

Vocational Education and Training Act 2005 No 100

[2005-100]



New South Wales

Status Information

Currency of version

Historical version for 17 March 2006 to 5 July 2009 (accessed 3 May 2024 at 2:51)

Legislation on this site is usually updated within 3 working days after a change to the legislation.

Provisions in force

The provisions displayed in this version of the legislation have all commenced.

Notes—

- **Does not include amendments by**
[Miscellaneous Acts \(Local Court\) Amendment Act 2007 No 94](#) (not commenced)

Authorisation

This version of the legislation is compiled and maintained in a database of legislation by the Parliamentary Counsel's Office and published on the NSW legislation website, and is certified as the form of that legislation that is correct under section 45C of the [Interpretation Act 1987](#).

File last modified 13 December 2007

Vocational Education and Training Act 2005 No 100



New South Wales

Contents

Long title	5
Part 1 Preliminary	5
1 Name of Act	5
2 Commencement	5
3 Objects	5
4 Definitions	5
Part 2 Constitution and functions of Board	8
5 Constitution of Board	8
6 Objects and functions of Board	9
7 (Repealed)	10
8 Advisory committees	10
9 Delegation	10
Part 3 Registration of training organisations and accreditation of courses	10
Division 1 Registration of training organisations	11
10 Offences	11
11 Application for registration	11
12 Board to decide application for registration	11

13 Conditions of registration	13
14 Term of registration and renewal	14
15 Requirements relating to registration decisions of Board	14
16 Amendment of registration details on application by RTO	14
17 Removal of registered details on registration expiry or on application by RTO	15
18 Board may cancel, suspend or amend registration	15
19 Cancellation of registration on change of business operations	17
20 Suspension or cancellation of registration—training or assessment previously agreed to be provided	17
21 Board to register amendment, suspension or cancellation.....	17
22 Compliance audits	18
23 Information may be given to registering bodies	18
Division 2 Accreditation of courses	19
24 Falsely claiming to provide accredited course and unlawful advertising of courses	19
25 Application for accreditation.....	19
26 Accreditation of courses by Board	20
27 Accreditation may be subject to conditions	20
28 Term of accreditation and renewal	20
29 Cancellation of accreditation	21
30 Requirements relating to decisions of Board	21
31 Cancellation of accreditation—vocational course previously agreed to be provided	21
Division 3 General provisions	22
32 Board may issue guidelines	22
33 Official university taken to be RTO in relation to provision of certain vocational courses.....	22
Part 4 Overseas students	23
Note.....	23
34 Approval of persons to provide courses for overseas students	23
35 Amendment, suspension or cancellation of approval	24
36 Requirements relating to approval decisions of Board	25
37 Offences relating to advertising of courses for overseas students	25
38 Notification of change of name or address	25
39 Evidentiary certificates	25

40 Approval guidelines	26
41 Information may be given to other bodies.....	26
Part 5 Enforcement and procedural provisions	27
42 Inspectors.....	27
43 Powers of inspectors.....	27
44 Proceedings for offences	27
45 Penalty notices	27
46 Recovery of fees.....	28
Part 6 Miscellaneous	28
47 Review of certain decisions by Administrative Decisions Tribunal	28
48 Service of documents	29
49 Personal liability	30
50 Act binds Crown.....	30
51 Regulations.....	30
52 Savings, transitional and other provisions.....	31
53 Repeal of Vocational Education and Training Accreditation Act 1990 No 120	31
54 Consequential amendment of other legislation	31
Schedule 1 Provisions relating to members and procedure of Board	31
Schedule 2 Savings, transitional and other provisions	36
Schedule 3 Consequential amendment of other legislation	38

Vocational Education and Training Act 2005 No 100



New South Wales

An Act to provide for the registration of training organisations and the accreditation of vocational courses in accordance with national standards and the approval of providers of courses to overseas students; to reconstitute the Vocational Education and Training Accreditation Board; to repeal the *Vocational Education and Training Accreditation Act 1990*; and for other purposes.

Part 1 Preliminary

1 Name of Act

This Act is the *Vocational Education and Training Act 2005*.

2 Commencement

This Act commences on a day or days to be appointed by proclamation.

3 Objects

The objects of this Act are as follows:

- (a) to establish a registration and accreditation framework for vocational education and training, in particular by applying nationally agreed standards,
- (b) to ensure the quality and integrity of vocational education and training in this State,
- (c) to provide for the approval by the Board of persons (other than official universities) to provide courses for overseas students (such approval forming the basis for registration under the *Education Services for Overseas Students Act 2000* of the Commonwealth),
- (d) to promote consistency of standards in vocational education and training,
- (e) to encourage the recognition of vocational courses that are accredited under this Act.

4 Definitions

- (1) In this Act:

accredited—see subsection (2).

approval guidelines means the guidelines issued by the Board under section 40.

approved provider means a person who is for the time being approved by the Board under Part 4 to provide courses for overseas students.

AQTF means the document entitled *Australian Quality Training Framework*, as in force from time to time, that defines the criteria and standards for the registration of training organisations and the accreditation of courses in the vocational education and training sector.

Board means the Vocational Education and Training Accreditation Board constituted by this Act.

compliance audit means an audit conducted under section 22.

corresponding law means the law of another State or Territory relating to vocational education and training.

course means a course of education or training.

course accrediting body means:

- (a) the Board, or
- (b) the body responsible for the accreditation of vocational courses under a corresponding law.

Director means the Director of the Board holding office as such under Chapter 1A of the *Public Sector Employment and Management Act 2002*.

exercise a function includes perform a duty.

function includes a power, authority or duty.

inspector means an officer of the Board who is for the time being appointed as an inspector for the purposes of this Act.

jurisdiction means this State or, if it has enacted a corresponding law, another State or Territory.

National Register means the National Training Information Service managed by the relevant Commonwealth agency.

official university means an Australian or overseas university within the meaning of the *Higher Education Act 2001*.

overseas student and **intending overseas student** have the same meanings as in

the *Education Services for Overseas Students Act 2000* of the Commonwealth.

provide, in relation to a course, includes conduct the course.

qualification means formal certification in vocational education and training by an RTO that a person has achieved all the units of competency or modules comprising learning outcomes stated for the qualification in:

- (a) a training package endorsed by the relevant Commonwealth agency and for which details of the qualification have been recorded on the National Register, or
- (b) an accredited course that provides training for the qualification.

RCAB standards means the Standards for State and Territory Registering/Course Accrediting Bodies under the AQTF.

registered training organisation (or **RTO**)—see subsection (3).

registering body means:

- (a) the Board, or
- (b) the body responsible for the registration of training organisations under a corresponding law.

registration and accreditation guidelines means the guidelines issued by the Board under section 32.

relevant Commonwealth agency means the Commonwealth Department of Education, Science and Training (or such other agency of the Commonwealth as may be prescribed by the regulations).

RTO standards means the Standards for Registered Training Organisations under the AQTF.

scope of registration of a training organisation means the operations that the training organisation is authorised to provide by its registration.

statement of attainment means formal certification by an RTO that a person has achieved:

- (a) part of a qualification, or
- (b) one or more units of competency from a training package endorsed by the relevant Commonwealth agency, or
- (c) all the units of competency or modules comprising learning outcomes for an accredited course that does not meet the requirements for a qualification.

training organisation means a person who provides, or offers to provide, vocational

courses.

training package means an integrated set of competency standards and assessment guidelines leading to a qualification for a particular industry, industry sector or enterprise.

unit of competency means a specification of knowledge or skill and their application to a standard of performance in a nationally endorsed training package.

vocational course means a course leading to a qualification or statement of attainment.

