance outcomes to drive continuous improvement at both the individual and organisation level. We work on the premise that assurance findings are used to inform learning and strengthen our systems, processes and controls. Achieving this positive engagement with assurance relies on the individual and collective contribution of everyone working at ASQA, as reflected in the accountabilities set out in ASQA's Assurance Framework.

The Assurance Framework provides the basis for a structured and coordinated assurance approach, and appropriate governance and clear accountabilities – and is a key foundation to successfully implementing this policy statement.

Successfully embedding robust and effective assurance processes across ASQA is the responsibility of everyone at ASQA – and will not only contribute to the achievement of our purpose but also enhance stakeholder confidence and trust in our role as the national regulator.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Saxon Rice". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'S'.

Saxon Rice
Chief Executive Officer
11 July 2022