

## National VET Data Policy

In 2012, the Council of Australia Governments (COAG) Skills Ministers agreed to the collection and reporting of total Vocational Education and Training (VET) activity data by all Registered Training Organisations (RTOs) from 1 January 2014. This is reflected in the Data Provision Requirements, under the National Vocational Education and Training Regulator Act 2011. The Unique Student Identifier scheme also commenced on 1 January 2015, following the passage of the Student Identifiers Act 2014.

In 2016, COAG Skills Ministers authorised a review of the total VET activity data collection and submission arrangements. This review included broad consultations and these have underpinned some changes to VET data collection and use documents. Following a Review of the National Vocational Education and Training (VET) Provider Collection Data Requirements Policy, which outlines the data collection and submission requirements for total VET activity, Skills Ministers have agreed to a revised National VET Data Policy (the Policy).

The Policy takes effect from 1 January 2018 with a six-month transition period until 1 July 2018. The Policy is in four parts:

- Part A Introduction – outlines why VET data is collected
- Part B National VET Provider Collection Data Requirements Policy – specifies obligations on all Registered Training Organisations (RTOs) to collect and submit comprehensive data on their delivery of Nationally Recognised Training. This includes:
  - The Privacy Notice and Student Declaration
  - The VET Data Use Statement
- Part C VET Data Access and Disclosure – outlines arrangements for disclosing and using the VET Data held by the National Centre for Vocational Education Research (NCVER)
- Part D Administration – deals with administration and definitional content.

### **The Policy:**

- Assists users to more easily understand their responsibilities for collecting, submitting, using and accessing VET data by consolidating content from three previous documents into one Policy
- Increases the efficiency and transparency of Australia's VET sector by minimising exemptions from data collection and submission

- Enables more students to obtain records of all the nationally recognised training they have undertaken since January 2015, regardless of where it occurred, by the wider inclusion of Unique Student Identifiers (USIs) in data submissions and;
- Makes more comprehensive VET data available for consumers and provide them with the information they need to make decisions about RTOs and courses in order to inform their training choices.