- (2) For the purposes of this Act, a vocational course is **accredited** if the course is entered as an accredited course in vocational education and training, and the conditions of accreditation and the details of the course are recorded, on the National Register by:
 - (a) the Board under Part 3, or
 - (b) another course accrediting body under a corresponding law.
- (3) For the purposes of this Act, a training organisation is **registered** if it is entered as a registered training organisation (referred to in this Act as an **RTO**) in relation to vocational education and training, and the conditions of registration and details of the RTO are recorded, on the National Register by:
 - (a) the Board under Part 3, or
 - (b) another registering body under a corresponding law.
- (4) Notes included in this Act do not form part of this Act.

Part 2 Constitution and functions of Board

5 Constitution of Board

- (1) There is constituted by this Act a body corporate under the name of the Vocational Education and Training Accreditation Board.
- (2) The Board is, for the purposes of any Act, a statutory body representing the Crown.
- (3) The Board is to comprise 11 members, being:
 - (a) the Director, and
 - (b) 10 part-time members appointed by the Minister.
- (4) Of the part-time members:
 - (a) one is to be a person nominated by the TAFE Commission Board, and

- (b) one is to be a person nominated by the Director-General of the Department of Education and Training, and
 - (c) 3 are to be persons having such qualifications or experience in the provision or accreditation of vocational education or training as the Minister considers appropriate, and
 - (d) 2 are to be persons having such qualifications or experience in the provision of vocational education or training for students with special needs as the Minister considers appropriate, and
 - (e) 2 are to be persons having such qualifications or experience in industry, commerce or industrial relations as the Minister considers appropriate, and
 - (f) one is to be a person having such qualifications or experience in the provision, accreditation or evaluation of education or training for overseas students as the Minister considers appropriate.
- (5) If a nomination referred to in subsection (4) (a) or (b) is not made within such time as the Minister allows, the Minister may appoint any person whom he or she considers to be suitably qualified in place of a person required to be so nominated.
- (6) One of the part-time members of the Board is, by the instrument of his or her appointment as a member or by a subsequent instrument executed by the Minister, to be appointed as the Chairperson of the Board.
- (7) Schedule 1 has effect with respect to the members and procedure of the Board.

6 Objects and functions of Board

- (1) The objects of the Board are as follows:
- (a) to register training organisations,
 - (b) to accredit vocational courses,
 - (c) to approve persons to provide courses for overseas students,
 - (d) to issue guidelines in relation to the registration of training organisations, the accreditation of vocational courses and the approval of persons to provide courses for overseas students,
 - (e) to advise the Minister on matters concerning the registration of training organisations, the accreditation of vocational courses and the approval of persons to provide courses for overseas students,
 - (f) to liaise with authorities and other bodies (both in New South Wales and elsewhere) in connection with the registration of training organisations, the

accreditation of vocational courses and the approval of persons to provide courses for overseas students,

- (g) to investigate, and to report on, matters concerning the registration of training organisations, the accreditation of vocational courses and the approval of persons to provide courses for overseas students.

(2) The Board:

- (a) has such functions as are necessary or convenient to enable it to achieve its objects and to promote the objects of this Act, and
- (b) has such other functions as are conferred or imposed on it by or under this or any other Act or law, and
- (c) is, in the exercise of its functions, subject to the control and direction of the Minister.

(3) The Board cannot, however, employ any staff.

Note—

Staff may be employed under Chapter 1A of the [Public Sector Employment and Management Act 2002](#) in the Government Service to enable the Board to exercise its functions.

7 (Repealed)

8 Advisory committees

- (1) The Board may establish advisory committees to assist it in the exercise of its functions.
- (2) Any or all of the members of an advisory committee may be persons who are not members of the Board.
- (3) Without limiting the generality of subsection (2), the membership of an advisory committee may comprise the members of any body, including any body in the nature of an industry training committee, whether established in New South Wales or elsewhere.
- (4) The procedure for the calling of meetings of an advisory committee and for the conduct of business at those meetings is to be as determined by the Board or (subject to any determination of the Board) by the committee.

9 Delegation

The Board may delegate the exercise of any of its functions (other than this power of delegation) to any person or body approved by the Board.

Part 3 Registration of training organisations and accreditation of

courses

Division 1 Registration of training organisations

10 Offences

- (1) A person who is not an RTO must not claim to be an RTO.

Maximum penalty: 200 penalty units.

- (2) A person must not:

- (a) issue, or claim to be able to issue, a qualification or statement of attainment, or
- (b) provide, or claim to be able to provide, training or assessments resulting in the issue of a qualification or statement of attainment,

unless the person is an RTO operating within the scope of its registration.

Maximum penalty: 200 penalty units.

- (3) Without limiting subsections (1) and (2), a person is taken to claim that the person is an RTO, or is able to do a particular thing, if the person does anything that is likely to induce another person to believe that the person is an RTO or can do the particular thing.
- (4) This section does not apply in relation to a registering body.

11 Application for registration

- (1) A person may apply to the Board for registration as a training organisation.
- (2) The application must be in such form, and be accompanied by such fee, as may be determined by the Board.
- (3) The Board may require the applicant to provide any further information the Board considers relevant to the application.

12 Board to decide application for registration

- (1) On receiving an application for registration as a training organisation, the Board may:
- (a) register the applicant as a training organisation, or
 - (b) refuse to register the applicant.
- (2) In deciding the application, the Board is to have regard to the RTO standards, the RCAB standards and the registration and accreditation guidelines.
- (3) The Board may register the applicant as a training organisation only if:

- (a) on registration under the application, the applicant will not otherwise be registered as a training organisation by any other registering body, and
 - (b) the Board is satisfied that the applicant's main place of business is, or all or most of its operations will be conducted, in this State, and
 - (c) the Board is satisfied that the applicant complies with the RTO standards.
- (4) In considering whether an applicant complies with the RTO standards, the Board may conduct a compliance audit of the applicant and have regard to the findings of that audit.
- (5) Subsection (3) (c) does not apply in relation to an application if:
 - (a) the application is made by a training organisation registered by another registering body, and
 - (b) the training organisation has received a notice from the other registering body under a corresponding law for section 19, and
 - (c) the application does not seek an amendment of the training organisation's existing scope of registration or registered conditions.
- (6) The Board may, despite any other provision of this section, refuse to register an applicant as a training organisation if the Board is satisfied that the applicant is not suitable to be registered as a training organisation. In determining whether an applicant is suitable to be registered, the Board may have regard to such matters as it considers relevant (including the registration and accreditation guidelines).
- (7) If the Board decides to grant the application, the Board must:
 - (a) register the applicant as a training organisation, and
 - (b) register the training organisation's scope of registration, and
 - (c) if the Board imposes any conditions under section 13—register those conditions in relation to the training organisation, and
 - (d) provide the training organisation with a certificate of registration.
- (8) The Board must comply with subsection (7):
 - (a) as soon as practicable after approving the application, or
 - (b) if the application is made in conjunction with an application for the cancellation of a training organisation's registration under a corresponding law for section 19—as soon as practicable after the cancellation under the corresponding law is registered by the other registering body.

- (9) Subject to section 33, an official university may not be registered as a training organisation.

