What are nationally recognised training and non-nationally recognised training?

What is nationally recognised training?

These are programs of training leading to vocational qualifications and credentials that are recognised across Australia delivered by registered training organisations (RTOs). They include:

- industry training package qualifications and units of competency as listed on the national register, <training.gov.au> (TGA), or
- courses that have been accredited by a vocational education and training (VET) regulator, which includes:
  - Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA)
  - Victorian Registration and Qualifications Authority
  - Western Australia’s Training Accreditation Council.

Accreditation means that the course has been assessed by a VET regulator and is compliant with the Standards for VET accredited courses (which can be downloaded from <http://www.comlaw.gov.au/Series/F2013L00177>) and the Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF). This ensures that courses meet established industry, enterprise, educational, legislative or community needs. It also certifies that the skills and knowledge gained are nationally recognised, regardless of where the training was undertaken, and that they are recognised across businesses and in all states and territories.

Each VET accredited course is allocated a national code and is listed on the national register available at <training.gov.au>.

The National Centre for Vocational Education Research (NCVER) reports nationally recognised training as being a:

- nationally recognised qualification specified in a national training package
- nationally recognised accredited course, other than a qualification specified in a national training package
- nationally recognised skill set, specified in a national training package.

What is non-nationally recognised training?

Non-nationally recognised training is training that does not lead to nationally recognised certification. The training activity must have a specified content or predetermined plan designed to develop employment-related skills and competencies. It does not include apprenticeships and traineeships and other nationally recognised training.

Total VET students and courses includes the following non-nationally recognised training:

- locally recognised courses developed by training organisations and courses developed by industry, enterprise, community education or professional bodies to meet an identified training need
- higher-level qualifications that are not a training package qualification or nationally recognised accredited course. They are accredited by higher education institutions with self-accrediting authority, or state or territory accreditation authorities
- locally recognised skill sets other than those specified in training packages.
TVA FACT SHEET

These are reported by NCVER as:

- locally recognised courses
- higher-level qualifications
- locally recognised skill sets.

There is no national register of non-nationally recognised courses. Consequently, it is possible for the same program identifier to be used for different locally recognised courses and skill sets in different states.

**What are skill sets?**

In 2007, the National Quality Council (NQC) determined that skill sets would complement full qualifications within the Australian Qualifications Framework and be included in training packages. Skill sets are a clustering of one or more competencies below the level of a full qualification which meet an explicit client skills need, such as a licensing or compliance requirement, or specific knowledge in an emerging area. Skill sets relate to job tasks or functions, whereas qualifications specify learning outcomes for a whole occupation. Skill sets are contained in national training packages, or can be developed by training providers at either a national or a local level.

Skill sets identified and developed within training packages are formally recognised on a statement of attainment. Where an RTO packages a group of units into a skill set, a statement of attainment is awarded on successful completion of one or more of those units. RTOs are able to note that the skill set has been delivered for a specific purpose.

While skill sets have been around for many years, activity was not measured until changes were made to incorporate skill sets into the Australian Vocational Education and Training Management Information Statistical Standard (AVETMISS) release 7.0 in 2014.

**Australian Vocational Education and Training Management Information Statistical Standard (AVETMISS)**

Data for the National VET Provider Collection must be compliant with release 7.0 of the AVETMISS Standard. The classification scheme used for the reporting of programs in the National VET Provider Collection is shown in table 1.

**Table 1  AVETMISS classification scheme for Program recognition identifier**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AVETMISS value</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Nationally accredited qualification specified in a national training package</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Nationally recognised accredited course, other than a qualification specified in a national training package</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Nationally recognised skill set, specified in a national training package</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Locally recognised courses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Higher level qualifications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Locally recognised skill set</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>