



VET Student Course Handbook



Purpose of the Course Handbook: This booklet provides you with the information you will need during your time studying at Imagine Education Australia. Please make sure you have ongoing access to this book as you will need to refer to it throughout your course.

It is important to know your rights as a student, and be familiar with the competencies to be attained for each qualification you study.

- A process of RPL (recognition of prior learning) and recognition can be applied to avoid duplication of learning and training.
- Appeals procedures exist for students who might disagree with competencies awarded.
- Extra support can be obtained by contacting your trainer.

To ensure this Handbook meets our systems for quality service, consider providing feedback.

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Entry Requirements for Vocational Education and Training: Entry requirements are in place to make sure that students who gain entry to these courses have the skills and abilities they require in order to successfully complete their studies.

Students need be 15 years old and are required to have reading, writing and comprehension skills equivalent to Year 10 pass level to successfully complete Certificate level courses.

International students whose first language is not English will be tested prior to the commencement of Vocational Education and Training Courses. Imagine Education Australia requires an IELTS 5.5 with no band less than 5, or equivalent (as determined by Imagine Education Australia), or satisfactory completion of 6 weeks of General English at Upper Intermediate level.

Should you feel you may not possess these literacy skills or have completed a formal leaving certificate please contact us to discuss support arrangements.

Enrolment and Admission Procedures: Access to vocational courses is open to all students who have successfully attained the prerequisite English language level as determined by Imagine Education Australia and met any pre-requisites.

Courses will be offered if enrolment numbers are viable and human and physical resources are available.

The following will be provided to students at the beginning of each course: -

- A course outline indicating units of work, units of competency, assessment requirements, materials, and equipment required
- A Student Handbook
- RPL process and Complaints and Appeals processes will be discussed
- The Code of Practice
- Vocational outcomes and opportunities will be discussed
- Credit transfers will be outlined
- Work placement application form issued

A Student File and Profile and Training Plan for the duration of the course of study will be established and maintained.

Program Outcomes and Benefits: Students will be provided with opportunities to achieve the following outcomes:

- Link off job learning at college to on job training in the workplace.
- Establish pathways to qualifications nationally recognised by industry, education and vocational training authorities.
- Students may apply for Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) to determine on an individual basis, the competencies obtained by a person through previous formal or informal training, work and/or life experience.
- Receive a Statement of Attainment or Certificate from Imagine Education Australia listing competencies successfully achieved for each training program studied.
- Receive assistance with English language study.

Imagine Education Australia Code of Practice

Preamble: Imagine Education Australia (National Provider Number 31302) is a Registered Training Organisation (RTO) and discharges its responsibilities for compliance with the Australian Quality Framework and National Standards for Registered Training Organisations. This includes a commitment to recognise the training qualifications issued by other Registered Training Organisations.

Imagine Education Australia is registered with ASQA to deliver a range of Vocational Education and Training Programs.

The mission of the College as a Registered Training Organisation is to deliver quality training in accordance with the National Training Packages. Imagine Education Australia reserves the right to amend the **CODE OF PRACTICE** to suit the needs of the training organisation as required. All amendments will be in accordance with legislation governing RTOs.

Access and Equity: All students will be recruited in an ethical and responsible manner and consistent with the requirements of the National Training Package. Our Access and Equity Policy ensures that student selection decisions comply with equal opportunity legislation. The students' English Proficiency Level will be tested prior to the commencement of Vocational Education and Training courses. Imagine Education Australia requires an IELTS 5.5 with no band less than 5, or equivalent (as determined by Imagine Education Australia). Appropriate, qualified staff will assess the extent to which the applicant is likely to achieve the stated competency standards and outcomes of the course, based on their qualifications and experience.

Administration and Management: Imagine Education Australia has policies and management strategies, which ensure sound financial and administrative practices. Management guarantees the organisation's sound financial position and safeguards trainee fees until used for training/assessment. Fee payment procedures are outlined in the Letter of Offer at the time of application. Records are managed securely and confidentially and are available on request. The College has adequate insurance policies.

Complaints and Appeals: Imagine Education is committed to ensuring that any person wishing to make a complaint concerning its conduct as an RTO, whether a complaint, appeal or other matter, shall have access to the complaint's procedure.

Enrolment Procedure: Prior to enrolment, prospective students will receive a Letter of Offer which contains information on Fees and Charges, Code of Practice, The Course Guide and Student Handbook are available on the Imagine Education Australia website: www.imagineeducation.com.au. These contain information on Entry requirements, the Induction and Orientation Procedure, Refund Policy, payment options and unit details are included in these documents. In order to apply for enrolment students must return the signed Letter of Offer. This process ensures that all fees and charges are known to students before enrolment. Course content and assessment procedures are explained and vocational outcomes are outlined in the Course Handbook and are covered during the Student Orientation procedure in the first session.

External Review: Imagine Education Australia participates in external monitoring and audit. This covers annual AQTF Internal Audits, random quality audits, audit following complaint and audit for the purposes of re-registrations.

Harassment and Discrimination Prevention Policy

Imagine Education Australia (the company) is committed to providing a safe, harmonious workplace free from all forms of harassment and discrimination where all persons are required to treat others with dignity, courtesy and respect.

We believe that all staff and student should be able to work and study in an environment free from discrimination, victimisation, sexual harassment, vilification and the seeking of unnecessary information on which discrimination might be based. We consider these behaviours unacceptable and they will not be tolerated.

What is workplace bullying?

The *Fair Work Amendment Act 2013* defines workplace bullying as repeated unreasonable behaviour by an individual towards a worker which creates a risk to health and safety.

What is harassment?

Under discrimination law, it is unlawful to treat a person less favourably on the basis of particular protected attributes such as a person's sex, race, disability or age. Treating a person less favourably can include harassing or bullying a person. The law also has specific provisions relating to sexual harassment, racial hatred and disability harassment.

What is unlawful discrimination?

Discrimination occurs when a person, or a group of people, is treated less favourably than another person or group because of their background or certain personal characteristics.

Federal discrimination laws protect people from discrimination on the basis of their:

- race, including colour, national or ethnic origin or immigrant status
- sex, pregnancy, marital status or breastfeeding
- age
- disability, or
- sexual orientation, gender identity or intersex status.

If you believe you have been the victim of bullying, harassment or discrimination

All complaints will be investigated using the Complaints policy and procedure.

If you believe you are being harassed or discriminated against, you should take the following steps:

- Don't ignore it.
- Tell the other person that their behaviour is offensive and unacceptable.
- Discuss the situation immediately with your manager or the campus manager. All complaints will be handled confidentially and promptly.

Upon receipt of a complaint about harassment or discrimination the Manager will take immediate steps to ensure that:

- the harassment stops
- there are no reprisals for making the complaint
- where disadvantage has occurred that it is addressed
- awareness of the nature and consequences of harassment are enforced.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact your Campus General Manager

International Students: Imagine Education Australia will be bound to the Education Services for Overseas Students (Registration of Providers Financial Regulations) Act 1991.

Legislative Requirements: Imagine Education Australia will meet all legislative requirements of State and Federal government. In particular, Workplace Health and Safety, Workplace Relations, Anti-Discrimination, Privacy, Equal Opportunity and Vocational Placement standards will be met at all times.

Marketing and Advertising: Imagine Education Australia markets our vocational education and training products with integrity, accuracy and professionalism, avoiding vague and ambiguous statements. In the provision of information, no false or misleading comparisons are drawn with any other training organisation or training product.

Privacy: Imagine Education Australia is bound and committed to The Australian Privacy Principles (APPs) as set out in the [Schedule 1—Australian Privacy Principles](#). We collect and hold personal information from our employees, clients and students. Our main purpose for collecting such information is to facilitate training and assessment, and for the purpose of issuing statements of attainment and qualification as outlined in our scope. As an RTO, we are required to hold student training and employment details. The confidentiality of the information we collect from you is protected under the Privacy Act. Such information will be stored in our electronic system which is protected by security.

Privacy Notice: Under the Data Provision Requirements 2012, Imagine Education Australia is required to collect personal information about you and to disclose that personal information to the National Centre for Vocational Education Research Ltd (NCVER).

Your personal information (including the personal information contained on this enrolment form), may be used or disclosed by Imagine Education Australia for statistical, administrative, regulatory and research purposes. Imagine Education Australia may disclose your personal information for these purposes to:

- Commonwealth and State or Territory government departments and authorised agencies; and NCVER.
- Personal information that has been disclosed to NCVER may be used or disclosed by NCVER for the following purposes:
 - populating authenticated VET transcripts;
 - facilitating statistics and research relating to education, including surveys and data linkage;
 - pre-populating RTO student enrolment forms;
 - understanding how the VET market operates, for policy, workforce planning and consumer information; and
 - administering VET, including program administration, regulation, monitoring and evaluation.

You may receive a student survey which may be administered by a government department or NCVER employee, agent or third-party contractor or other authorised agencies. Please note you may opt out of the survey at the time of being contacted. NCVER will collect, hold, use and disclose your personal information in accordance with the Privacy Act 1988 (Cth), the National VET Data Policy and all NCVER policies and protocols (including those published on NCVER's website at www.ncver.edu.au).

