

15 September 2025



Tēnā koe [redacted]

## Official Information Act Request

Thank you for your request of 18 August 2025, under the Official Information Act 1982, for the following information:

- *How many appeals of International Qualifications Assessments recognition statements were submitted during the year 1.7.24 to 30.6.25?*
- *Of those submitted, how many appeals were successful?*
- *What were the top ten qualifications where the outcome was successful?*
- *How many appeals were submitted on the basis of a Doctor of Philosophy being recognised as a Level 10 qualification and subsequently found to be equivalent to a Level 10 Doctor of Philosophy?*

Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982.

I attach copies of the following information covered by your request.

- The number of appeals which:
  - were submitted during the requested period
  - were withdrawn after advice from NZQA
  - overturned the original evaluation/recognition outcome
  - upheld the original evaluation/recognition outcome
  - are under evaluation.
- A summary table of the 10 qualifications whose appeals overturned the original outcome
- The number of appeals for overseas qualifications recognised as Qualification at Level 10 which were submitted and subsequently recognised as Doctoral Degree at Level 10.

Our response to your request may be published on our website after five working days. Your name and contact details will be removed before publication.

If you require further assistance or believe we have misinterpreted your request, please contact Elizabeth Templeton in the Office of the Chief Executive, email [elizabeth.templeton@nzqa.govt.nz](mailto:elizabeth.templeton@nzqa.govt.nz) or telephone (04) 463 3339.

You have the right to seek an investigation or review by the Ombudsman of this decision under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act 1982. Details of how to make a complaint can be found

at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz). You can also telephone 0800 802 502 or write to the Ombudsman at PO Box 10152, Wellington, 6143.

Nāku nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dr Grant Klinkum', written in a cursive style.

Dr Grant Klinkum  
Pouwhakahaere/Chief Executive

## OC 01992 response

### Questions:

- *How many appeals of International Qualifications Assessments recognition statements were submitted during the year 1.7.24 to 30.6.25?*

NZQA received 50 applications for appeal during the requested period.

- *Of those submitted, how many appeals were successful?*

We have interpreted your request for information on successful appeals to mean appeals where there has been a change to original evaluation/recognition outcome.

Outcome of appeals	Number of appeals
Withdrawn	29
Evaluation outcome upheld (no change)	10
Evaluation overturned (changed from original outcome)	10
Evaluation outcome pending	1

- *What were the top ten qualifications where the outcome was successful?*

The qualifications in the table are in alphabetical order:

Qualification name	Country of award	Year of award	Rationale for appeal
Advanced Diploma of Mechanical Engineering Technology	Australia	2025	New information provided
Diploma in Civil Engineering Technology	Philippines	2008	Review for Immigration New Zealand purpose
Doctor of Philosophy in Management Science	United States of America	2025	Not satisfied with outcome
Higher Diploma in Aircraft Maintenance Engineering	Sri Lanka	2016	New information provided
Juris Doctor	Philippines	2021	New information provided
Master of Business Administration	India	2021	New information provided

Master of Social Science	Bangladesh	2024	New information provided
One-year programme in Treatment and Rehabilitation of People with Substance Abuse Disorders	Norway	2018	New information provided
Postgraduate Certificate in Education	United Kingdom	2019	Not satisfied with outcome
Postgraduate Diploma in Education	United Arab Emirates	2022	Not satisfied with outcome

- *How many appeals were submitted on the basis of a Doctor of Philosophy being recognised as a Level 10 qualification and subsequently found to be equivalent to a Level 10 Doctor of Philosophy?*

Our recognition outcome compares an overseas qualification to a qualification level and type on the New Zealand Qualifications and Credentials Framework (NZQCF).

Doctor of Philosophy degree qualifications are a subset of the Doctoral Degree qualification type on the NZQCF. We have interpreted your request as, “How many *Qualifications at Level 10* outcomes did NZQA re-evaluate and change to a *Doctoral Degree at Level 10* outcome?”

The answer is one.