

Statement of VET Tuition Assurance

(Refer paragraph 3.5.1 of the VET Provider Guidelines)

1. Under the provisions of *Schedule 1A of the Higher Education Support Act 2003 (HESA)* and Chapter 3 of the VET Provider Guidelines Northern Melbourne Institute of TAFE (the First Provider) must comply with the VET Tuition Assurance requirements. This is to protect students in the event that Northern Melbourne Institute of TAFE ceases to provide a VET course of study in which a student is enrolled. The meaning of 'ceasing to provide a VET course of study' is set out at paragraph 3.1.25 of the *VET Provider Guidelines*. A copy of these is available from:

<http://www.deewr.gov.au/Skills/Programs/VetFeeHelp/UsefulPublications/Pages/Home.aspx#vetguide>

2. In the event that Northern Melbourne Institute of TAFE ceases to provide a VET course of study in which a student is enrolled the student is entitled to a choice of:

- a) an offer of a place in a similar VET course of study with a Second Provider without any requirement to pay the Second Provider any VET tuition fee for any replacement VET units (this is known as the "**VET Course Assurance Option**");

OR

- b) a refund of his or her up-front VET payments for any VET unit of study that the student commences but does not complete because Northern Melbourne Institute of TAFE ceases to provide the VET course of study of which the VET unit forms part (this is known as the "**VET Tuition Fee Repayment Option**")

3. Northern Melbourne Institute of TAFE has met the VET tuition assurance requirements as specified in the VET Provider Guidelines through its current membership of the TAFE Directors Australia Tuition Assurance Scheme (Vocational Education and Training). Contact details for TAFE Directors Australia (TDA) are:

*TAFE Directors Australia
Canberra Institute of Technology
GPO Box 826
Canberra ACT 2601*

*Ph: 02 6205 4600
Fax: 02 6205 1288*

4. If Northern Melbourne Institute of TAFE ceases to provide a VET course of study, TDA Tuition Assurance Scheme (Vocational Education and Training) will send a student enrolled in the VET course of study a Written VET Tuition Assurance Offer (the Offer) advising the student of the options available under the VET tuition assurance requirements. The Offer will include directions that the student must follow in order to notify TDA Tuition Assurance Scheme (Vocational Education and Training) of the choice they have made for each affected VET unit. TDA Tuition Assurance Scheme (Vocational Education and Training) will provide this Offer within twenty *Business Days* after it knows, or should know by reasonable enquiries that the Northern Melbourne Institute of TAFE has ceased to provide the VET course of study.

5. For the purposes of VET FEE-HELP, all courses offered by Northern Melbourne Institute of TAFE in accordance with the course requirements of clause 45 of Schedule 1A of the *Higher Education Support Act 2003* are covered by the TDA Tuition Assurance Scheme (Vocational Education and Training) ('the Scheme') as part of Northern Melbourne Institute of TAFE's membership of the Scheme.
6. A student may choose either:

The VET Course Assurance Option:

7. Under the VET course assurance option, a student will be offered a place in a similar VET course of study by TDA Tuition Assurance Scheme (Vocational Education and Training). If the student accepts this option, TDA Tuition Assurance Scheme (Vocational Education and Training) will make all necessary arrangements to ensure a student is able to enrol with the Second Provider in the similar VET course of study. This offered VET course will lead to the same or a comparable qualification without any requirement on the part of the student to pay the Second Provider any VET tuition fee for any replacement VET units (that is, units that the student had commenced but not completed because the VET course ceased to be offered). A student will receive full credit from the Second Provider for any VET units of study successfully completed at Northern Melbourne Institute of TAFE.
8. The Second Provider nominated by TDA Tuition Assurance Scheme (Vocational Education and Training) may have different VET tuition fees to the fees the student would have paid for VET units of study which were part of the VET course of study the Northern Melbourne Institute of TAFE ceased to provide but which the student had not yet started studying.
9. A student is not obliged to enrol in a VET course of study with a Second Provider offered by TDA Tuition Assurance Scheme (Vocational Education and Training) under the VET Course Assurance Option. However, if he/she enrolls with any other VET provider there is no obligation on that VET provider to offer full credit transfer for the VET units of study completed with the Northern Melbourne Institute of TAFE or to offer replacement VET unit/s free of charge.

OR

The VET Tuition Fee Repayment Option

10. Under the VET Tuition Fee Repayment Option, TDA Tuition Assurance Scheme (Vocational Education and Training) undertakes to pay the student the total of any up-front VET payments already paid by the student for any VET units of study the student has commenced but not completed because the VET course ceased to be offered. Students selecting this option will also have their FEE-HELP balance re-credited for the uncompleted VET units.