Quality Management Focus: Imagine Education Australia has a commitment to providing a quality service and a focus on continuous improvement. We value feedback from trainees, staff and employers for incorporation into future programmes. Feedback is recorded in our electronic management system.

Recognition: Imagine Education Australia recognises the assessment decisions of, and Statements of Attainment and Qualifications issued by any other RTO. This procedure is detailed in the Staff and Student Handbooks.

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL): Imagine Education Australia has a process and procedure for students wishing to be considered for the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL). The RPL process invites students who consider their level of knowledge and skills to be of the same standard as required in their vocational course, to gain credit if they can produce sufficient evidence. This procedure is detailed in the Staff Handbook and this course Handbook.

Refund Policy: The Imagine Education Australia Refund Policy is detailed in the Terms and Conditions of the Letter of Offer.

Smoking Policy: Imagine Education Australia is a smoke free campus.

Student ID Cards: For identification purposes, all students of Imagine Education Australia will be photographed during their first Orientation Induction lesson. A Student Identification Card will be issued in the first week, and is to be carried at all times.

Student Services: We have sound management practices to ensure effective student service. In particular we have student service standards to ensure timely issue of student assessment results and qualifications. These will be appropriate to competence achieved and issued in accordance with national guidelines. Our quality focus includes a **Recognition of Prior Learning Policy, Recognition, a fair and equitable Refund Policy, a Complaint and Appeal Policy, an Access and Equity Policy and student welfare and guidance services.** Where necessary, arrangements will be made for those students requiring literacy and/or numeracy support programs. We will take every opportunity to ensure that this information is disseminated, understood and valued by personnel and students.

Suitability Card: The Commission for Children and Young People and Child Guardian Act 2000 requires students enrolled in a course of study with a tertiary education provider (e.g. University or registered training provider), seeking to work with children under 18 years of age to obtain a blue card. Students who have to work with children or young people as a part of their studies must be issued with a blue card before they begin their placement. To further our commitment to supporting this all students will be required to hold a blue card prior to entering a child care centre or school for training purposes such as excursions. Students enrolled in Children's Services Courses with Imagine Education Australia are required to apply for the Blue Card on enrolment. According to the Commission for Children and Young People and Child Guardian, students are considered volunteers and applications are processed without charge. The application form is issued on enrolment.

Training and Assessment Standards: Imagine Education Australia has personnel with appropriate qualifications and experience to deliver the training and facilitate the assessment relevant to the training products offered. Assessment will meet the national Assessment Principles (including Recognition for Prior Learning and Credit Transfer). Adequate facilities, equipment and training materials will be utilised to ensure the learning environment is conducive to the success of students. Flexible learning and assessment procedures are in place to address individual student needs. Units of competency can be repeated, re-sat or revisited if unsuccessful at the first attempt.

Sanctions: Imagine Education Australia will honour all guarantees outlined in this Code of Practice. We understand that if we do not meet the obligations of this Code or supporting regulator requirements, we may have our registration as a Registered Training Organisation withdrawn.

Legislation Requirements: Commonwealth, State/Territory Legislation and Regulatory Requirements

Commonwealth:

Disability Discrimination Act 1992

Anti-discrimination provisions are contained in a number of federal Acts, including the:

Racial Discrimination Act 1975;

Sex Discrimination Act 1984;

Disability Discrimination Act 1992;

Australian Human Rights Commission Act 1986

The Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission administers these acts. The importance of preventing discrimination is also stressed in the principal objects of the Fair Work Act 2009 (Cth), which refers to respecting and valuing the diversity of the workforce by helping to prevent and eliminate discrimination on the basis of race, colour, sex, sexual preference, age, disability, marital status, family responsibilities, pregnancy, religion, political opinion, national extraction or social origin.

Privacy Act 2009: **Privacy Act 2009** (Qld) recognises the importance of protecting the personal information of individuals. It contains a set of rules or 'privacy principles' that govern how Queensland Government agencies collect, store, use and disclose personal information.

Queensland:

Commission for Children and Young People and Child Guardian Act 2000 (Qld)

The object of this act is to establish the Commission for Children and Young People and Child Guardian to promote and protect the rights, interests and wellbeing of children in Queensland.

Child Protection Act 1999 (Qld): This act is to be administered under the principle that the welfare and best interests of a child are paramount. These principles include that every child has the right to protection from harm, that families have the primary responsibility for the up-bringing, and protection and development of their children, and that the preferred way of ensuring the wellbeing of a child is through the support of their family.

Food Safety Act 2006: <https://www.health.qld.gov.au/public-health/industry-environment/food-safety/regulation/act-standards>

Food Standards Code and User Guides: The [Food Standards Code](#) - All of the standards and subsequent amendments in the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code (the Code) are available from the website in word or pdf format. Hard copies of the Food Standards Code and User Guides can be purchased from Anstat Pty Ltd, phone 61 3 92781144 or on-line <http://www.saiglobal.com/Information/Legislation/Services/Food/>

Work Health and Safety Act 2011 (Qld): The Work Health and Safety Act 2011 provides a framework to protect the health, safety and welfare of all workers at work. It also protects the health and safety of all other people who might be affected by the work.

Industrial Relations Act 2016 (Qld): Industrial relations is the management of work-related obligations and entitlements between employers and their employees.

Anti-Discrimination Act 1991: The Anti-Discrimination Act 1991 aims to promote equality of opportunity for everyone by protecting them from unfair discrimination in certain areas of activity, including education and training. The services developed by RTOs, including their administrative practices and assessment processes, must take into account the principles established by this legislation.

The Act prohibits discrimination on the basis of the following attributes: sex, relationships status, pregnancy, parental status, breastfeeding, age, race, impairment, religious belief or religious activity, trade union activity, lawful sexual activity, gender identity, sexuality, family responsibilities, association with, or relation to, a person identified on the basis of any of the above attributes.

Workplace Harassment, Victimisation and Bullying (See above)

Health Rights Commission Act 1991

Building Fire and Safety Regulations 1991

Health (Drugs and Poisons) Regulations 1996 (Relevant sections only)

These Queensland Acts are available at: - <https://www.legislation.qld.gov.au/OQPChome.htm>

Standards

The National Quality Standard: The National Quality Standard sets a new national benchmark for the quality of children's education and care services. It will also give services and families a better understanding of a quality service. This enables families to make informed decisions about the services providing education and care to their child. The National Quality Standard is a key aspect of the National Quality Framework.

Educational Access and Equity: Equity means fair treatment of all. In developing work programs from this syllabus, schools are urged to consider the most appropriate means of incorporating the following notions of equity.

Schools need to provide opportunities for all students to demonstrate what they know and what they can do. All students, therefore, should have equitable access to educational programs and human and material resources. Teachers should ensure that the particular needs of the following groups of students are met: female students; male students; Aboriginal students; Torres Strait Islander students; students from non-English-speaking backgrounds; students with disabilities; students with gifts and talents; geographically isolated students; and students from low socioeconomic backgrounds.

The subject matter chosen should include, where appropriate, the contributions and experiences of all groups of people. Learning contexts and community needs and aspirations should also be considered when selecting subject matter. In choosing suitable learning experiences teachers should introduce and reinforce non-racist, non-sexist, culturally sensitive and unprejudiced attitudes and behaviour. Learning experiences should encourage the participation of students with disabilities and accommodate different learning styles.

It is desirable that the resource materials chosen recognise and value the contributions of both females and males to society and include the social experiences of both sexes. Resource materials should also reflect the cultural diversity within the community and draw from the experiences of the range of cultural groups in the community.

Efforts should be made to identify, investigate and remove barriers to equal opportunity to demonstrate achievement. This may involve being proactive in finding out about the best ways to meet the special needs, in terms of learning and assessment, of particular students. The variety of assessment techniques in the work program should allow students of all backgrounds to demonstrate their knowledge and skills in a subject in relation to the criteria and standards stated in this syllabus. The syllabus criteria and standards should be applied in the same way to all students.

trainerExpectations: Imagine Education Australia/The Student: The expectations of the program have been developed specifically for the implementation and conduct of Vocational Education and Training programs offered by Imagine Education Australia. Imagine Education Australia reserves the right to amend the expectations to suit the needs of the educational institution as required.

Imagine Education Australia:

- recognises the importance of students receiving a broad-based education, comprising both general and vocational education and training;
- is registered with the Department of Education and Training to provide the vocational education components of the Training Packages;
- has access to the facilities and resources required for the registered vocational education and training programs;
- has in place an assignment/assessment policy.
- has a process in place that enables students to apply for Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) for the vocational education competencies; and
- has a process for addressing any concerns a student may have and offers the students access to a range of people who can provide him/her with advice and guidance about the vocational education program at Imagine Education Australia, for example Teachers, Director of Studies, CEO Principal.
- The Student Careers and Guidance Counsellor is available and will meet with all students who require this service. A booking form is available at reception. Staff may also direct students.