13 Conditions of registration

- (1) The registration of a training organisation is subject to:
- (a) any conditions imposed by the Board under subsection (2) or (3), and
 - (b) the conditions referred to in subsection (4), and
 - (c) any conditions imposed by the Board under section 18 or by another registering body under a corresponding law for that section.
- (2) The Board may impose such conditions on the registration of a training organisation as the Board thinks appropriate. Any such conditions may be imposed when the Board decides to register the training organisation or at any later time.
- (3) Without limiting subsection (2), the Board may impose conditions requiring the payment (including periodic payment while the registration of the training organisation remains in force) of fees to the Board in respect of the registration.
- (4) The registration of a training organisation is also subject to the following conditions:
- (a) the RTO must comply with the RTO standards,
 - (b) the RTO must notify the Board in writing of any substantial change to the RTO's control, management or operations before, or as soon as practicable after, the change occurs,
 - (c) the RTO must:
 - (i) submit to any compliance audit conducted by the Board, and
 - (ii) take all necessary steps to comply with the RTO standards if a compliance audit shows that the RTO does not comply with those standards,
 - (d) the RTO must not contravene any provision of this Act or a corresponding law,
 - (e) the RTO must provide the Board or any other registering body with any information the Board or other body reasonably requires in relation to:
 - (i) the RTO's operations, or
 - (ii) a condition to which its registration is subject.
- (5) The conditions to which the registration of a training organisation is subject apply in relation to the operations of the training organisation in every jurisdiction, unless the contrary intention appears.

- (6) An RTO must not contravene a condition to which its registration is subject.

Maximum penalty: 200 penalty units.

- (7) If the registration of a training organisation by another registering body is subject to conditions imposed by or under a corresponding law, those conditions have effect in this State.

14 Term of registration and renewal

- (1) Unless sooner cancelled by the Board, the registration of a training organisation by the Board has effect for such period (not exceeding 5 years) as is specified by the Board.
- (2) The registration of a training organisation may be renewed by the Board if an application for renewal is made to the Board not less than 3 months (or such other period as the Board may, if it thinks fit, determine in any particular case) before the registration is due to expire.
- (3) If an application for renewal of the registration of a training organisation is made in accordance with this section, the registration of the training organisation continues to have effect until such time as the Board decides the application.

15 Requirements relating to registration decisions of Board

- (1) Before the Board makes any decision under this Division (other than a decision to require a person to provide further information in relation to an application for registration as a training organisation or a decision to grant such an application unconditionally), the Board must:
- (a) cause notice of the proposed decision to be served on the person concerned, and
- (b) give the person a reasonable opportunity to make representations to the Board in relation to the proposed decision.
- (2) Subsection (1) (b) does not apply if the Board is of the opinion that it is in the public interest for the decision to have effect immediately.
- (3) In making any decision under this Division, the Board is to have regard to the RTO standards, the RCAB standards, the registration and accreditation guidelines and any representations made under this section in relation to the proposed decision.
- (4) Notice of any decision made by the Board under this Division, together with the reasons for the decision, must be served on the person to which the decision relates.

16 Amendment of registration details on application by RTO

- (1) The Board may, on application by a training organisation registered by the Board, amend the details recorded on the National Register in relation to the training

organisation.

- (2) An application under this section must be in the form approved by the Board and accompanied by such fee as may be determined by the Board.

17 Removal of registered details on registration expiry or on application by RTO

The Board must remove from the National Register the details of a training organisation registered by it:

- (a) if the training organisation's registration expires and is not renewed, or
- (b) if the training organisation applies to the Board to have its registration cancelled and the Board grants the application.

18 Board may cancel, suspend or amend registration

- (1) The Board may do any one or more of the following:
- (a) impose or amend the conditions recorded on the National Register in relation to a training organisation that has been registered by another registering body so as to restrict the operations of the training organisation in this State,
 - (b) amend the scope of registration or recorded conditions of a training organisation that has been registered by the Board so as to restrict the operations of the training organisation in this State or any other jurisdiction,
 - (c) suspend the registration, or part of the scope of registration, of a training organisation that has been registered by the Board,
 - (d) cancel the registration of a training organisation that has been registered by the Board.
- (2) The Board may only take action under subsection (1) in relation to an RTO on any one or more of the following grounds:
- (a) the training organisation requests the suspension or cancellation of its registration,
 - (b) the training organisation is no longer providing the courses in respect of which it is registered,
 - (c) the training organisation has ceased to exist,
 - (d) the training organisation has failed to comply with the RTO standards or the registration and accreditation guidelines,
 - (e) the training organisation's financial arrangements or ethical standards are such that they would not warrant the registration of the training organisation if it were

now to apply for registration,

- (f) a reasonable doubt exists as to the training organisation's financial capacity to continue to meet its contractual obligations to its students, staff or other persons,
 - (g) the training organisation does not have the resources to competently provide the courses in respect of which it is registered,
 - (h) the resources of the training organisation do not comply with the RTO standards or the registration and accreditation guidelines,
 - (i) the training organisation has contravened this Act or a condition to which its registration is subject.
- (3) The Board may not impose a restriction under subsection (1) (a) unless the registering body that registered the training organisation:
- (a) fails to take any step to deal with the matter to which the grounds relate within 30 days after the matter comes to its attention, or
 - (b) fails, after taking any step to deal with the matter to which the grounds relate, to take another step within 30 days.
- (4) Subsection (3) does not apply if the Board:
- (a) is relying on a ground established by a compliance audit, or
 - (b) is satisfied that it is in the public interest to impose the restriction immediately.
- (5) A restriction or suspension imposed under subsection (1) (a), (b) or (c) may, but need not, relate to a particular place or jurisdiction, but if it does so, it may only be imposed because of a particular fact situation that has arisen in that place or jurisdiction.
- (6) A restriction or suspension imposed under subsection (1) (a), (b) or (c) must be consistent with this Act and the RTO standards.
- (7) Before cancelling the registration of a training organisation under subsection (1) (d), the Board must consult the registering bodies of each of the other jurisdictions where the RTO is operating.
- (8) Failure to comply with subsection (7) does not affect the cancellation. Also, the Board is not required to comply with subsection (7) if the Board is satisfied that it is in the public interest to immediately cancel the registration of the training organisation.
- (9) A restriction or suspension imposed under this section may be lifted at any time by the Board on payment of such fee as may be determined by the Board and if the Board is satisfied that such requirements as may be determined by the Board have been complied with.

19 Cancellation of registration on change of business operations

- (1) On the grounds that a training organisation registered by the Board no longer has its main place of business in, and no longer conducts all or most of its operations in, this State, the Board may cancel the registration of the training organisation:
 - (a) on application by the training organisation, or
 - (b) on the Board's own initiative.
- (2) The Board must give notice to the RTO at least 30 days before cancelling the registration.
- (3) If, before the end of that 30-day period, the RTO makes an application to another registering body for registration as a training organisation, the Board must not cancel the training organisation's registration until that application is decided.

20 Suspension or cancellation of registration—training or assessment previously agreed to be provided

- (1) This section applies in relation to a training organisation if:
 - (a) the Board suspends or cancels its registration, and
 - (b) before the suspension or cancellation took effect, the training organisation entered into an agreement to provide training or an assessment to a person.
- (2) On application by the training organisation, the Board may approve the provision of training or assessment under the agreement for such period as may be specified by the Board in the approval, unless the Board is of the opinion that there are circumstances justifying the refusal of the application.
- (3) The registration of the training organisation is taken to continue during the period specified in the Board's approval, but only for the purposes of enabling the training organisation:
 - (a) to provide the training or assessment, or
 - (b) to issue a qualification or statement of attainment in relation to the training or assessment.
- (4) The Board's approval under this section may be withdrawn at any time.

