

AQA Strategic Framework 2017 -2022



Purpose

The purpose of AQA¹ is to contribute to the advancement of New Zealand university education by:

- engaging as a leader and advocate in the development of academic quality,
- applying quality assurance and quality enhancement processes that assist universities in improving student engagement, academic experience and learning outcomes, and
- supporting confidence in the academic quality of New Zealand universities.

Goals

AQA will achieve its purpose by focusing on two strategic goals:

G1 Quality Assurance: AQA's audits are robust, independent, fair and perceptive, reflect international best practice, assist universities and their students and give national and international confidence in the academic quality of New Zealand universities.

G2 Quality Enhancement: AQA facilitates and supports an enhancement orientation to quality assurance in New Zealand universities and in its own activities.

Strategies

AQA will deploy leadership, quality assurance, communications, relationships, capability, responsiveness and resourcing strategies to achieve its goals.

S1 Leadership AQA's recommendations for quality assurance and quality enhancement activities are consistent with international best practice and AQA will contribute to the development of international quality assurance theory and practice.

S2 Best practice AQA will continue to conform with INQAAHE's Good Practice Guidelines for external quality assurance agencies (EQAAs).

¹ AQA (2018), Constitution of the Academic Quality Agency for New Zealand Universities, p.1, <http://www.aqa.ac.nz/sites/all/files/AQA%20Constitution%20April%202018.pdf>

S3 Communications	AQA communicates effectively with New Zealand universities, auditors and other stakeholders through regular meetings, holding appropriate workshops and/or meetings and publishing good practice guides and other materials.
S4 Relationships	AQA will develop mutually beneficial relationships with stakeholders and international agencies.
S5 Capability	AQA will recruit, develop and support high calibre auditors to undertake academic audits of New Zealand universities.
S6 Responsiveness	AQA will seek regular feedback on its own activities and respond to that feedback.
S7 Resourcing	AQA will ensure that resourcing is appropriate and used effectively to undertake its strategies and deliver its goals.

Operationalisation and Reporting

These goals and strategies are operationalised through AQA's annual Statement of Performance Expectations. AQA reports publicly on its achievement in annual reports which include Statements of Service Performance.

Review

This strategic framework will be reviewed in 2020.