



National Qualifications for Volunteers

Are you currently working toward completing a nationally recognised training qualification with DFES?

If you are currently completing courses which contain nationally recognised units of competency or you are completing an evidence log book to demonstrate competency and want to have these units of competency, or a qualification recognised under the national training framework, ***there are some changes which may affect you.***

DFES needs to know if students are currently working towards or are planning to complete a national training qualification (e.g. Certificate III in Public Safety (SES Rescue) or Certificate III in Public Safety (Firefighting Operations)). This simply means that we require you to **complete a Volunteer Qualification Registration Form**, which lets us know that you are working on your qualification. We will then be able to provide you with updates as required and assist you with your progress. Someone from The Academy will be in contact with you on receipt of your enrolment form and will arrange to discuss a Training Plan with you. It is requested that you submit your registration **by Thursday 31 October 2013**.

Further Information:

The Public Safety Training Package, which contains the SES and Firefighting qualifications, has changed. There is a transition period where students can complete the existing qualification that they are working toward, or they can choose to work toward the new qualification.

If you have been completing a course or courses that include national units of competency for a long period of time, and you are nearing completion of your qualification, we may recommend that you finalise the qualification that you commenced, however, you may choose to upgrade your qualification to the new version. This may involve participating in a Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) process to attain any units of competency that have been revised.

If you have only a few units of competency achieved, we recommend that you transition to the new qualification as it becomes available.

We can assist you in determining the best path by reviewing which units you currently hold and which you still need to complete. We can draw up a Training Plan with you to assist in this process.

After this transition period, DFES will be asking you to advise if you intend to complete nationally recognised training when you enrol in courses, and your enrolment will be captured to ensure that we can monitor your progress. Pathways are currently being developed for volunteers, and will be released in 2014. If you need any further information about Pathways, visit the FAQ page via the [Pathways link](#) on the Volunteer Portal, or speak to your volunteer association.

If you have any further questions about your situation or how this issue affects you, please contact Christine Morgan, Manager Quality Assurance on 9454 0722 or Christine.morgan@dfes.wa.gov.au