The Student:

- will make a **serious commitment** to his/her studies at Imagine Education Australia.
- will make every effort to provide **original work**, and will refrain from copying the work of others. Plagiarism can be avoided by using accurate referencing. Plagiarism is using more than 10% of a source.
- will meet the expectations and demands of Imagine Education Australia in terms of participation, co-operation, punctuality, successful submission of work and high standards of behaviour and conduct as outlined in the Imagine Education's **Code of Conduct** in the student Letter of Offer.
- will participate in structured Vocational Placement (workplace learning) as arranged by Imagine Education Australia, and will be responsible for contacting the Vocational Placement Centre (workplace) and the Administration Officer at Imagine Education Australia to give notification of any late or non-attendance as early as possible **before** the beginning of a shift.
- will be dressed in an appropriate manner (no bikini tops or similar apparel or clothing with offensive language written on it).

Clothing Requirements: Students taking part in the following courses are required to wear the following and adhere to the dress codes required in each vocational course and vocational placement:

Automotive	Safety Boots, safety goggles, Imagine Education polo shirt or workwear shirt, and workwear pants
Aged Care	Imagine Education issued polo shirt when on vocational placement
Children's Services	Shirt with collar and sleeves, knee length or long pants, closed in shoes, wide brimmed hat. Refer to your Centre for individual policies and procedures
Hospitality Commercial Cookery	Full chef's uniform with hat and safety shoes

Delivery and Assessment/ Teaching Methodology:

- **Flexible learning and assessment procedures are in place** to address individual student needs.
- Studies completed prior to enrolling in a VET course can be recognised through the RPL process.
- Units of competency can be repeated, re-sat or revisited if not yet competent at the first attempt.
- Students are invited to negotiate with their teacher if they believe certain types of evidence should be collected to validate competency.
- After commencement of a course, it is possible for students entering late, to undertake all units of competency by completing additional studies.
- Competencies can sometimes be assessed in the workplace when on work placement or in a casual job.
- Assessment results may be appealed by following the Appeals procedure.

Teaching Methodology: Teaching will be conducted in two distinct modes: Theory and Practical. However, these modes will be interlaced with some theoretical information delivered during Practical sessions in order to provide students with the required links between the underpinning knowledge and skills required to achieve competency in any particular task. Also, during purely theoretical subjects' activities such as role-plays may be conducted in order that students apply knowledge and practical skills.

This course is based on the practical application of skills and knowledge needed and uses effective training methodology in cases of individual or small group settings.

Whichever delivery mode is used, the emphasis is on practical based applications. With the support of learning materials, the course is delivered through a range of modes, including:

- Face to face facilitation
- Independent learning
- Group based workshops and discussions
- Simulated sessions

Competency-based Assessment: Competency-based assessment is the process of collecting evidence and making judgments about whether or not the student has the knowledge and skills to meet the performance criteria required in the workplace. For example, is the student able to use workplace equipment competently?

With this type of assessment, the student will be given more than one opportunity to gain competency in particular units of competency or learning outcomes. Students will be required to demonstrate their skill at least three times in order to be deemed competent.

Assessment Items: Assessments contain a variety of assessment methods. These may include:

- A) Activities
- B) Research
- C) Questions
- D) Work samples
- E) Case Studies
- F) Practical
- G) Role Play
- H) Projects.

The assessment methods for each unit are outlined on the Training Plan and Training and Assessment Strategy.

Work Placement: Work Placement forms an essential part of competency based assessment and provides the student with practical job skills and work experience.

An individualised Training Plan will be used to track course progress and Work Placement hours.

Before a student starts a work placement, the registered training organisation offering the student's course must ensure that a work placement agreement in the approved form is signed by all parties for insurance purposes. Forms are available from the Trainer.

National Training Packages/Training Package Transition: The Imagine Education delivers quality training in accordance with the National Training Packages. A Training Package is a set of nationally endorsed standards and qualifications used to recognise and assess the skills and knowledge people need to perform effectively in the workplace. Training Packages are a key resource for registered training organisations (RTOs) in the delivery of structured, accredited training.

Training Packages are developed by industry through national industry skills councils (ISCs) or by enterprises to meet the identified training needs of specific industries or industry sectors. Training packages are monitored and reviewed by industry through national industry skills councils to ensure they are current and continue to meet the existing and emerging needs of industry.

Training Package Review: Training packages are reviewed through continuous improvement processes, and must be resubmitted for endorsement every three years to the National Quality Council.

Any transition from one package to another will be facilitated to minimise disruption to students. This transition will not cause severe disruption or disadvantage to the student.

Foundation Skills: The term 'foundation skills' is used to describe the five core skills of the Australian Core Skills Framework (ACSF) plus 'employability Skills' or the Core Skills for Work Framework. The foundation skills have been integrated into **each unit of your study**:

Foundation skills are identified as:

- reading skills
- writing skills
- oral communication
- numeracy skills
- learning skills
- problem-solving skills
- initiative and enterprise skills
- teamwork skills
- planning and organising skills
- self-management skills, and
- technology skills.

Certification: When a student has successfully completed all the requirements of the qualification and they have paid any outstanding fees, they will be entitled to have the relevant certificate stating the completion of the qualification within 12 working days. If the qualification is incomplete, then, only the units of competency or learning outcomes that have been assessed as competent will be recorded. The student will receive a Statement of Attainment which records successful units of competencies or learning outcomes.

Policy on completing students: When students reach their end date they have finished their course. All assessment must be submitted on the due date which is well before the enrolment end date. Students may resubmit any assessment deemed not to be competent after this date, however, assessment which is deemed not competent must be finalised by the assessor within 2 weeks after their end date. Imagine Education will issue a Qualification or Statement of Attainment after this date.

Vocational Course Holiday Leave: Imagine Education vocational courses have been divided into 10 week study periods, and many include holiday breaks. Please see the Course Study Planner for the number of weeks which have been registered for each course and the dates the holidays are timetabled. These holidays have been embedded into your course.

Recognition of Prior Learning Policy and Procedure:

Definition

Recognition of Prior learning (RPL) is another form of assessment of a learner's competence. RPL uses evidence from formal, non-formal and informal learning, rather than from a specific assessment activity of Imagine Education Australia.

RPL means getting recognition for what a candidate knows - no matter where or how the candidate has learnt it - if the candidate's knowledge and skills are of the same standard as required in the vocational course.

RPL will allow a candidate to have their knowledge and skill level formally recognised.

What learning might count towards RPL?

Knowledge and skills learnt in:

- other subjects
- work experience or industry placement
- a part-time job or unpaid work

In what parts of the course does RPL Apply?

RPL can only be granted for the vocational training competencies or learning outcomes in the course you are studying. (These are the job-related knowledge and skill areas of the course.)

Each vocational training program has a number of learning outcomes or units of competency. A candidate can apply for RPL in either an entire training program or in individual learning outcomes.

To apply for RPL:

Applications for RPL must be submitted **prior** to the commencement of training in the applicable course. RPL will **not** be approved once a course has been completed.

There is no fee for submitting an RPL application, however the candidate needs to be enrolled in a program before a full assessment can be made. Candidate may submit documentation which they believe will get them RPL to the trainer, who can indicate that they may get some units as RPL. Then the candidate can decide if they wish to choose to enrol, and the full RPL analysis and process can be undertaken. Once the RPL process is complete, they will pay only 50% of the unit price per unit for any unit for which they have been granted RPL. Any other unit which the candidate is not granted RPL for will be charged at full price. **NOTE** that this does not apply to domestic government funded candidates.

Domestic RPL applications:

Candidates may request to undertake the RPL Process. Upon request, Compliance Officer will issue the candidate with an RPL application form and advise the candidate they have 7 days to return completed application and supporting evidence to Domestic. Domestic will advise the trainer of the candidate's RPL request (via email within 24hrs). The completed RPL application form and supporting evidence will be forwarded to the trainer on receipt by Domestic. The trainer will then assess the application for RPL.

During an arranged interview, the candidate will be provided with the Candidate RPL Kit. The Candidate RPL Kit will be completed and returned to the trainer within 4 weeks. The assessor will then assess the RPL submission. If the assessor does not sight sufficient evidence to grant RPL, the candidate will be interviewed and involved in a competency conversation.

For Domestic candidates undertaking SAS government funded programs:

The following clauses are applicable to RPL for domestic candidates undertaking study under the SAS government funded programs.

The supplier must ensure sufficient evidence is retained to validate the supplier's decision to award RPL. Evidence retained by the supplier must incorporate all of the assessments

undertaken for the RPL process along with any other supporting documentation, such as originals or certified copies of formal / informal course certificates, references or testimonials from employers, volunteer organisations, clubs and associations etc. that contributed to the judgement of the candidate's competence.

RPL must be conducted with the same rigour as any other form of assessment. Where assessment is completed via RPL it must comply with the packaging rules of the relevant qualification; and be conducted in accordance with the Principles of Assessment and Rules of Evidence (refer to Standards for Registered Training Organisations (RTOs) 2015).