21 Board to register amendment, suspension or cancellation

If the Board:

- (a) amends the scope of registration of a training organisation or the conditions recorded on the National Register in relation to the RTO, or

- (b) suspends the registration, or part of the scope of registration, of a training organisation, or
 - (c) cancels the registration of a training organisation,
- the Board is to give effect to its decision by amending the National Register accordingly.

22 Compliance audits

- (1) The Board may, at any time, conduct a compliance audit of:
 - (a) a training organisation registered by the Board or that has applied to the Board for registration, or
 - (b) any of the training organisation's operations (whether those operations are conducted in this State or elsewhere).
- (2) The Board may conduct an audit of a training organisation registered by another registering body, or of any of its operations conducted in this State, if:
 - (a) the Board:
 - (i) suspects on reasonable grounds that the RTO has contravened the RTO standards, and
 - (ii) has advised the registering body that registered the RTO of the suspected contravention, and
 - (b) that registering body:
 - (i) within 30 days after receiving the advice, fails to take steps to deal with the suspected contravention to the satisfaction of the Board, or
 - (ii) at any time advises the Board that it does not propose to take any steps or further step to deal with the suspected contravention.
- (3) In conducting a compliance audit the Board is to have regard to the RCAB standards.
- (4) A failure to comply with subsection (3) is of no effect if the failure:
 - (a) does not affect the outcome of the audit, or
 - (b) arises out of an inconsistency between the RCAB standards and the legislation of the jurisdiction in relation to which the failure arises.
- (5) This section does not limit the power of any registering body to inquire into the activities of a training organisation.

23 Information may be given to registering bodies

- (1) The Board may disclose to any agency of the State or the Commonwealth or of any

other State or Territory or, to the extent authorised by the regulations, to any other person any information the Board has about or arising from:

- (a) an application by a person for registration as a training organisation, or
 - (b) a training organisation's registration, or
 - (c) a compliance audit conducted by the Board, or
 - (d) any action taken by the Board in relation to an RTO, or
 - (e) the exercise of a function by a person at the request of another registering body.
- (2) In disclosing any information in accordance with this section or under a provision of a corresponding law, the Board does not contravene any obligation, whether imposed by any other Act or law, not to disclose the information.

Division 2 Accreditation of courses

24 Falsely claiming to provide accredited course and unlawful advertising of courses

- (1) A person must not claim that a course provided, or to be provided, by the person is an accredited course unless it is an accredited course.

Maximum penalty: 200 penalty units.

- (2) For the purposes of subsection (1), a person is taken to claim that a course provided, or to be provided, by the person is an accredited course if the person does anything likely to induce another person to believe the course is an accredited course.

- (3) A person must not advertise or otherwise represent:

- (a) that a particular course that is, has been or is to be provided by that or any other person is, has been or is to be accredited (however expressed), or
- (b) that courses generally that are, have been or are to be provided by that or any other person are, have been or are to be so accredited,

unless the person includes in the advertisement or representation the name of the person by which the accreditation has been or is to be given.

Maximum penalty: 200 penalty units.

25 Application for accreditation

- (1) A person may apply to the Board to have a vocational course accredited.
- (2) The application must be in such form, and be accompanied by such fee, as may be determined by the Board.

- (3) The Board may require the applicant to provide such information as the Board considers relevant to the application.

26 Accreditation of courses by Board

- (1) On receiving an application to have a vocational course accredited, the Board may:
 - (a) accredit the course, or
 - (b) refuse to accredit the course.
- (2) In deciding the application, the Board is to have regard to the RCAB standards.
- (3) Without limiting subsection (2), the Board may refuse to accredit a vocational course if the Board is satisfied that:
 - (a) the course is not of sufficient quality to warrant accreditation, or
 - (b) the course does not comply with the RTO standards or the registration and accreditation guidelines.
- (4) If the Board decides to accredit a vocational course, the Board is to register the course on the National Register as an accredited course.

27 Accreditation may be subject to conditions

- (1) The accreditation of a vocational course by the Board is subject to such conditions as may be imposed by the Board (whether at the time the Board decides to accredit the course or at any later time).
- (2) Without limiting subsection (1), the Board may impose conditions:
 - (a) requiring the payment of fees to the Board in respect of the accreditation of the course, and
 - (b) requiring specified information to be provided to the Board within a specified time.

28 Term of accreditation and renewal

- (1) Unless sooner cancelled by the Board, the accreditation of a vocational course by the Board has effect for such period (not exceeding 5 years) as is specified by the Board.
- (2) A person may apply to the Board for the renewal of the accreditation of a vocational course not less than 6 months (or such other period as the Board may, if it thinks fit, determine in any particular case) before the accreditation is due to expire.
- (3) If any such application is made, the accreditation of the vocational course to which the application relates continues to have effect until such time as the Board decides the application.

29 Cancellation of accreditation

- (1) The Board may cancel the accreditation of a vocational course that has been accredited by the Board for any of the following reasons:
 - (a) the course is no longer of sufficient quality to warrant accreditation,
 - (b) the course no longer complies with the RTO standards or the registration and accreditation guidelines,
 - (c) the person who applied for the accreditation of the course:
 - (i) requests the cancellation, or
 - (ii) no longer exists, or
 - (iii) has contravened this Act, the regulations or a condition to which accreditation of the course is subject.
- (2) If the Board decides to cancel the accreditation of a vocational course, the Board is to amend the National Register accordingly.

30 Requirements relating to decisions of Board

- (1) Before the Board decides to refuse an application to accredit a vocational course, or imposes conditions on the accreditation of a vocational course, or cancels the accreditation of a vocational course (other than at the request of the person who applied for the accreditation of the course), the Board must:
 - (a) cause notice of the proposed decision to be served on the person on whose application accreditation is sought or was granted, and
 - (b) give the person a reasonable opportunity to make representations to the Board in relation to the proposed decision.
- (2) Subsection (1) (b) does not apply if the Board is of the opinion that it is in the public interest for the decision to have effect immediately.
- (3) In making a decision referred to in subsection (1), the Board must have regard to the registration and accreditation guidelines and to any representations made under that subsection in relation to the proposed decision.
- (4) The Board must cause notice of its decision, together with its reasons for the decision, to be served on the person on whose application accreditation is sought or given.

31 Cancellation of accreditation—vocational course previously agreed to be provided

- (1) This section applies in relation to a vocational course provided by a person (***the provider***) if:

- (a) the Board cancels the accreditation of the course, and
 - (b) before the cancellation took effect, the provider entered into an agreement to provide the course to a person.
- (2) On application by the provider, the Board may approve the provision of training or assessment under the agreement for such period as may be specified by the Board in the approval, unless the Board is of the opinion that there are circumstances justifying the refusal of the application.
- (3) The accreditation of the vocational course is taken to continue during the period specified in the Board's approval, but only for the purposes of enabling the provider:
 - (a) to provide the course, or
 - (b) to issue a qualification or statement of attainment in relation to the course.
- (4) The Board's approval under this section may be withdrawn at any time.

