Question log from SMS vendor webinar 24 August 2016

Non-TGA supplement files

Q: Hi, A versions of NAT 10 and 30 need to be reported by all training organizations? or just non registered. training organizations ?

A: The NAT00010A is file is only reported by non-registered training organisations. The NAT00030A file will be used by:

- all non-registered training organisations
- RTOs who are delivering government-funded locally-recognised programs as well as nationally recognised programs. RTOs need only supply the program identifier, program name, and nominal hours for programs that are nationally recognised (as the remaining information is available from TGA) but must supply all details for locallyrecognised programs.

Q: To clarify, according to the "what's changing" doc, RTOs still need to submit the NAT00010, but non-RTOs need to submit the NAT000101A. Is that correct?

A:That is correct. Only non-registered training organisations need to submit the NAT00010A file.

Q: NAT00030 - Am I correct in saying that if you have to submit the NAT0030A file you don't need to submit the NAT0030 file?

A: Yes, that is right.

Revised NAT00010 and NAT00030 files

Q: NAT00010 - With the removal of the Address and Org Type it status now the field length for the training org name is still 100 which would make the start position 11 and finish length 110 however the documentation the position for contact name starts at 269 which is the old AVETMISS rel 7 start position. Therefore do we start Contact Name at position 111 or do we keep it at 269 and change the field length of Training Organisation name to 258 characters

A: The file lengths are the same for both the versions of the NAT00010 and NAT00030 so if you provide additional data to your state training authority, you start that at position 269.

Validation on Program name

Q: What if the TGA name has ' in liquidation' appended to it?

A:TGA should have removed all those qualifiers from RTO names. Please contact tgaproject@education.gov.au at TGA if you find some are still there.

Delivery mode identifier

Q: Does this Predominant delivery mode means course delivery mode i.e. on campus / online ?

A: Yes, although the field 'Predominant delivery mode' is a state-specific field that is only required by some jurisdictions when they fund training. It is not required as part of the national data collection. The Delivery mode identifier is required for national data reporting and has been changed to a three character composite field, comprising Y or N where each position represents a specific delivery mode.

Q: Is web conferencing 'Internal'?

A:Yes, web conferencing would be considered internal as the trainer and student are interacting in real time.

Q: Can you please help us understand the case where internal external and work place based may be needed to reported? e.g. any scenario

A: There could be situations in which students have undertaken training externally (e.g. a theory component), then may attend internally (e.g. for practical assessment), additionally some training may be undertaken in the workplace. This would be represented as 'YYY'.

Unique Student Identifier (USI)

Q: Does INTOFF means international clients studying in Australia? i.e. based on their origin?

A: No, INTOFF is entered into the USI field only for international offshore students as these students are not required to have a USI.

Q: When will the INTOFF code be available for use?

A:It can be used from 2017 and will become mandatory from 2018.

Deleted fields

Q: What is the motivation behind removing proficiency in spoken English?

A:This field is not required for national reporting and therefore has been removed from the national data standard. RTOs with non-English speaking students can still seek information about their proficiency in English to assist them with their training, however this information does not need to be reported nationally.

Changed data elements

Q: NAT00085 - It states in the document that the Telephone Work, Home and Mobile have been removed and replaced with one number however in the collection spec they are still in the separated fields for the national collection.

A: They have been collapsed into a single data element in the Data element definitions, however, in the Collection specifications, they will identified separately.

Client contact information

Q: How should RTOs determine the phone number to be reported if multiple have been captured

A:There are still separate fields for telephone numbers in the relevant files but now there is a single data element definition for telephone number.

Q: With the new field Email address (Alternative) field, will that field be used by NCVER for the NCVER Student Outcomes Survey to assist with capturing responses from students as well as the Email Address field

A: Yes, that is correct. It will provide another email address for contacting students for the Student Outcomes Survey.

'AVETMISS Release 8.0 for VET Providers: what's Changing ' document

Q: in the doc 'what's changing from release 7.0', do you anticipate any further changes to this version? or can we consider this as the final version?

A:This document outlines the changes for release 8.0. The only changes that will be made to this document will be minor in nature - e.g. further clarification or corrections to errors.

Q: NAT00120 - does the study reason code have any classification values as the new definitions on page 71 has no codes listed?

A:Not all data elements listed in this document are listed in their entirety - particularly those, such as Study reason identifier, where there have only been minor changes to the text.

Changes to state systems

Q: Do you have any commitments from state training services for when they will release their flavours of AVETMISS 8? A: NCVER will follow up with state training authorities and put the findings on the SMS vendor page.

Q: Do we know yet when each STA plans to change their systems to accept or require AVETMISS 8.0 format?

A:Release 8.0 comes into effect from 1 January 2018. All activity from that time onward will need to be in Release 8.0 format. The 2017 annual collection, undertaken in early 2018, will need to be in Release 7.0 formats. SMS vendors will need to support extracts in both versions to allow training organisations to report their 2017 activity in early 2018 as well as government-funded 2018 activity in Release 8.0 format.

Reporting dates and formats

Q: Is the Feb 2017 NCVER reporting (TVA) to be done in 7 or 8 format?

- A: Both the Feb 206 and 2017 reporting must be done in Release 7.0 format.
- Q: Any changes to submission dates for AVETMISS reporting?
- A: No, the 2016 and 2017 annual submissions are still required by end of February of the following year.

Release 8.0 and AVS

Q: Will there be a test portal available for SMS developers testing?

- A: You can register for AVS by choosing the 'self-registration' option and upload your test data.
- Q: When can I test my files in AVS?
- A: Release 8.0 will be made available in AVS in quarter 3 2017.