The following evidence is acceptable under the SAS contract:

RPL assessment policies and procedures incorporating an outline of how the SAS will come to its decision to recognise the candidate's proficiency against each unit of competency required for the qualification. As a minimum this is to include:

- A document that maps key requirements of the qualification / unit of competency and includes identification of critical aspects of evidence and the required skills and knowledge for units claimed. The document must also list each piece of assessment evidence which was considered in the decision to grant RPL for the candidate and links it to the relevant unit requirements. (Section E of RPL kit – Mapping Guide)
- Documented “Competency Conversation” with the candidate which is signed by the candidate and the RTO assessor. Actual questions and responses must be documented and retained. (Section B of RPL kit – Candidate Competency Conversation)
- Documented “Competency Conversation” between the assessor and at least one recent employer validating the candidate has demonstrated workplace performance against unit requirements, which is further verified by signatures from the employer and the RTO assessor. Actual questions and responses must be documented and retained. (Section D of RPL kit – Employer Competency Conversation). Please note:
 - Questions asked by the assessor as well as the expected responses should be selected from a benchmark document developed by the supplier to ensure consistency and reliability of the assessment process when used across multiple candidates.
 - Verbatim responses are not mandatory, however, assessor notes must accurately reflect the substance of each response regarding the candidate's actual workplace performance related to the knowledge and skills aligned with the unit/s of competency.
- Documented self-appraisal (signed by the candidate) of formal and informal knowledge and skills against tasks relevant to the units making up the qualification (included with application form)
- Record of experience relevant to the intended qualification. Evidence will include, but is not limited to, a resume or consecutive list of recent employment, which includes dates during which employment occurred, a short description of work undertaken and contact details of employer or supervisor
- Where applicable and in accordance with the unit of competency requirements, challenge test/s (including practical observation and/or knowledge tests) addressing the elements and performance criteria of the unit, and the skills required as a minimum in the relevant industry. Whether conducted against an individual unit or cluster, the supplier must retain sufficient direct evidence of the candidate being able to demonstrate the requisite level of practical skills stipulated within each unit (Section C of the RPL kit – Challenge Test)

Where applicable and in accordance with the unit of competency requirements, further evidence to support the decision to grant RPL to the candidate.

The following procedure will apply for RPL applications

1	The trainer will provide the candidate information about RPL. Domestic: Compliance officer provides the candidate a course application form to complete.
2	The trainer will provide the candidate with the relevant learning outcomes or competencies for the training programs as listed in the course handbook. Domestic: If the candidate indicates on the application form that they wish to apply for Recognition of Prior Learning, then the compliance officer provides the candidate with the RPL Application Form to complete, and provides the candidate an overview of information about RPL, the process and the costs involved.
3	The candidate will assess their abilities/competencies, with guidance from the trainer in the learning outcomes or competencies in the training programs.
4	The candidate is to complete an RPL Application Form.
5	The candidate is to gather evidence that supports their application as listed in the RPL application. Domestic: The candidate is advised by the compliance officer that they have 7 days to return completed application and supporting evidence to the DMM.
6	The candidate is to give the completed RPL Application Form and evidence to their trainer. The Trainer will conduct a full RPL assessment through observation on the job and assessing documentation supplied.
7	The candidate will receive notification from the trainer to show either that the candidate has gained RPL for full or partial units of the course.

If the candidate disagrees with the outcome, the candidate may appeal.

The evidence the candidate may gather for their appeal might include:

- products and/or records of their work
- a personal report
- a referee's report

A single piece of evidence may be relevant to one or more of the learning outcomes or competencies.

Supporting Documentation

- RPL Application form - IEA portal and IEA website
- Skills Assure Audit Evidence Requirements - <https://desbt.qld.gov.au/training/providers/sas/audits>
- RPL kits (including RPL Procedure and Assessors Instructions – J/VET (individual qualification folders))

Direct Credit Transfer Policy: Imagine Education Australia will recognise all qualifications issued by any other RTO.

Students can apply for Credit and or Direct Credit Transfer from another RTO by submitting their Statement of Attainment and an Imagine Education Australia Credit Application form.

The Application for Recognition Form is available from our website: www.imagineeducation.com.au

Student Records: During this course of study your teacher will update your results in the record data base and training plan. The Student Practical Record Book is your responsibility. If you undertake Vocational Placement in your industry area you will participate in an induction procedure and interview. Your Student Practical Record Book can be used to document activities in the workplace. During your course you will be asked to evaluate your studies.

On leaving a VET course you will take a copy of your Student Record Book with you and you will be provided with a Statement of Attainment or Certificate for the units of competency you complete. You will also be provided with a summary of your work placement experiences. If you lose or misplace your certificates you can contact the Imagine Education for another copy. A fee will be applicable.

Timetable: The timetable is available on the Imagine Education website. For day classes attendance is taken at **9:30 am**. If you are not in class at these times then you will be marked absent. The **door will be closed at 9:30 am** and you are not able to join the class until the first break period at 10:30 am.

Please note that attendance is expected for all teaching and review weeks. Holidays are the only time that you are not required. Whilst attendance is not compulsory for this course, the Department of Home Affairs (DHA) can ask for a record of your attendance at any stage (international students only).

User choice students: A term timetable will be issued to you advising of designated training sessions. Attendance will be recorded in the training plan.

External Students: There are no requirements for class attendance. Please email your trainer if you require assistance.

Access to Personal Information: Information is recorded during many of the operations associated with the Imagine Education's management system. This information provides evidence of the performance of the activities carried out. This evidence is not only important because it provides an historical record but it may also assist in detecting trends so that preventative action can be taken.

A full list of records is indicated in the Records Database. The fields in the Database illustrate the controls in place. All electronic records are backed up according to the Control Data Procedure.

Access to students' records is limited by password. A student can have access to their records only if they have received written permission from the CEO who will have clarified the identity of the student prior to preparing the written permission. Except as required under the AQTF or legislation, students' records will only be made available to third parties if written permission is obtained from the student.

All confidential information is filed with access limited to the discretion of the CEO. This information may have come from industry committees, other RTOs or organisations acting on Imagine Education's behalf.

Destination Studies: After you leave Imagine Education Australia, you may be contacted and asked to provide information on how your VET studies may have helped you gain work or further study. This information is kept confidential and is used to plan programs for VET students in the future. You are not compelled to provide information, but if you do so, you will be helping us to improve our services for future students.

New Apprenticeships: Imagine Education Australia does have a User Choice Contract and can support the training requirements of School-based Apprenticeships or New Apprenticeships.

Certificate 3 Guarantee: The Certificate 3 Guarantee (funded by DYJESBT) gives eligible Queenslanders access to a government subsidised training place up to and including their first post-school certificate level 3 qualification in priority training areas.

The Certificate 3 Guarantee subsidy for a course is paid to the training provider to reduce the cost of the certificate 3 course to the student. The amount of subsidy provided by the Certificate 3 Guarantee will vary depending on the demand for skilled workers in a particular industry and the needs of the student.

Higher Level Skills: The Higher-Level Skills Program (funded by DYJESBT) gives eligible Queenslanders access to a government subsidised training that will offset the cost of a Certificate IV or Diploma Course in priority training areas.

The Higher-Level Skills subsidy for a course is paid to the training provider to reduce the cost of the Certificate IV or Diploma Course to the student. The amount of subsidy provided by the Higher-Level Skills Subsidy program will vary depending on the demand for skilled workers in a particular industry and the needs of the student.

Government Funded Students Academic Progress Policy and Procedure:

Imagine Education Australia provides the highest quality training for all students.

Domestic students enrolled in a Queensland VET Investment funded or User Choice funded qualification (including School-Based Traineeships (SBT)), will be closely monitored for academic progress to ensure they are getting high quality training and to ensure that they will complete their studies in the designated time period.

All stakeholders in the apprenticeship and traineeship system have a responsibility to ensure the integrity and quality of the system is maintained at the highest level and any dilution of quality standards, whether intentional or unintentional, is addressed immediately.

1.1 Imagine Education Australia will monitor, record and assess the course progress of each funded student for the course in which the student is currently enrolled.

1.2 Imagine Education Australia must assess each student's progress at the end of each compulsory study period. Imagine Education Australia defines a study period as being 5 weeks.

1.3 Unsatisfactory progress is defined as not successfully completing or demonstrating competency in at least 50% of the course requirements in that study period.

Imagine Education Australia will define course requirements for each study period and will identify when a student has not demonstrated competency in 50% or more of the course requirements.

The course requirements for each study period will also be made clear to the student at the start of the course during orientation.

1.4 Imagine Education Australia has an intervention strategy for any student who is not making satisfactory course progress. It is made available to staff and students and specifies:

- i. procedures for contacting and counselling students;
- ii. strategies to assist identified students to achieve satisfactory course progress; and
- iii. the process by which the intervention strategy is activated.

