



# MEDIA RELEASE

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## NEW HIGHER EDUCATION STANDARDS FRAMEWORK

The Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency (TEQSA) welcomes the news that the updated Threshold Standards have passed through Parliament.

The approval of the *Higher Education Standards Framework (Threshold Standards) 2015* legislative instrument means that TEQSA will ramp up its support for providers during the transition from the current Threshold Standards to the new.

TEQSA Chief Commissioner, Professor Nicholas Saunders said that the new Threshold Standards, commencing 1 January 2017, gave clarity to higher education providers about their responsibilities and guidance to TEQSA for its regulatory processes.

“The Australian higher education sector has been anticipating the release of the new Threshold Standards and TEQSA is pleased that they have been approved”, Professor Saunders said.

“The updated standards have a strong student focus across eight ‘domains’. Work now begins for TEQSA to ensure the sector understands its responsibilities and that as a quality assurance Agency, TEQSA continues to implement the Standards in keeping with our regulatory principles of reflecting risk, regulatory necessity and proportionality”.

During 2016 TEQSA Case Managers will be in contact with providers who have registration or course accreditation applications due in the transitional year to discuss evidence requirements and approaches.

TEQSA will also hold workshops for providers to discuss implementation of the new Standards and will also adapt its sector guidance notes and application forms for registration and course accreditation to suit the updated Standards.

More information about provider workshops and other consultation activities will be released by TEQSA during the year.

The updated Threshold Standards are available for download at <https://www.comlaw.gov.au/Details/F2015L01639>.

*TEQSA is Australia’s independent national higher education quality assurance and regulation Agency.*

*TEQSA aims to ensure students receive a high quality education at any Australian higher education provider.*