Division 3 General provisions

32 Board may issue guidelines

- (1) The Board may from time to time issue guidelines to be adopted in relation to:
 - (a) the registration of training organisations, and
 - (b) the accreditation of vocational courses.
- (2) Any such guidelines may relate to matters including the following:
 - (a) registration and accreditation procedures,
 - (b) course programs and nomenclature,
 - (c) the resources required to provide vocational courses in a competent manner,
 - (d) the financial requirements and ethical standards to be satisfied by training organisations,
 - (e) conditions to be imposed on registration or accreditation.
- (3) Copies of each guideline issued under this section are to be kept at the office of the Board and are to be made available for public inspection free of charge, and for purchase, during ordinary office hours.

33 Official university taken to be RTO in relation to provision of certain vocational courses

An official university is taken to be a registered training organisation for the purposes of providing vocational courses in connection with recognised trade vocations and

recognised traineeship vocations within the meaning of the *Apprenticeship and Traineeship Act 2001*.

Part 4 Overseas students

Note—

The approval by the Board of persons to provide courses for overseas students forms the basis of the registration of that provider under the *Education Services for Overseas Students Act 2000* of the Commonwealth.

34 Approval of persons to provide courses for overseas students

- (1) The Board may, on the application of a person, approve the person to provide courses for overseas students.
- (2) The Board's approval of a person to provide courses for overseas students may (according to the terms of the approval) apply to such courses generally, to specified classes of such courses or to a specified course or courses.
- (3) An application for approval to provide courses for overseas students must be in such form, and be accompanied by such fee, as the Board may determine.
- (4) The Board may require an applicant to furnish further information in relation to the application.
- (5) Approval may be granted unconditionally or subject to such conditions (which may be imposed when the approval is granted or at any later time) as the Board determines.
- (6) Examples of the conditions that may be imposed include the following:
 - (a) conditions specifying the period for which the approval is to remain in force,
 - (b) conditions specifying the premises in or from which the course to which the approval relates are to be conducted,
 - (c) conditions requiring the payment (including periodic payment while the approval remains in force) of fees to the Board in respect of the approval.
- (7) The Board must not refuse an application for approval except on one or more of the following grounds:
 - (a) that the applicant has not furnished such further information in relation to the application as the Board requires,
 - (b) that the applicant does not have the resources to provide the courses to which the approval relates competently,
 - (c) that the applicant's financial arrangements or ethical standards do not warrant the approval of the applicant,

- (d) in the case of a course that includes matter the subject of proprietary rights (such as copyright)—that the applicant is not lawfully entitled to the benefit of those rights,
- (e) that the applicant or the applicant's resources do not comply with the approval guidelines.

35 Amendment, suspension or cancellation of approval

- (1) The Board may, on its own motion or on the application of any person, do any of the following in relation to an approved provider:
 - (a) amend the approval so that it applies to different courses,
 - (b) revoke or amend any condition to which the approval is subject,
 - (c) impose additional conditions on the approval,
 - (d) suspend or cancel the approval.
- (2) The suspension of an approval may be lifted at any time by the Board. Before lifting the suspension, the Board may require the payment of a fee determined by the Board.
- (3) The Board may not suspend or cancel an approval except on one or more of the following grounds:
 - (a) the approved provider requests the suspension or cancellation,
 - (b) the approved provider is no longer providing courses for overseas students,
 - (c) the approved provider has ceased to exist,
 - (d) the approved provider has failed to comply with the approval guidelines,
 - (e) the approved provider's financial arrangements or ethical standards are such that they would not warrant the approval of the provider if it were now to apply for approval,
 - (f) a reasonable doubt exists as to the approved provider's financial capacity to continue to meet its contractual obligations to its students, staff or other persons,
 - (g) the approved provider does not have the resources to competently provide the courses to which the approval relates,
 - (h) the resources of the approved provider do not comply with the approval guidelines,
 - (i) in the case of a course that includes matter the subject of proprietary rights (such as copyright)—that the approved provider is not lawfully entitled to the benefit of those rights,

- (j) the approved provider has engaged in misleading or deceptive conduct in connection with the recruitment of intending overseas students,
- (k) the approved provider has failed to comply with a requirement of the *Education Services for Overseas Students Act 2000* of the Commonwealth, or of a regulation under that Act, in relation to the courses to which the approval relates,
- (l) the approved provider has contravened this Act, the regulations or a condition to which the provider's approval is subject.

36 Requirements relating to approval decisions of Board

- (1) Before the Board makes any decision under this Part (other than a decision to require a person to provide further information in relation to an application for approval or a decision to grant such an application unconditionally), the Board must:
 - (a) cause notice of the proposed decision to be served on the person concerned, and
 - (b) give the person a reasonable opportunity to make representations to the Board in relation to the proposed decision.
- (2) Subsection (1) (b) does not apply if the Board is of the opinion that it is in the public interest for the decision to have effect immediately.
- (3) In making a decision under this Part, the Board must have regard to the approval guidelines and to any representations made under this section in relation to the proposed decision.
- (4) Notice of any decision under this Part by the Board, together with the reasons for the decision, must be served on the person to which the decision relates.

37 Offences relating to advertising of courses for overseas students

- (1) A person must not falsely advertise or otherwise falsely represent that a person is or has been approved by the Board to provide a course for overseas students.
- (2) A person must not advertise or otherwise represent that a person may, will or is to be approved by the Board to provide a course for overseas students.

Maximum penalty: 200 penalty units.

38 Notification of change of name or address

An approved provider must cause notice of any change in the name or the address of the provider to be given to the Board.

39 Evidentiary certificates

A certificate that is signed by the Director and that certifies that:

- (a) on a specified date or during a specified period a specified person was or was not an approved provider, or
 - (b) as such a provider, was or was not approved to provide courses generally, a specified class of courses or a specified course,
- is admissible in any proceedings and is evidence of the fact or facts so certified.

40 Approval guidelines

- (1) The Board may from time to time issue guidelines to be adopted in relation to the approval of persons to provide courses for overseas students.
- (2) Any such guidelines may relate to matters such as the following:
 - (a) approval procedures,
 - (b) the resources required to provide a course for overseas students in a competent manner,
 - (c) the financial requirements and ethical standards to be satisfied by approved providers,
 - (d) the conditions to be imposed on the approval of persons to provide courses for overseas students.
- (3) Copies of each guideline issued under this section are to be kept at the office of the Board and are to be made available for public inspection free of charge, and for purchase, during ordinary office hours.

41 Information may be given to other bodies

- (1) The Board may disclose to any agency of the State or the Commonwealth or of any other State or Territory or, to the extent authorised by the regulations, any other person any information the Board has about or arising from:
 - (a) an application by a person for approval under this Part, or
 - (b) the approval of persons to provide courses for overseas students, or
 - (c) any action taken by the Board in relation to an approved provider.
- (2) In disclosing any information in accordance with this section or under a provision of a corresponding law, the Board does not contravene any obligation, whether imposed by any other Act or law, not to disclose the information.

Part 5 Enforcement and procedural provisions

42 Inspectors

- (1) The Board may appoint any of its officers to be inspectors for the purposes of this Act.
- (2) A certificate of identification, in such form as may be approved by the Minister, is to be issued to each inspector.