1.5 The intervention strategy includes provisions for:

- i. where appropriate, advising students on the suitability of the course in which they are enrolled;
- ii. assisting students by advising of opportunities for the students to be reassessed for tasks in units to demonstrate the necessary competency in areas in which they had not been previously able to demonstrate competency; and
- iii. advising students that unsatisfactory course progress in two consecutive study periods for a course could lead to the student being reported to DYJESBT.
- iv. General Manager may telephone and/or email the student to alert them to the seriousness of their situation and asking them to attend an interview with GM to discuss how Imagine can assist with their studies
- v. The Trainer/Assessor may telephone and/or email the students Industry Liaison Officer (ILO) and parent/guardian (SBTs only)
- vi. The GM may arrange a meeting with the student, parent/guardian, ILO, DYJESBT and Trainer/Assessor to re-negotiate the training plan (SBTs only)
- vii. The GM may engage DYJESBT to provide monitoring visits at the student's workplace

1.6 At the end of each compulsory study period, students are assessed against the course progress policy. If a student is identified for the first time as not making satisfactory course progress, the intervention strategy as outlined in 1.4 is implemented. The intervention strategy must be activated within the first two weeks of the following study period.

However, if a provider identifies that a student is at risk of making unsatisfactory course progress before the end of the study period, the provider is encouraged to implement its intervention strategy as early as practicable.

1.7 If a student is identified as not making satisfactory course progress in a second consecutive compulsory study period in a course Imagine Education Australia will notify the student of its intention to report the student to the appropriate Australian Apprenticeship Support Network (AASN) for unsatisfactory progress. The provider does this through the written notice described in 1.8. The General Manager may also telephone or email the student advising that their course may be cancelled and asking them to attend an interview with GM to see how Imagine can assist with their studies.

1.8 The written notice (of intention to report the student for unsatisfactory progress) informs the student that he or she is able to access the registered provider's complaints and appeals process under Standard 6, and that the student has 20 working days in which to do so. A student may appeal on the following grounds:

- i. provider's failure to record or calculate a student's marks accurately,
- ii. compassionate or compelling circumstances, or
- iii. provider has not implemented its intervention strategy and other policies according to its documented policies and procedures that have been made available to the student.

1.9 Where the student's appeal is successful, the outcomes may vary according to the findings of the appeals process.

- i. If the appeal shows that there was an error in calculation, and the student actually made satisfactory course progress (successfully completed more than 50% of the course requirements for that study period), the provider does not report the student, and there is no requirement for intervention.
- ii. If the appeals process shows that the student has not made satisfactory progress, but there are compassionate or compelling reasons for the lack of progress, ongoing support must be provided to the student through the provider's intervention strategy, and the provider does not report the student

1.10 Where:

- i. the student has chosen not to access the complaints and appeals processes within the 20 working day period,
- ii. the student withdraws from the process, or
- iii. the process is completed and results in a decision supporting the registered provider (ie. the student's appeal was unsuccessful)

Imagine Education Australia will notify the appropriate Australian Apprenticeship Support Network (AASN) as soon as practicable of the student not achieving satisfactory course progress.

The intervention strategy

- Imagine Education Australia will assist students who are at risk of not making satisfactory course progress in accordance with this intervention strategy. Imagine Education Australia needs to ensure that they follow their intervention strategy as failure to do so may provide a student with grounds for a successful appeal. Failure to implement the intervention strategy may also constitute a breach of the Standards for Registered Training Organisations 2015.
- Imagine Education Australia will make students aware of opportunities and services to assist them if they are identified as at risk of not making satisfactory course progress by providing in writing by email.

Strategies to assist identified students to achieve satisfactory course progress:

Possible intervention strategies include:

- promoting regular attendance at lectures
- Additional access to library resources and lecturer
- the submission of assessment
- Where appropriate, students will be advised on the suitability of the course in which they enrolled.
- Staff will assist students by advising them of opportunities for reassessment of the task in units in which they had not been previously able to demonstrate competency.
- Extension of course duration
- Compassionate or Compelling circumstances.
- advising students that unsatisfactory course progress in two consecutive study periods for a course could lead to the student being reported to DYJESBT
- General Manager may telephone and/or email the student to alert them to the seriousness of their situation and asking them to attend an interview with GM to discuss how Imagine can assist with their studies
- The Trainer/Assessor may telephone and/or email the students Industry Liaison Officer (ILO) and parent/guardian (SBTs only)
- The GM may arrange a meeting with the student, parent/guardian, ILO, DYJESBT and Trainer/Assessor to re-negotiate the training plan (SBTs only)

- The GM may engage DYJESBT to provide monitoring visits at the student's workplace
- Imagine Education Australia will save each written notice to students in their academic file and all necessary parties will be notified (i.e. DYJESBT, ILO, parent/guardian, employer)

The written notice of intention to report a student for unsatisfactory progress

- Imagine Education Australia will provide written notice to report a student for unsatisfactory progress.

Reporting students for unsatisfactory progress

- Reporting a student for unsatisfactory course progress occurs only when the student has been identified as not making satisfactory course progress in two consecutive compulsory study periods, and the student has not made a successful appeal against this assessment.
- Course progress in a non-compulsory study period is to be disregarded when considering whether there has been unsatisfactory progress in two consecutive compulsory study periods.
- If a student is identified for a second, but not consecutive, study period as not making satisfactory course progress, the provider does not report the student for unsatisfactory course progress.
- When a student is reported for unsatisfactory course progress the AASN will consider all the information available prior to a decision being made

Compassionate or compelling circumstances

- Compassionate or compelling circumstances are generally those beyond the control of the student and they have an impact on the student's capacity and/or ability to progress through a course. These could include:
 - serious illness or injury, where a medical certificate states that the student was unable to attend classes
 - bereavement of close family members such as parents or grandparents (where possible a death certificate should be provided)
 - major political upheaval or natural disaster requiring their emergency travel and this has impacted on their studies
 - a traumatic experience which could include but is not limited to:
 1. involvement in or witnessing of an accident or
 2. a crime committed against the student or
 3. the student has been a witness to a crime and this has impacted on the student (these cases should be supported by police or psychologists' reports).

Please note that the above are only some of examples of what may be considered compassionate or compelling circumstances. Imagine Education Australia will use our professional judgment and assess each case on its individual merits. When determining whether compassionate or compelling circumstances exist, Imagine Education Australia will consider documentary evidence provided to support the claim. Imagine Education Australia will keep copies of these documents, together with a record of why the decision was made, in the student's file.

1. Course requirements for each compulsory study period (5 weeks) shall be defined and made clear to the student by the Trainer/Assessor at the start of each compulsory training period, on the individual student Training and Assessment Plan.
2. At the end of the first compulsory study period as outlined on the Training Plan (every 5 weeks) the Trainer/ Assessor will gather data on student's progress for each unit against the expected timetable for the student as outlined on the training plan requirements.
3. If the student is successfully progressing or demonstrating competency in at least 50% of the course, this will be documented for review at the end of the next study period.
If the student is not successfully progressing or demonstrating competency in at least 50% of the course, the Trainer/Assessor will issue a Progress Warning Letter. This is the first stage of the intervention strategy.
4. At the end of the second compulsory period (end of 2nd study period) the Trainer/ Assessor will gather data on student's progress for each unit against the expected timetable for the student as outlined on the training plan requirements.

5. If the student is not successfully progressing or demonstrating competency in at least 50% of the course at the end of the second compulsory study period, the Trainer/Assessor will advise the General Manager.

The General Manager will issue the Notice of Intention to Report for Unsatisfactory Progress Letter (ITC) on behalf of the Chief Executive Officer. The Campus General Manager will email a copy of the ITC letter to the ILO (and CC to the student and parent/guardian), so the ILO can also follow up with the student.

- i. Before the 20-day appeal period has elapsed, the General Manager may telephone or email the student advising that their course may be cancelled and asking them to attend an interview with GM to see how Imagine can assist with their studies.
 - ii. The General Manager may also telephone or email the students' ILO seeking assistance to obtain contact with the student.
6. The student may access the Complaints and Appeals process as detailed in the student handbook within 20 working days.

At Risk of Non-Completion

Failure to hand in assessment by the due date may result in the student being unable to complete the full qualification by the course end date.

Students who have any outstanding assessments on their course Training Plan at the completion of each study period but are not recognised as failing to progress through the Government Funded Students Academic Progress Policy will be issued with a RISK OF NON-COMPLETION letter advising them they are at risk of not completing their enrolled course.

Should a student achieve unsatisfactory course completion, they may be deemed ineligible to progress to the next AQF level, as per the requirements of the Training Package.

Course Progress Policy (Student VISA holders):

During the induction and orientation, students are informed of the student visa condition relating to course progress. They are also informed that Imagine Education uses the DHA (Department of Home Affairs) Course Progress Policy and Procedures for CRICOS Providers of VET Courses. Students are also advised that whilst we do not monitor attendance, Imagine Education still record attendance for VET students and attendance is encouraged for all classes. Students are also advised that DHA may request attendance details at anytime for a student.

1.1 Imagine Education Australia will monitor, record and assess the course progress of each student for the course in which the student is currently enrolled.

1.2 Imagine Education Australia must assess each student's progress at the end of each compulsory study period. Imagine Education Australia defines a study period as being 10 weeks.

1.3 Unsatisfactory progress is defined as not successfully completing or demonstrating competency in at least 50% of the course requirements in that study period.

Imagine Education Australia will define course requirements for each study period and will identify when a student has not demonstrated competency in 50% or more of the course requirements.

The course requirements for each study period will also be made clear to the student at the start of the course during orientation.

