

2025 Rules: What's changed

This summarises the main changes but does not include minor changes and corrections that have also been made. Please read the full rule sets.

Micro-credential Approval and Accreditation Rules

The 2025 rules include a definition for level descriptors, noting they are published in NZQA's website.

Private Training Establishment Registration Rules

The 2025 rules require a PTE to provide the annual financial statements it must complete as part of its statutory obligations under other Acts, instead of an Annual Financial Return.

The requirement to follow Generally Accepted Accounting Principles and financial reporting standards has been replaced with a requirement to maintain an adequate system of internal financial controls that enable the PTE to compile financial statements that comply with its annual reporting obligations under any relevant legislation.

Programme Approval, Recognition, and Accreditation Rules

The 2025 rules include a definition for the qualification-type descriptions, which are set out in Appendix 2 of the Qualification and Micro-credential Listing and Operational Rules.

Criteria 1 and 2 for programme approval are more clearly linked to the listing details for the qualification. The criterion 5 requires programme regulations to have completion requirements.

A requirement for a self-reflective summary for Te Hono o Te Kahurangi quality assurance has been added.

The English language proficiency outcomes have been extended and updated. The Rules also clarify that institutions can apply higher levels of evidence of English language proficiency and are not required to enrol a student who has the relevant evidence of English language proficiency.

Qualification and Micro-credential Listing and Operational Rules

The 2025 rules include a definition for level descriptors, noting they are published in NZQA's website, and a definition for qualification-type description which are set out in Appendix 2.

A requirement for a self-reflective summary for Te Hono o Te Kahurangi quality assurance has been added.

Level 7 diplomas have been included in rule 14.1 and micro-credentials added to the heading of rule 18. These were previous omissions.

The information that must be contained in the formal document certifying the award of a qualification or micro-credential has been set out, along with a requirement to report the award of a qualification or micro-credential to NZQA or TEC.

Student Fee Protection Rules

The 2025 rules reflect current terminology used by chartered accountants – rather than providing audit opinions they now provide conclusions under assurance arrangements.