

# Skills Assure Supplier Variations

## Frequently asked questions

Variation requests undergo an evaluation process that is consistent with the strengthened Skills Assure Supplier (SAS) entry requirements. Only variations that align with the intent of the program will be considered.

The government's aim is to assist working age Queenslanders without a post-school certificate III or higher to obtain a qualification leading to a job or advancement in the workplace. Therefore, only entire qualifications and identified skill sets are subsidised on the relevant price lists.

A list of frequently asked questions has been developed to assist SAS when considering applying for a variation to add a qualification to their SAS agreement.

### What is an Industry Training Group (ITG)?

The industry training groups are a classification system specific to the Queensland Department of Employment, Small Business and Training. Qualifications are assigned to an industry training group depending on the industry that the specific qualification relates to.

### How do I find the ITG for a qualification?

ITGs are listed against each qualification on both [User Choice](#) and [Priority Skills List](#) price lists published on the department's website.

### What kind of evidence do I need to provide to support my variation request?

- When applying to add a new qualification/s to their SAS Agreement, SAS must submit data to the Department's Partner Portal which provides evidence of a minimum of 6 months delivery history of full qualifications (within the last two years) in Queensland with successful outcomes (completions) in the full qualification for a minimum of 10 students. Recognition of Prior Learning or Credit Transfer information is not deemed as evidence of delivery history.
- SAS applying to add a new qualification in a new ITG to their SAS Agreement must also provide letters of support from credible employers confirming employment outcomes of their graduates as a key performance indicator for their SAS agreement. Supporting documents should be uploaded through Purchasing Online (POL) at the time of submitting your variation request.
- For SAS with current compliance issues, the only variation that may be considered is for superseded qualifications. Current compliance issues will be considered at a SAS level, not an agreement level.

### Will my request be considered if I can only provide evidence of delivering partial qualifications?

No.



## **Can I request an exemption to the 6 month delivery requirement?**

No. SAS must have evidence of Partner Portal submitted data with a minimum of 6 months delivery history (within the last two years) in Queensland with successful outcomes in the full qualification for a minimum of 10 students.

SAS that are unable to demonstrate this level of delivery history may be able to seek an exemption for certain qualifications where this may not be achievable (i.e., trade apprenticeships where fee-for-service markets are limited): Skill set/unit of competency delivery history or RPL of full qualifications is not considered evidence of full qualification delivery. Training delivery under the SQW program is also not considered suitable evidence.

## **How long does it take for my variation request to be processed?**

It may take up to 8 weeks to review your variation request and complete the evaluation process once the department has received all required information.

## **More questions?**

Please contact VET Programs & Investment Team on email [purchasingonline@desbt.qld.gov.au](mailto:purchasingonline@desbt.qld.gov.au) if you have any questions regarding SAS variations or require assistance when using POL.