1.4 Imagine Education Australia has an intervention strategy for any student who is not making satisfactory course progress. It is made available to staff and students and specifies:

- i. procedures for contacting and counselling students;
- ii. strategies to assist identified students to achieve satisfactory course progress; and
- iii. the process by which the intervention strategy is activated.

1.5 The intervention strategy includes provisions for:

- i. i. where appropriate, advising students on the suitability of the course in which they are enrolled;
- ii. ii. assisting students by advising of opportunities for the students to be reassessed for tasks in units to demonstrate the necessary competency in areas in which they had not been previously able to demonstrate competency; and
- iii. iii. advising students that unsatisfactory course progress in two consecutive study periods for a course could lead to the student being reported to DHA.
- iv. Campus Manager may telephone and/or email the student to alert them to the seriousness of their situation and asking them to attend an interview with Campus to discuss how Imagine can assist with their studies

1.6 At the end of each compulsory study period, students are assessed against the course progress policy. If a student is identified for the first time as not making satisfactory course progress, the intervention strategy as outlined in 1.4 is implemented. The intervention strategy must be activated within the first four weeks of the following study period.

However, if a provider identifies that a student is at risk of making unsatisfactory course progress before the end of the study period, the provider is encouraged to implement its intervention strategy as early as practicable.

1.7 If a student is identified as not making satisfactory course progress in a **second consecutive compulsory** study period in a course Imagine Education Australia will notify the student of its intention to report the student to DHA for unsatisfactory progress. The provider does this through the written notice described in 1.8. The Campus Manager may also telephone or email the student advising that their course may be cancelled and asking them to attend an interview with Campus Manager to see how Imagine can assist with their studies.

1.8 The written notice (of intention to report the student for unsatisfactory progress) informs the student that he or she is able to access the registered provider's complaints and appeals process under Standard 8 and that the student has 20 working days in which to do so. A student may appeal on the following grounds:

- i. provider's failure to record or calculate a student's marks accurately,
- ii. compassionate or compelling circumstances, or
- iii. provider has not implemented its intervention strategy and other policies according to its documented policies and procedures that have been made available to the student.

1.9 Where the student's appeal is successful, the outcomes may vary according to the findings of the appeals process.

- i. If the appeal shows that there was an error in calculation, and the student actually made satisfactory course progress (successfully completed more than 50% of the course requirements for that study period), the provider does not report the student, and there is no requirement for intervention.
- ii. If the appeals process shows that the student has not made satisfactory progress, but there are compassionate or compelling reasons for the lack of progress, ongoing support must be provided to the student through the provider's intervention strategy, and the provider does not report the student

1.10 Where:

- i. the student has chosen not to access the complaints and appeals processes within the 20 working day period, or
- ii. the student withdraws from the process, or
- iii. the student lodges an appeal and is denied in the course of the College's internal appeals process and
- iv. 20 working days has passed and the student has not lodged an external appeal, or
- v. the student lodged an external appeal which resulted in a decision supporting the registered provider (i.e. the student's appeal was unsuccessful)

Imagine Education Australia will notify the Secretary of DHA through PRISMS as soon as practicable of the student not achieving satisfactory course progress.

The intervention strategy

- Imagine Education Australia will assist students who are at risk of not making satisfactory course progress in accordance with this intervention strategy. Imagine Education Australia needs to ensure that they follow their intervention strategy as failure to do so may provide a student with grounds for a successful appeal. Failure to implement the intervention strategy may also constitute a breach of the National Code 2018.

- Imagine Education Australia will make students aware of opportunities and services to assist them if they are identified as at risk of not making satisfactory course progress by providing in writing by email. Imagine Education Australia have a counsellor available by appointment to discuss welfare related issues. Students wishing to see the Student Counsellor can make an appointment at the Student Services Desk.

Strategies to assist identified students to achieve satisfactory course progress:

Possible intervention strategies include:

- promoting regular attendance at lectures
- Additional access to library resources and lecturer through review weeks
- the submission of assessment
- Where appropriate, students will be advised on the suitability of the course in which they enrolled.
- Staff will assist students by advising them of opportunities for reassessment of the task in units in which they had not been previously able to demonstrate competency.
- Extension of course duration as per Imagine Education Australia Intervention Extension Policy.
- Compassionate or Compelling circumstances.
- The Campus Manager (CM) may telephone or email the student advising that their course may be cancelled and asking them to attend an interview with CM to see how Imagine can assist with their studies.
- Imagine Education Australia will save each written notice to students in their academic file.

The written notice of intention to report a student for unsatisfactory progress

- Imagine Education Australia will provide written notice to report a student for unsatisfactory progress.

Reporting students for unsatisfactory progress

- Reporting a student for unsatisfactory course progress occurs only when the student has been identified as not making satisfactory course progress in two consecutive compulsory study periods, and the student has not made a successful appeal against this assessment.
- Course progress in a non-compulsory study period is to be disregarded when considering whether there has been unsatisfactory progress in two consecutive compulsory study periods.
- If a student is identified for a second, but not consecutive, study period as not making satisfactory course progress, the provider does not report the student for unsatisfactory course progress.
- When a student is reported for unsatisfactory course progress DHA will consider all the information available and if they decide to consider cancellation, DHA will send a Notice of Intention to Consider Cancellation (NOICC) prior to a decision being made to cancel the students visa. Students will be given an opportunity to respond to the NOICC and explain their situation.
- Part 3, Division 1, Section 19(2) of the ESOS Act 2000 requires Imagine Education Australia to report the student for unsatisfactory course progress 'as soon as practicable' after the breach occurs. Good practice would be to report the student through PRISMS within 5 days of finalising the decision to report (i.e. within 5 days of 3.9 i., ii., or iii. occurring).

Compassionate or compelling circumstances

- Compassionate or compelling circumstances are generally those beyond the control of the student and they have an impact on the student's capacity and/or ability to progress through a course. These could include:
 - serious illness or injury, where a medical certificate states that the student was unable to attend classes
 - bereavement of close family members such as parents or grandparents (where possible a death certificate should be provided)
 - major political upheaval or natural disaster in the home country requiring their emergency travel and this has impacted on their studies
 - a traumatic experience which could include but is not limited to:
 - involvement in or witnessing of an accident or
 - a crime committed against the student or
 - the student has been a witness to a crime and this has impacted on the student (these cases should be supported by police or psychologists' reports).

Please note that the above are only some of examples of what may be considered compassionate or compelling circumstances. Imagine Education Australia will use our professional judgment and assess each case on its individual merits. When determining whether compassionate or compelling circumstances exist, Imagine Education Australia will consider documentary evidence provided to support the claim. Imagine Education Australia will keep copies of these documents, together with a record of why the decision was made, in the student's file.

Procedure

1. Course requirements for each compulsory study period (10 weeks) shall be defined and made clear to the student by the Trainer/Assessor at the start of each compulsory training period, on the individual student **Training Plan**.
2. At the end of the first compulsory study period as outlined on the Training Plan (every 10 weeks) the Trainer/ Assessor will gather data on student's progress for each unit against the expected timetable for the student as outlined on the training plan requirements.
3. If the student is successfully progressing or demonstrating competency in at least 50% of the course, this will be documented for review at the end of the next study period.
If the student is not successfully progressing or demonstrating competency in at least 50% of the course, the Trainer/Assessor will issue a **Progress Warning Letter**. This is the first stage of the intervention strategy.
4. At the end of the second compulsory period (end of 2nd study period) the Trainer/ Assessor will gather data on student's progress for each unit against the expected timetable for the student as outlined on the training plan requirements.

5. If the student is not successfully progressing or demonstrating competency in at least 50% of the course at the end of the **second compulsory study period**, the Trainer/Assessor will advise the Campus Manager.

The Campus Manager will issue the **Notice of Intention to Report for Unsatisfactory Progress Letter (ITC)** on behalf of the Chief Executive Officer. The Campus Manager will email a copy of the ITC letter to the student (and CC to the agent), so the Agent can also follow up with the student.

- i. Before the 20 day appeal period has elapsed, the Campus Manager may telephone or email the student advising that their course may be cancelled and asking them to attend an interview with Campus Manager to see how Imagine can assist with their studies.
- ii. The Campus Manager may also telephone or email the students' educational agent seeking assistance to obtain contact with the student.

Appeals Process:

An appeal is deemed to be a written correspondence to the Campus Manager stating reasons why the student believes they should not be reported, which may include but are not limited to compelling and compassionate reasons. Any appeal should be accompanied by documentary evidence to support any reason stated in the appeal (for example medical certificates or police reports).

Submission of assessments is not deemed to be an appeal. That is, a student submitting multiple assessments, or enough assessments to get to 50% academic progress prior to the 20 day appeal period, is **not** an appeal. The student must still make a written appeal as above.

If the 20 working days pass and the student has not lodged an appeal, the student will be reported to DET via PRISMS.

If the student lodges an appeal and this is denied in the course of the College's internal appeals process, the student still has the right to appeal to an external appeals body (eg. the International Student Ombudsman). The College will arrange this external appeal for the student at minimal, or no cost.

If the student lodges an external appeal and this is also denied, the College will then report him/her to DET via PRISMS. When a student is reported via PRISMS, a copy of the reporting action will be placed on the student's file and a further copy provided to the student for his/her own records.

