



Renewal of registration

Report on renewal of registration of Murdoch University

TEQSA has determined, under Section 36(1) of the TEQSA Act, that registration of Murdoch University as a higher education provider be renewed for a period of seven years to 18 July 2020 in the provider category of ‘Australian University.’

Background to Decision

Murdoch University submitted an application for renewal of registration in the category of ‘Australian University’ under Section 35 of the Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency Act 2011 (the TEQSA Act). Subsection 36(4) of the TEQSA Act enables TEQSA to renew a provider’s registration for a period not exceeding seven years.

Main Reasons for Decision

As part of the renewal of registration process, Murdoch University has demonstrated that it meets the Threshold Standards for its higher education operations at its Australian sites and in Singapore, Malaysia and Dubai. The renewal of registration covers operations at these locations.

Murdoch University has demonstrated to TEQSA that it continues to meet the Threshold Standards.

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 applicant, the application for renewal of registration 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 registration process are summarised at **Attachment 1**.

Attachment 1

Summary of TEQSA's Renewal of Registration Process





Notification of final decision

- Within 30 days of TEQSA making a decision to grant or reject the renewal of registration application, the provider will be issued with a notice of decision and a final summary of findings, including the period of registration, and any conditions on registration. The provider is given up to 28 days to correct any errors of fact in the final summary of findings. Where an application has been rejected, or where conditions have been imposed on the provider's registration, the notice will be accompanied by a statement of reasons.
- The provider is also given a draft public report about the decision and up to 28 days in which to provide feedback on the draft report. This feedback is taken into account by TEQSA prior to publishing the report.



Public Report and update National Register

- The provider's details will be updated on the National Register of Higher Education Providers in accordance with the National Register Guidelines. Any details about a decision to impose conditions will only be included at the end of the period for applying for review of the decision to impose conditions, or at the end of the review process.
- A public report on TEQSA's decision and the reasons for the decision will be published on the National Register following consideration of any feedback from the provider and, where relevant, at the conclusion of the period for applying for review of the decision.