43 Powers of inspectors

- (1) An inspector may, for the purposes of conducting a compliance audit or ascertaining whether or not the provisions of this Act have been complied with:
 - (a) enter the premises of a training organisation or person who provides courses for overseas students (including the premises at which any course provided by the training organisation or person is conducted), and
 - (b) inspect the premises, any documents found on the premises and the conduct of any course at the premises, and
 - (c) remove, or make copies of, any such documents.
- (2) The powers conferred by this section may be exercised only during the ordinary operating hours of the premises concerned and may not be exercised in any part of premises that is used for residential purposes.
- (3) In exercising the powers conferred by this section, an inspector:
 - (a) must, if requested to do so by any person on the premises, produce his or her certificate of identification for inspection by that person, and
 - (b) must avoid, as far as practicable, doing anything that is likely to impede the conduct of any course at the premises.
- (4) A person must not assault, delay, obstruct, hinder or impede an inspector in the exercise of the inspector's functions under this Act.

Maximum penalty (subsection (4)): 10 penalty units.

44 Proceedings for offences

Proceedings for an offence under this Act or the regulations are to be dealt with summarily before a Local Court.

45 Penalty notices

- (1) An authorised officer may serve a penalty notice on a person if it appears to the officer that the person has committed an offence under this Act or the regulations, being an offence prescribed by the regulations as a penalty notice offence.

- (2) A penalty notice is a notice to the effect that, if the person served does not wish to have the matter determined by a court, the person can pay, within the time and to the person specified in the notice, the amount of the penalty prescribed by the regulations for the offence if dealt with under this section.
- (3) A penalty notice may be served personally or by post.
- (4) If the amount of penalty prescribed for an alleged offence is paid under this section, no person is liable to any further proceedings for the alleged offence.
- (5) Payment under this section is not to be regarded as an admission of liability for the purpose of, and does not in any way affect or prejudice, any civil claim, action or proceeding arising out of the same occurrence.
- (6) The regulations may:
 - (a) prescribe an offence for the purposes of this section by specifying the offence or by referring to the provision creating the offence, and
 - (b) prescribe the amount of penalty payable for the offence if dealt with under this section, and
 - (c) prescribe different amounts of penalties for different offences or classes of offences.
- (7) The amount of a penalty prescribed under this section for an offence is not to exceed the maximum amount of penalty that could be imposed for the offence by a court.
- (8) This section does not limit the operation of any other provision of, or made under, this or any other Act or law relating to proceedings that may be taken in respect of offences.
- (9) In this section, **authorised officer** means a person authorised in writing by the Board as an authorised officer for the purposes of this section.

46 Recovery of fees

Any fee payable to the Board under this Act may be recovered, as a debt, in any court of competent jurisdiction.

Part 6 Miscellaneous

47 Review of certain decisions by Administrative Decisions Tribunal

A person who is aggrieved by any of the following decisions of the Board may apply to the Administrative Decisions Tribunal for a review of the decision:

- (a) refusing to register a training organisation under section 12,

- (b) imposing conditions under section 13 (2) or (3) on the registration of a training organisation,
- (c) refusing to renew the registration of a training organisation under section 14,
- (d) refusing to amend the recorded details of a training organisation under section 16,
- (e) amending the scope of registration or recorded conditions of a training organisation under section 18 (1) (a) or (b),
- (f) suspending the registration, or part of the scope of registration, of a training organisation under section 18 (1) (c),
- (g) cancelling the registration of a training organisation under section 18 (1) (d) or 19,
- (h) refusing to approve the provision of training or assessment under section 20,
- (i) refusing to accredit a vocational course under section 26,
- (j) imposing conditions under section 27 on the accreditation of a vocational course,
- (k) refusing to renew the accreditation of a vocational course under section 28,
- (l) cancelling the accreditation of a vocational course under section 29,
- (m) refusing to approve the provision of training or assessment under section 31,
- (n) refusing to approve a person to provide courses for overseas students under section 34,
- (o) imposing conditions under section 34 or 35 (1) (c) on the approval of a person to provide courses for overseas students,
- (p) amending the approval of a person to provide courses for overseas students, or revoking or amending the conditions to which the approval is subject, under section 35 (1) (a) or (b),
- (q) suspending or cancelling the approval of a person to provide courses for overseas students under section 35 (1) (d).

48 Service of documents

- (1) A document may be served on the Board by leaving it at, or by sending it by post to:
 - (a) the office of the Board, or
 - (b) if it has more than one office—any one of its offices.
- (2) A document required or permitted by or under this Act to be served on a person may be served:

- (a) on a natural person—by delivering it to the person personally or by leaving it at, or by sending it by post to, the address of the place of residence or business of the person last known to the person serving the document, or
 - (b) on a corporation—by leaving it at, or by sending it by post to, the head office, a registered office or a principal office of the corporation.
- (3) Nothing in this section:
- (a) affects the operation of any other Act or law that authorises the service of a document in any other way, or
 - (b) affects the power of a court to authorise service of a document in any other way.

49 Personal liability

No matter or thing done or omitted by the Board, by any member of the Board, by any officer of the Board or by any person acting under the direction of the Board subjects a member of the Board, an officer of the Board or a person so acting personally to any action, liability, claim or demand if the matter or thing was done or omitted in good faith for the purpose of executing this Act.

50 Act binds Crown

This Act binds the Crown in right of New South Wales and, in so far as the legislative power of Parliament permits, the Crown in all its other capacities.

51 Regulations

- (1) The Governor may make regulations, not inconsistent with this Act, for or with respect to any matter that by this Act is required or permitted to be prescribed or that is necessary or convenient to be prescribed for carrying out or giving effect to this Act.
- (2) In particular, regulations may be made for or with respect to the following:
 - (a) the custody and use of the seal of the Board,
 - (b) applications under this Act,
 - (c) fees payable under this Act,
 - (d) information to be supplied to the Board by training organisations and persons who provide courses for overseas students,
 - (e) records to be kept by registered training organisations and approved providers,
 - (f) certificates to be issued under this Act to registered training organisations and approved providers,
 - (g) certificates to be issued under this Act to persons who undertake or complete

accredited vocational courses.

- (3) A regulation may create an offence punishable by a penalty not exceeding 50 penalty units.

52 Savings, transitional and other provisions

Schedule 2 has effect.

53 Repeal of *Vocational Education and Training Accreditation Act 1990* No 120

- (1) The *Vocational Education and Training Accreditation Act 1990* is repealed.
- (2) Different days may be appointed for the commencement of subsection (1) for the purpose of repealing, on different days, different provisions of the *Vocational Education and Training Accreditation Act 1990*.

54 Consequential amendment of other legislation

Each Act, regulation or order specified in Schedule 3 is amended as set out in that Schedule.

Schedule 1 Provisions relating to members and procedure of Board

(Section 5 (7))

1 Director may appoint deputy

- (1) The Director may, by instrument in writing, appoint a person to act as his or her deputy.
- (2) A deputy appointed under this clause, while so appointed, has all the functions of the Director and is to be taken to be the Director.
- (3) The appointment of a deputy under this clause does not prevent the Director from exercising his or her functions as Director.

2 Acting members and acting Chairperson

- (1) The Minister may, from time to time, appoint a person to act in the office of a part-time member of the Board during the illness or absence of the member, and the person, while so acting, has all the functions of the member and is to be taken to be a member of the Board.
- (2) The Minister may, from time to time, appoint a part-time member of the Board to act in the office of Chairperson of the Board during the illness or absence of the Chairperson, and the member, while so acting, has all the functions of the Chairperson and is to be taken to be the Chairperson.
- (3) The Minister may, at any time, remove a person from any office to which the person

was appointed under this clause.

- (4) A person while acting in the office of a part-time member of the Board is entitled to be paid such remuneration (including travelling and subsistence allowances) as the Minister may from time to time determine in respect of the person.
- (5) For the purposes of this clause, a vacancy in the office of a part-time member of the Board or of the Chairperson of the Board is to be taken to be an absence from office of the member or Chairperson.