At Risk of Non-Completion

Failure to hand in assessment by the due date may result in the student being unable to complete the full qualification by the course end date.

Students who have any outstanding assessments on their course Training Plan at the completion of each study period but are not recognised as failing to progress through the DHA Course Progress Policy will be issued with a RISK OF NON-COMPLETION letter advising them they are at risk of not completing their enrolled course.

Should a student achieve unsatisfactory course completion, they may be deemed ineligible to progress to the next AQF level, as per the requirements of the Training Package.

Course Progress Policy (Non-Student VISA holders):

Imagine Education Australia provides the highest quality training for all students.

Students will be closely monitored for academic progress to ensure they are getting high quality training and to ensure that they will complete their studies in the designated time period.

1.1 Imagine Education Australia will monitor, record and assess the course progress of each funded student for the course in which the student is currently enrolled.

1.2 Imagine Education Australia must assess each student's progress at the end of each compulsory study period. Imagine Education Australia defines a study period as being 10 weeks.

1.3 Unsatisfactory progress is defined as not successfully completing or demonstrating competency in at least 50% of the course requirements in that study period.

Imagine Education Australia will define course requirements for each study period and will identify when a student has not demonstrated competency in 50% or more of the course requirements.

The course requirements for each study period will also be made clear to the student at the start of the course during orientation.

1.4 Imagine Education Australia has an intervention strategy for any student who is not making satisfactory course progress. It is made available to staff and students and specifies:

- iv. procedures for contacting and counselling students;
- v. strategies to assist identified students to achieve satisfactory course progress; and
- vi. the process by which the intervention strategy is activated.

1.5 The intervention strategy includes provisions for:

- v. where appropriate, advising students on the suitability of the course in which they are enrolled;
- vi. assisting students by advising of opportunities for the students to be reassessed for tasks in units to demonstrate the necessary competency in areas in which they had not been previously able to demonstrate competency; and
- vii. Campus General Manager (CGM) will telephone and/or email the student to alert them to the seriousness of their situation and asking them to attend an interview with CGM to discuss how Imagine can assist with their studies
- viii. CGM will email the student's agent
- ix. The Trainer/Assessor may telephone and/or email the students parent/guardian/emergency contact
- x. The CGM may arrange a meeting with the student, parent/guardian/emergency contact and Trainer/Assessor to re-negotiate the training plan

1.6 At the end of each compulsory study period, students are assessed against the course progress policy. If a student is identified for the first time as not making satisfactory course progress, the intervention strategy as outlined in 1.4 is implemented. The intervention strategy must be activated within the first two weeks of the following study period.

However, if a provider identifies that a student is at risk of making unsatisfactory course progress before the end of the study period, the provider is encouraged to implement its intervention strategy as early as practicable.

1.7 If a student is identified as not making satisfactory course progress in a second consecutive compulsory study period in a course Imagine Education Australia will notify the student via email (and cc the Agent) of its intention to cancel their enrolment for unsatisfactory progress and ask them to attend an interview with GM to see how Imagine can assist with their studies. The provider does this through the written notice described in 1.8.

1.8 The written notice (of intention to cancel the student for unsatisfactory progress) informs the student that he or she is able to access the registered provider's complaints and appeals process under Standard 6, and that the student has 20 working days in which to do so. A student may appeal on the following grounds:

- iv. provider's failure to record or calculate a student's marks accurately,
- v. compassionate or compelling circumstances, or
- vi. provider has not implemented its intervention strategy and other policies according to its documented policies and procedures that have been made available to the student.

1.9 Where the student's appeal is successful, the outcomes may vary according to the findings of the appeals process.

- iii. If the appeal shows that there was an error in calculation, and the student actually made satisfactory course progress (successfully completed more than 50% of the course requirements for that study period), the provider does not cancel the student, and there is no requirement for intervention.

- iv. If the appeals process shows that the student has not made satisfactory progress, but there are compassionate or compelling reasons for the lack of progress, ongoing support must be provided to the student through the provider's intervention strategy, and the provider does not cancel the student.

1.10 Where:

- i. the student has chosen not to access the complaints and appeals processes within the 20 working day period, or
- ii. the student withdraws from the process, or
- iii. the student lodges an appeal and is denied in the course of the College's internal appeals process and
- iv. 20 working days has passed and the student has not lodged an external appeal, or
- v. the student lodged an external appeal which resulted in a decision supporting the registered provider (i.e. the student's appeal was unsuccessful)

Imagine Education Australia will close the students file.

The intervention strategy

- Imagine Education Australia will assist students who are at risk of not making satisfactory course progress in accordance with this intervention strategy. Imagine Education Australia needs to ensure that they follow their intervention strategy as failure to do so may provide a student with grounds for a successful appeal. Failure to implement the intervention strategy may also constitute a breach of the Standards for Registered Training Organisations 2015.
- Imagine Education Australia will make students aware of opportunities and services to assist them if they are identified as at risk of not making satisfactory course progress by providing in writing by email.

Strategies to assist identified students to achieve satisfactory course progress:

Possible intervention strategies include:

- Promoting regular attendance at lectures
- Additional access to library resources and lecturer
- the submission of assessment
- Where appropriate, students will be advised on the suitability of the course in which they enrolled.
- Staff will assist students by advising them of opportunities for reassessment of the task in units in which they had not been previously able to demonstrate competency.
- Extension of course duration
- Compassionate or Compelling circumstances.
- Advising students that unsatisfactory course progress in two consecutive study periods for a course could lead to the student's enrolment being cancelled
- CGM may telephone and/or email the student to alert them to the seriousness of their situation and ask them to attend an interview with CGM to discuss how Imagine can assist with their studies
- The Trainer/Assessor may telephone and/or email the students parent/guardian/emergency contact
- The CGM may arrange a meeting with the student, parent/guardian/emergency contact and Trainer/Assessor to re-negotiate the training plan
- Imagine Education Australia will save each written notice to students in their academic file and all necessary parties will be notified (i.e. Agent, parent/guardian/emergency contact)

The written notice of intention to report a student for unsatisfactory progress

- Imagine Education Australia will provide written notice to report a student for unsatisfactory progress.

Cancelling students for unsatisfactory progress

- Cancelling a student for unsatisfactory course progress occurs only when the student has been identified as not making satisfactory course progress in two consecutive compulsory study periods, and the student has not made a successful appeal against this assessment.
- Course progress in a non-compulsory study period is to be disregarded when considering whether there has been unsatisfactory progress in two consecutive compulsory study periods.
- If a student is identified for a second, but not consecutive, study period as not making satisfactory course progress, the provider does not cancel the student for unsatisfactory course progress.

Compassionate or compelling circumstances

- Compassionate or compelling circumstances are generally those beyond the control of the student and they have an impact on the student's capacity and/or ability to progress through a course. These could include:
- serious illness or injury, where a medical certificate states that the student was unable to attend classes
- bereavement of close family members such as parents or grandparents (where possible a death certificate should be provided)
- major political upheaval or natural disaster requiring their emergency travel and this has impacted on their studies
- a traumatic experience which could include but is not limited to:
 1. involvement in or witnessing of an accident or
 2. a crime committed against the student or
 3. the student has been a witness to a crime and this has impacted on the student (these cases should be supported by police or psychologists' reports).

Please note that the above are only some of examples of what may be considered compassionate or compelling circumstances. Imagine Education Australia will use our professional judgment and assess each case on its individual merits. When determining whether compassionate or compelling circumstances exist, Imagine Education Australia will consider documentary evidence provided to support the claim. Imagine Education Australia will keep copies of these documents, together with a record of why the decision was made, in the student's file.

Procedure:

1. Course requirements for each compulsory study period (10 weeks) shall be defined and made clear to the student by the Trainer/Assessor at the start of each compulsory training period, on the individual student Training Plan.
2. At the end of the first compulsory study period as outlined on the Training Plan (every 10 weeks) the Trainer/ Assessor will gather data on student's progress for each unit against the expected timetable for the student as outlined on the training plan requirements.
3. If the student is successfully progressing or demonstrating competency in at least 50% of the course, this will be documented for review at the end of the next study period.
If the student is not successfully progressing or demonstrating competency in at least 50% of the course, the Trainer / Assessor will advise the CGM who will issue a Progress Warning Letter. This is the first stage of the intervention strategy.
4. At the end of the second compulsory period (end of 2nd study period) the Trainer/ Assessor will gather data on student's progress for each unit against the expected timetable for the student as outlined on the training plan requirements.
5. If the student is not successfully progressing or demonstrating competency in at least 50% of the course at the end of the second compulsory study period, the Trainer/Assessor will advise the CGM.

The CGM will issue the Notice of Intention to Cancel for Unsatisfactory Progress Letter (ITC) on behalf of the Chief Executive Officer. The CGM will email a copy of the ITC letter to the student (and CC the Agent), so the Agent can also follow up with the student.

- iii. Before the 20 day appeal period has elapsed, the CGM may telephone or email the student advising that their course may be cancelled and asking them to attend an interview with CGM to see how Imagine can assist with their studies.

