



Renewal of course accreditation in teach out mode

Report on renewal of accreditation of one higher education course of study in teach out mode offered by Morling College Ltd

TEQSA has determined, under Section 56 of the TEQSA Act, to renew accreditation of the following higher education course of study in teach out mode offered by Morling College Ltd for a period of 23 months until 31 December 2014:

- ▶ Bachelor of Education (Conversion)

Background to Decision

Morling College Ltd submitted an application for renewal of accreditation of one course of study in teach out mode under Part 4 of the *Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency Act 2011* ('the TEQSA Act'). The purpose of this decision is to facilitate the completion of studies by students enrolled in the courses or the transition of students into other equivalent courses offered by the provider or other higher education providers. This also means that no further enrolments are permitted into this course. Subsection 45(4) of the TEQSA Act requires a registered higher education provider who is not authorised to self-accredit the course of study to apply to TEQSA for accreditation. Subsection 56(4) enables TEQSA to renew accreditation of a course of study for a period not exceeding seven years.

Main Reasons for the Decision

TEQSA has determined that the one higher education course of study submitted by Morling College Ltd for accreditation complies with the Provider Course Accreditation Standards. The course accreditation includes online delivery by the National Institute of Christian Education which is a third party teaching agent of Morling College Ltd.

Purpose of this report

The objects of the TEQSA Act (as listed at Section 3) include to:

- ▶ protect and enhance:
 - ▶ Australia's reputation for quality higher education and training services; and
 - ▶ Australia's international competitiveness in the higher education sector; and
 - ▶ excellence, diversity and innovation in higher education in Australia
- ▶ protect students undertaking, or proposing to undertake, higher education in Australia by requiring the provision of quality higher education
- ▶ ensure students undertaking, or proposing to undertake, higher education, have access to information relating to higher education in Australia.

Reports on TEQSA's determinations contribute to meeting these objects by making its regulatory decisions and actions publicly available. This report provides information about the provider, the renewal of course accreditation process and the main reasons for TEQSA's decision.

Background

TEQSA is Australia's regulatory and quality agency for higher education. TEQSA's primary aim is to ensure that students receive a high quality education at any Australian higher education provider. *The Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency Act* ('the TEQSA Act') provides the legislative basis for TEQSA's powers and functions, which include: (a) registration and renewal of registration of higher education providers; and (b) accreditation of courses of study delivered by registered higher education providers without self-accrediting authority. TEQSA's regulatory decisions are made in accordance with relevant requirements of the:

1. TEQSA Act, available at: <http://www.comlaw.gov.au/Details/C2011C00582>
2. Threshold Standards (as defined by the TEQSA Act), which include the *Provider Registration Standards, the Provider Category Standards, the Provider Course Accreditation Standards, and the Qualification Standards*, available at: <http://www.comlaw.gov.au/Details/F2012L00003/Download>.

Section 13 of the TEQSA Act sets out three basic principles for regulation which TEQSA must comply with when exercising a power under the Act in relation to a regulated entity:

1. regulatory necessity
2. reflecting risk
3. proportionate regulation.

Section 196 of the TEQSA Act provides that TEQSA may disclose to the public higher education information that relates to anything done, or omitted to be done, under the Act. Paragraph 134(1)(e) gives TEQSA the function to "collect, analyse, interpret and disseminate information relating to" higher education providers, awards, quality assurance practice and quality improvement in higher education and the Higher Education Standards Framework."

The main steps in TEQSA's renewal of course accreditation process are summarised at **Attachment 1**.

Attachment 1

Summary of TEQSA's renewal of course accreditation process

