

Assessor Connect

December 2023

Welcome to our final newsletter for 2023.

This year's moderation cycle is wrapping up with 69 programmes being moderated in 16 different Primary Industry sectors. Our moderation for 2024 will again be focussing on assessors within specific programmes of study. The programme-led approach we have followed this year is important- as well as giving assurance to Standard-Setting Bodies, learners, employers, and other stakeholders that our learners' competency is reliable, our moderation findings also inform assessment changes, programme revision, new qualification design and they also contribute to NZQA reviews.

The Government recently announced a review of the future state of Te Pūkenga. As Te Pūkenga works through the details of the steps required to give effect to the Government's expectations, the Academic Integrity team will continue to operate nationally, as we do at the moment, using the same approaches to moderation.

Unified programme moderation is likely to appear in 2024, and this will be added to our calendar as needed. Across Polytech's and ITO's there are many qualifications that currently have multiple programmes structured and delivered in various ways. Te Pūkenga is working to develop one 'unified' programme for each qualification that will support common delivery - the goal is that learners will be able to transfer seamlessly between Polytech's and ITO's.



THANK YOU!

Finally, on behalf of Trevor, Kathleen, Kelly, Warren, Alastair, John, Wendy & Tulia, thank you for your work assessing the ITO's learners, and for supporting our moderation requests during the year. It's a significant role you play, and we greatly appreciate the care taken. Thank you also for your attendance at our ongoing professional development opportunities.

Have a relaxed and pleasurable Christmas/New Year.

Season Greetings
From the Academic Integrity Team



Primary ITO



Te Pūkenga

The Year in Review

Together we achieved the following in 2023...

Moderation

69 Programmes

350 different Unit Standards.

89% of Assessments Compliant.

Workshops

50+ Professional Development workshops held for Assessors & Verifiers.

Assessor Registration

300+ Assessors registered to assess our learners.

4098 Achievement

164 are enrolled in Training.

700 workplace assessors now hold 4098.

Assessor & Verifier Workshops 2024

Following the great feedback, we received about the value of these interactive workshops, our Assessor Development Specialist Alastair Gordon will be **running a further series of Professional Development Workshops across the country in 2024**. The Workshops provide practical tips and real-world examples that our Assessors and Verifiers can implement in their own assessment and verification practices.

What you said:

"I didn't know about all the resources on the website."

"It was good to know whether what I am doing is correct or on the right track."

"I now know the level of evidence I need."

"I feel more confident about writing Assessor comments that explain why my learner is competent."

The introduction of monthly 30-minute drop-in online sessions have also been very popular with busy Assessors and Verifiers. The aim of these short sessions is to allow Assessors & Verifiers to ask questions about their own specific assessment or verification queries.

Information on the [2024 workshops](#) and drop-in sessions will be available on the website shortly. If you would like individual support, or a workshop arranged for workplace assessors or verifiers in your company contact Alastair at Alastair.gordon@primaryito.ac.nz

Help Us Update Our Records

Please email our Academic Integrity team at academic.integrity@primaryito.ac.nz if:

- Your contact details or employer have changed
- You have recently achieved Unit Standard 4098
- You are no longer assessing or do not wish to remain as an Assessor.

Moderation Update

This year our focus has been on moderating qualifications and the programmes they encompass. **69 programmes** and over **350-unique unit standards** will have been moderated by the end of 2023.

Corrections

2023 has seen prisons open to contractors again, so after a two-year hiatus, a number of onsite moderation clusters were held around the country for Corrections instructors and assessors. Over the past 2 years there has been a decline in the numbers of inmates in training, however this is expected to increase again over the next year or so.

The quality of work that comes from the prisons is very high, and assessors have a high compliance rate. There is a lot of instructor peer-support within the prison training, which gives integrity to the process.

Horticulture

Amenity, Landscape, Arboriculture, Sports Turf and Production Horticulture moderations have been completed and it is great to see a high compliance rate of 95% for learner samples moderated. This gives industry confidence that assessors are making consistent decisions about learner competency and to the National Standard.

Seafood and Cross Sector moderation is currently underway and progressing well with results in the next newsletter.

You can view our 2024 Moderation calendar [Here](#)

If you require support when you have a request from the ITO, please don't hesitate to call us and we will guide you through the process if you are unsure of what is required. For more information view our [Sending Assessments for Moderation video](#).

Programme Evaluations update

Two Programme Review Self-Evaluations recently completed are:

New Zealand Certificate in Artificial Insemination of Livestock (Level 4)

was found to be an effective programme that provides value for both graduates and their employers. Particularly effective was the very hands-on training which provides a logical progression from theory to mentored practice over a season. In 2022 the completion rate for all learners was 73% and was 85% for Māori learners.



The Micro-credential Safe Use of Chainsaws (Level 3) is a very popular programme with applications across a variety of sectors. It has a very high rate of Māori participation and achievement, and all learners in this programme are achieving at or above benchmarks. The short duration and workshop-based training model works well for employers and provides a valuable safety-focused skill set.

Connect with us!

For general inquiries or feedback on our newsletter please contact the Academic Integrity Team.

NZQA Peer Review queries

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