3 Terms of office

Subject to this Schedule, a part-time member of the Board is to hold office for such period (not exceeding 3 years) as may be specified in the member's instrument of appointment, but is eligible (if otherwise qualified) for re-appointment.

4 Remuneration of part-time members

A part-time member of the Board is entitled to be paid such remuneration (including travelling and subsistence allowances) as the Minister may from time to time determine in respect of the member.

5 Vacancy in office of part-time member

- (1) The office of a part-time member of the Board becomes vacant if the member:
 - (a) dies, or
 - (b) completes a term of office and is not re-appointed, or
 - (c) resigns the office by instrument in writing addressed to the Minister, or
 - (d) is removed from office by the Minister under this clause, or
 - (e) is absent from 4 consecutive meetings of the Board of which reasonable notice has been given to the member personally or in the ordinary course of post, except on leave granted by the Minister or unless, before the expiration of 4 weeks after the last of those meetings, the member is excused by the Minister for having been absent from those meetings, or
 - (f) becomes bankrupt, applies to take the benefit of any law for the relief of bankrupt or insolvent debtors, compounds with his or her creditors or makes an assignment of his or her remuneration for their benefit, or
 - (g) becomes a mentally incapacitated person, or
 - (h) is convicted in New South Wales of an offence that is punishable by imprisonment for 12 months or more or is convicted elsewhere than in New South Wales of an offence that, if committed in New South Wales, would be an offence so punishable.

(2) The Minister may remove a part-time member of the Board from office at any time.

6 Filling of vacancy in office of part-time member

If the office of a part-time member of the Board becomes vacant, a person is, subject to this Act, to be appointed to fill the vacancy.

7 Vacancy in office of Chairperson

(1) The office of Chairperson of the Board becomes vacant if the Chairperson:

- (a) is removed from office by the Minister, or
- (b) resigns the office by instrument in writing addressed to the Minister, or
- (c) ceases to be a member of the Board.

(2) The Minister may remove the Chairperson of the Board from office at any time.

8 Disclosure of pecuniary interests

(1) A member of the Board:

- (a) who has a direct or indirect pecuniary interest in a matter being considered or about to be considered at a meeting of the Board, and
- (b) whose interest appears to raise a conflict with the proper performance of the member's duties in relation to the consideration of the matter,

must, as soon as possible after the relevant facts have come to the member's knowledge, disclose the nature of the interest at a meeting of the Board.

(2) A disclosure by a member of the Board at a meeting of the Board that the member:

- (a) is a member, or is in the employment, of a specified company or other body, or
- (b) is a partner, or is in the employment, of a specified person, or
- (c) has some other specified interest relating to a specified company or other body or to a specified person,

is a sufficient disclosure of the nature of the interest in any matter relating to that company or other body or to that person which may arise after the date of the disclosure and which is required to be disclosed under this clause.

(3) Particulars of any disclosure made under this clause are to be recorded by the members of the Board in a book kept for the purpose and that book is to be open at all reasonable hours to inspection by any person on payment of such fee as may be determined by the members of the Board.

(4) After a member of the Board has disclosed the nature of an interest in any matter, the

member must not, unless the Minister or the other members of the Board otherwise determine:

- (a) be present during any deliberation of the Board with respect to the matter, or
- (b) take part in any decision of the Board with respect to the matter.

(5) For the purposes of the making of a determination by the members of the Board under subclause (4), a member of the Board who has a direct or indirect pecuniary interest in a matter to which the disclosure relates must not:

- (a) be present during any deliberation of the other members of the Board for the purpose of making the determination, or
- (b) take part in the making by the other members of the Board of the determination.

(6) A contravention of this clause does not invalidate any decision of the Board.

(7) A reference in this clause to a meeting of the Board includes a reference to a meeting of a committee of the Board.

9 Effect of certain other Acts

(1) Chapter 2 of the *Public Sector Employment and Management Act 2002* does not apply to the appointment of a part-time member of the Board.

(2) If by or under any other Act provision is made:

- (a) requiring a person who is the holder of a specified office to devote the whole of his or her time to the duties of that office, or
- (b) prohibiting the person from engaging in employment outside the duties of that office,

the provision does not operate to disqualify the person from holding that office and also the office of a part-time member of the Board or from accepting and retaining any remuneration payable to the person under this Act as such a member.

(3) The office of a part-time member of the Board is not, for the purposes of any Act, an office or place of profit under the Crown.

10 Proof of certain matters not required

In any legal proceedings, proof is not required (until evidence is given to the contrary) of:

- (a) the constitution of the Board, or
- (b) any resolution of the Board, or
- (c) the appointment of, or holding of office by, any member of the Board, or

(d) the presence or nature of a quorum at any meeting of the Board.

11 General procedure

The procedure for the calling of meetings of the Board and for the conduct of business at those meetings is, subject to this Act, to be as determined by the Board.

12 Quorum

The quorum for a meeting of the Board is 6 members.

13 Presiding member

- (1) The Chairperson of the Board (or, in the absence of the Chairperson, another part-time member of the Board elected to chair the meeting by the members of the Board present) is to preside at a meeting of the Board.
- (2) The person presiding at any meeting of the Board has a deliberative vote and, in the event of an equality of votes, has a second or casting vote.

14 Voting

A decision supported by a majority of the votes cast at a meeting of the Board at which a quorum is present is the decision of the Board.

15 Transaction of business outside meetings or by telephone etc

- (1) The Board may, if it thinks fit, transact any of its business by the circulation of papers among all the members of the Board for the time being, and a resolution in writing approved in writing by a majority of those members is to be regarded as a decision of the Board.
- (2) The Board may, if it thinks fit, transact any of its business at a meeting at which members of the Board (or some members) participate by telephone, closed-circuit television or other means, but only if any member who speaks on a matter before the meeting can be heard by the other members.
- (3) For the purposes of:
 - (a) the approval of a resolution under subclause (1), or
 - (b) a meeting held in accordance with subclause (2),the Chairperson of the Board and each member of the Board have the same voting rights as they have at an ordinary meeting of the Board.
- (4) A resolution approved under subclause (1) is, subject to the regulations, to be recorded in the minutes of the meetings of the Board.
- (5) Papers may be circulated among members of the Board for the purposes of subclause

(1) by facsimile or other transmission of the information in the papers concerned.

16 Minutes

The Board must cause full and accurate minutes to be kept of the proceedings of each meeting of the Board.

17 First meeting of the Board

The Minister is to call the first meeting of the Board at such time, and in such manner, as the Minister considers appropriate.

Schedule 2 Savings, transitional and other provisions

(Section 52)

Part 1 Preliminary

1 Regulations

(1) The regulations may contain provisions of a savings or transitional nature consequent on the enactment of the following Acts:

 this Act

(2) Any such provision may, if the regulations so provide, take effect from the date of assent to the Act concerned or a later date.

(3) To the extent to which any such provision takes effect from a date that is earlier than the date of its publication in the Gazette, the provision does not operate so as:

- (a) to affect, in a manner prejudicial to any person (other than the State or an authority of the State), the rights of that person existing before the date of its publication, or
- (b) to impose liabilities on any person (other than the State or an authority of the State) in respect of anything done or omitted to be done before the date of its publication.

Part 2 Provisions consequent on enactment of this Act

2 Definitions

In this Part:

former Board means the Vocational Education and Training Accreditation Board as constituted under the 1990 Act immediately before the repeal of that Act.

the 1990 Act means the [Vocational Education and Training Accreditation Act 1990](#).