- iv. The CGM may also telephone or email the students' Agent seeking assistance to obtain contact with the student.
6. The student may access the Complaints and Appeals process as detailed in the student handbook within 20 working days.

At Risk of Non-Completion

Failure to hand in assessment by the due date may result in the student being unable to complete the full qualification by the course end date.

Students who have any outstanding assessments on their course Training Plan at the completion of each study period but are not recognised as failing to progress through the Course Progress Policy will be issued with a RISK OF NON-COMPLETION letter advising them they are at risk of not completing their enrolled course.

Should a student achieve unsatisfactory course completion, they may be deemed ineligible to progress to the next AQF level, as per the requirements of the Training Package.

Presentation of Assessment Standards:

Written Assessment:

- Written assignments shall be computer generated or type written.
- Students without access to a computer or typewriter must seek permission to present in any other form.
- All assignments shall be written in English.
- Original assessments shall be submitted.
- Email copies or disk copies will be accepted.
- Harvard/Date referencing is preferred.
- Students will make a serious commitment to his/her studies at Imagine Education Australia.
- Students will make every effort to provide original, clearly legible work, and will refrain from copying the work of others. Plagiarism can be avoided by using accurate referencing. Plagiarism is using more than 10% of a source.

Oral Assessment:

- Oral assessments shall be delivered in English
- Students are encouraged to use visual aids.

Personal Presentation:

- Students will meet the expectations and demands of Imagine Education Australia in terms of participation, co-operation, punctuality, dress code, successful submission of work and high standards of behaviour and conduct.
- Students will be dressed in an appropriate manner (no bikini tops or similar apparel or clothing with offensive language written on it.)
- Students wishing to be considered for relief work within the Imagine Education Early Learning Centres must be appropriately dressed as per the centre dress code documented in the Student Volunteer handbook.

Submission of Assessments:

- Assessments must be completed and submitted by their due dates
- Students are required to attach an assessment cover sheet to each assessment.
- You may choose to personally hand assessments in, post them in or email in your assessments.
- It is the student's responsibility to make copies of all assessments as no assessment will be returned to the student.
- Where the making of resources is required for assessment you may take photos of these and submit them rather than the assessment item.

CANVAS courses only: Assessments must be completed by the due date stated. If you require an extension please meet with your trainer to negotiate a suitable arrangement before the due date. Students must complete a request for extension form.

This form should be used to request an extension for your assessments. Extensions will only be granted by your Trainer on the grounds of compassionate or compelling circumstances and must be supported with documentary evidence. Extension requests that are not supported by a compassionate or compelling reason will be sent to the Campus Manager for approval and, if approved, each unit extended will attract an Administration Fee of \$100.00.

Student Assessment Policy:

Assignment Submission: Each assignment must have an Assignment Cover Sheet attached. Any submissions made without an Assignment Cover Sheet will be returned to the student unmarked.

Where a student is not able to submit an assessment to their trainer or assessor, it can be handed in to admissions. A received date must be recorded on the Assignment Cover Sheet. Where a student hands the assessment directly to a teacher the student is to initial the received date.

CANVAS courses only: Each assessment must be submitted via CANVAS. Assessments must NOT be handed to the trainer or assessor. Where a student hands the assessment directly to a trainer or assessor, the student will be directed to submit the assessment through CANVAS.

Student Submission before end date: Students are encouraged to have all assessment work completed and submitted prior to their end date. If an assessment that is submitted before their end date is marked Not Yet Satisfactory the student will have 7 days to re-submit the assessment at no charge.

Student Submission after end date:

1. A student may hand in their final assessment unit to be marked within 7 days after their end date.
2. If a student requires teacher assistance to complete assessments after their end date the student can either re-enrol in the unit or pay for private tuition. See Fee schedule for private tuition costs on the website.

If an assessment that is submitted after their end date is marked Not Yet Satisfactory the student will be required to re-enrol in the unit. Students who do not complete all assessment items including theory, practical, workbooks or logbooks before their end date will need to re-enrol to complete their course, and fees will apply.

Turnover of Marking an Assessment: Once a student's assessment has been received by staff of Imagine Education Australia, the Assessor will have 21 days to give feedback to the student in regards to the assessment.

Marking an Assessment: Under Standards for RTOs, assessment ensures only learners who hold the requisite skills and knowledge are certified as competent. For a student to be assessed as competent, Imagine Education Australia must ensure the student has:

- absorbed the knowledge
- developed the skills
- can combine the knowledge and skills to demonstrate:
- ability to perform relevant tasks in a variety of workplace situations, or accurately simulated workplace situations
- consistency in performance and a consistent ability to demonstrate skills when performing tasks
- understanding of what they are doing, and why, when performing tasks
- ability to integrate performance with understanding, to show they are able to adapt to different contexts and environments.

Imagine Education Australia Assessors will only record a student as being competent once the student has gained a satisfactory result for all assessments for the unit. Any Individual Assessment that does not meet the requirements of the training package will be marked as Not Yet Satisfactory and will be returned to the student for resubmission.

Providing Feedback to the student: Feedback will only be issued to the student using the Imagine Education Australia "Student Feedback Form".

The "Student Feedback Form" will record all of the assessment pieces linked to the unit.

Feedback is to be given for any assignment with an attached Assignment Cover Sheet that is submitted by a student. If a student submits more than one Assignment at a time for a unit, one Student Feedback Form can be returned to the student outlining feedback for each individual assignment.

CANVAS courses only: Feedback for assessments will be issued to the student through CANVAS for each assessment part. As stated above, the student will be given more than one opportunity to gain competency and the student feedback will provide direction on what is required to demonstrate competency if the assessment is deemed NYS.

Students also have the opportunity to provide feedback on the assessment by completing the feedback quiz within each unit.

Providing Feedback to Imagine Education Australia: Every 10 weeks student feedback will be sought as part of Imagine Education's Continuous Improvement Policy. Alternatively, students can provide feedback on their Student Assessment Feedback Form for each unit.

Receiving your Qualification and Statement of Attainment: On successful completion of your course students will receive a Qualification Certificate and Statement of Attainment 12 days after the trainer/assessor has completed all of the relevant documentation for a completing student. These are available for collection at the College unless other arrangements are requested by the student.

Referencing Guide: When you use information in your assignments from other sources (such as text books, journals or internet articles) you need to source where you found the information.

Referencing in the text of your assignment: When you wish to use exact words from a source of information, you must tell the reader where it is from and use quotation marks. For example:

Neuman and Roskos (1993 p 199) state that, "Children's innate interests and need to communicate provide real impetus for language and literacy learning".

If you wish to use information from a source and wish to write it in your own words, you still must source the work in the text of your assignment. However, this time, you don't need to use quotation marks. For example:

Language and literacy learning entail's a lot more than just teaching children the ABC's (Neuman and Roskos 1993).

Note that the page number is only required when you quote text word for word from the text.

Reference list: A reference list is necessary at the end of your assignment and is a list of all the sources of information used to reference your assignment. For example:

Text Books: *Author/s, Date of Publication, Title, Publisher, Place of Publication*

Beare, H, Caldwell, B and Millikan, R (1989) *Creating an Excellent School – Some New Management Techniques*, Routledge, London.

Electronic Sources: *Title, Date, Name and Place, URL*

National Childcare Accreditation Council Inc, 2008, Australian Government Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations <<http://www.ncac.gov.au>>

Bibliography: A bibliography includes all of the sources of referenced material in your assignment, as well as a list of materials which you read to help learn and research your assignment work. It shows your trainer the extent you have gone to research and gain more information in relation to your assignments and tasks. This is written at the very end of your work.

Appendices: An appendix is a document which you may need to attach to your assignment to support your work. For example, if you write about a policy of a service, you may decide to attach a copy for the reader to support your findings. The following is an example:

The staff in the service all read the policy (refer to Appendix 1) at the meeting and shared some possible changes to be made.

A final note on referencing: If you use work from other sources without referencing where you found the source, you are plagiarising. **Plagiarising is very serious** as it is stealing words from another source, and claiming it as your own work. Referencing or sourcing your information is therefore vital! Please ensure you fully source where you found your information.

Plagiarising Policy – Student: If you use work from other sources without referencing where you found the source, you are plagiarising. **Plagiarising is very serious** as it is stealing words from another source, and claiming it as your own work. Referencing or sourcing your information is therefore vital! Please ensure you fully source where you found your information and follow the **'Referencing Guide'**.

Plagiarising can include:

- Copying another student's work
- Copying work from a text or source of information without referencing

At Imagine Education we take plagiarising seriously. If you plagiarise work, or you give your work to a peer to copy you will have been deemed to have failed the assessment and will be required to face an academic panel to determine if your enrolment should be cancelled.

There are two outcomes from the academic panel:

1. The students' enrolment is cancelled
2. The student will re enrol and pay for the required units. The student will be required to complete these units under the supervision of a College trainer.

What You Will Need:

Computer: You will need access to a computer and to the internet to view some of the information. There may also be useful links to websites that may be referred to by your trainer.

Text Books: Please contact the college for a current textbook list for your course.

Reviewed	Annually
Version	1.4 18/09/2023