

Dear Provider,

On 29 November 2020, the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning announced that the *Accreditation of Professional Development Courses Policy* (the Policy) will immediately replace the existing *Endorsement of Professional Development Providers and Courses Policy* (February 2019).

Professional development (PD) courses accredited under the new requirements will need to meet the NSW Education Standards Authority's (NESA's) Principles of Effective Professional Learning and content criteria and will need to relate to an identified priority area.

The initial priority areas for NESA Accredited PD are:

- delivery and assessment of NSW Curriculum/Early Years Learning Framework (as applicable)
- student/child mental health
- students/children with disability; and
- Aboriginal education and supporting Aboriginal students/children.

Following the Minister's announcement, and to support implementation of the new requirements, NESA has consulted with stakeholders on transition arrangements for providers and teachers.

The expertise of previously endorsed providers and quality of their courses will ensure that a considerable number of previously NESA Registered PD courses will meet the new principles and criteria for the priority areas and be successfully accredited when the new process is finalised in early 2021.

In the meantime, the following interim arrangements apply to previously endorsed providers.

Interim accreditation of PD courses

To ensure availability of NESA Accredited PD for teachers while NESA works to finalise the principles, criteria, application and assessment processes, NESA has established a process to enable the interim accreditation of certain PD courses delivered by previously endorsed providers.

As a previously endorsed provider, you are invited to submit an Expression of Interest for interim accreditation of eligible courses for a period of up to 31 July 2021.

The interim process applies to courses that have substantial content relating to the following two priority areas only:

- delivery and assessment of NSW Curriculum/Early Years Learning Framework (as applicable); and
- students/children with disability.

Any courses that substantially relate to the other two priority areas are not eligible for accreditation under the interim process, even if they also include some content that relates to the delivery and assessment of NSW Curriculum/Early Years Learning Framework priority area

or the students/children with disability priority area.

To be eligible for interim accreditation as NESA Accredited PD, a course must meet the eligibility requirements in the Expression of Interest form and must align with the *Interim Principles of Effective Professional Learning*, available on the [NESA website](#).

To be accredited under the interim process, a course must have been delivered as NESA Registered PD at least once since 1 January 2019.

How to request interim accreditation

To request interim accreditation of an eligible course/s, please complete and return the Expression of Interest form published on the [NESA website](#).

Once your Expression of Interest has been reviewed, you will be notified of the outcome by email. If your Expression of Interest is successful, the course/s will have a status of NESA Accredited PD until 31 July 2021.

You may apply for accreditation of courses in priority areas and according to the final principles and criteria once these have been finalised by NESA.

More information

If you have any questions, please contact NESA's Professional Learning team on 9367 8291 or email pd@nesa.nsw.edu.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul Martin', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Paul Martin

Chief Executive Officer

11 / 12 / 2020