3 Vocational Education and Training Accreditation Board

- (1) The Board constituted under this Act is a continuation of, and the same legal entity as, the former Board.
- (2) Each person who was, immediately before the commencement of this clause, a member of the former Board is, subject to this Act, taken to have been appointed as a member of the Board constituted under this Act for the balance of his or her term of office as a member of the former Board.

4 Preservation of existing registrations, accreditations and approvals

- (1) Any education or training provider registered under the 1990 Act is, if that registration was in force immediately before the repeal of the 1990 Act, taken to be a registered training organisation.
- (2) Any vocational course accredited under the 1990 Act is, if that accreditation was in force immediately before the repeal of the 1990 Act, taken to be accredited under Part 3 of this Act.
- (3) Any person or body approved under the 1990 Act to provide courses for overseas students is, if that approval was in force immediately before the repeal of the 1990 Act, taken to be an approved provider under this Act.

5 General savings and validation

Subject to the regulations:

- (a) anything done under the 1990 Act (including the delegation of any function) that had any force or effect immediately before its repeal by this Act is taken to have been done under this Act, and
- (b) anything done by the former Board under the 1990 Act that would have been validly done had this Act been in force when it was done is validated.

6 Construction of references to registered providers

A reference in any Act (other than this Act) or in any instrument made under an Act or in any other document to a registered provider within the meaning of the 1990 Act is taken to be a reference to a registered training organisation.

Schedule 3 Consequential amendment of other legislation

(Section 54)

3.1 Apprenticeship and Traineeship Act 2001 No 80

Dictionary

Omit the definition of **registered training organisation**. Insert instead:

registered training organisation has the same meaning as in the *Vocational Education and Training Act 2005*.

3.2 Board of Vocational Education and Training Act 1994 No 33

Section 6 Objects of the Board

Omit section 6 (i). Insert instead:

- (i) to promote and develop, in consultation with the Vocational Education and Training Accreditation Board, a co-ordinated and effective registration and accreditation framework under the *Vocational Education and Training Act 2005* for vocational education and training,

3.3 Casino Control Regulation 2001

Clause 34B Definitions

Omit the definition of **registered training organisation**. Insert instead:

registered training organisation has the same meaning as in the *Vocational Education and Training Act 2005*.

3.4 Children's Services Regulation 2004

Dictionary

Omit the definition of **registered training organisation**. Insert instead:

registered training organisation has the same meaning as in the *Vocational Education and Training Act 2005*.

3.5 Commercial Agents and Private Inquiry Agents Regulation 2000

Clause 10 Prescribed experience and qualifications

Omit clause 10 (3). Insert instead:

- (3) In this clause, **registered training organisation** has the same meaning as in the *Vocational Education and Training Act 2005*.

3.6 Fines Act 1996 No 99

Schedule 1 Statutory provisions under which penalty notices issued

Insert in alphabetical order of Acts:

Vocational Education and Training Act 2005, section 45

3.7 Gaming Machines Regulation 2002

[1] Clause 52 Approval of training providers

Omit “registered provider” from clause 52 (1), (4) (a) and (8) wherever occurring.

Insert instead “registered training organisation”.

[2] Clause 52 (11)

Omit the subclause. Insert instead:

- (11) In this clause, **registered training organisation** has the same meaning as in the *Vocational Education and Training Act 2005*.

3.8 Hairdressers Act 2003 No 62

[1] Section 4 When is an individual “qualified to act as a hairdresser”?

Omit “an authorised provider” from section 4 (1) (a).

Insert instead “a registered training organisation”.

[2] Section 4 (2), definition of “authorised provider”

Omit the definition. Insert instead in alphabetical order:

registered training organisation has the same meaning as in the *Vocational Education and Training Act 2005*.

3.9 Higher Education Act 2001 No 102

Section 3 Definitions

Omit “an accredited vocational course within the meaning of the *Vocational Education and Training Accreditation Act 1990*” from the definition of **post-graduate qualification** in section 3 (1).

Insert instead “an accredited course within the meaning of the *Vocational Education and Training Act 2005*”.

3.10 Liquor Regulation 1996

Clause 79B Definitions

Omit the definition of **registered training organisation**. Insert instead:

registered training organisation has the same meaning as in the *Vocational Education and Training Act 2005*.

3.11 Occupational Health and Safety Regulation 2001

[1] Clause 31 Training to be undertaken by members of OHS committees and OHS representatives

Omit clause 31 (3) (b). Insert instead:

(b) a registered training organisation (within the meaning of the *Vocational Education and Training Act 2005*) whose registration extends to providing a course of OHS consultation training.

[2] Clause 212 Definitions

Omit the definition of **registered education or training provider**.

Insert instead:

registered training organisation has the same meaning as in the *Vocational Education and Training Act 2005*.

[3] Clauses 217 (1) (c) and (d) (ii) and 218 (b)

Omit “registered education or training provider” wherever occurring.

Insert instead “registered training organisation”.

[4] Clause 217 (1) (c) and (d) (ii) and 218 (b)

Omit “such a provider” wherever occurring.

Insert instead “such an organisation”.

[5] Clause 265 Definitions

Omit the definition of **registered training organisation**. Insert instead:

registered training organisation has the same meaning as in the [Vocational Education and Training Act 2005](#).

3.12 Pesticides Regulation 1995

[1] Clause 7 Definitions

Omit “provider” from the definition of **prescribed qualification** in clause 7 (1).

Insert instead “organisation”.

[2] Clause 7 (1), definition of “registered training provider”

Omit the definition (and the note following that definition). Insert instead:

registered training organisation has the same meaning as in the [Vocational Education and Training Act 2005](#).

[3] Clause 7 (2) (b) (ii)

Omit “provider”. Insert instead “organisation”.

[4] Clause 8 Approval of units of competency for prescribed qualification

Omit “providers” from clause 8 (3) (a). Insert instead “organisations”.

3.13 Property, Stock and Business Agents (Auctioneers Qualifications) Order 2003

Clause 3 Definitions

Omit the definition of **registered training organisation**. Insert instead:

registered training organisation has the same meaning as in the [Vocational Education and Training Act 2005](#).

3.14 Property, Stock and Business Agents (Qualifications) Order 2003

Clause 3 Definitions

Omit the definition of **registered training organisation** from clause 3 (1).

Insert instead:

registered training organisation has the same meaning as in the *Vocational Education and Training Act 2005*.

3.15 Technical and Further Education Commission Act 1990 No 118

Section 7 Miscellaneous functions

Omit section 7 (2) (a). Insert instead:

- (a) in the case of the provision of accredited courses of study and the conferring of educational awards in connection with those courses—the provisions of the *Vocational Education and Training Act 2005*, and

3.16 Travel Agents Regulation 2001

Clause 18A Qualifications of person in charge of business

Omit “registered provider within the meaning of the *Vocational Education and Training Accreditation Act 1990*” from clause 18A (a).

Insert instead “registered training organisation within the meaning of the *Vocational Education and Training Act 2005*”.

3.17 Weapons Prohibition Regulation 1999

Clause 14 Prohibited weapons—instructor permit

Omit “registered training provider under the *Vocational Education and Training Accreditation Act 1990* who” from clause 14 (3) (b) (i) (B).

Insert instead “registered training organisation (within the meaning of the *Vocational Education and Training Act 2005*) that”.