

ADVICE TO SCHOOLS REGARDING THE USE OF GENERAL CONSTRUCTION INDUCTION TRAINING CARDS ('WHITE CARDS')

“The nature of workplace learning, with its off-site learning locations and the participation of non-department personnel, poses risks to students that do not apply within the school. The department has a paramount concern for the safety, welfare and well-being of students while enabling this valuable approach to learning to operate effectively.”

Workplace Learning Policy for Secondary Students in Government Schools

ASQA's* investigation into the delivery of online White Card training has resulted in approval of a revised unit of competency published on 9 December 2016. A 12 month transition period allows for the superseded unit of competency to be delivered in 2017 as per the following advice:

- It is the department's expectation that students will use a White Card issued by SafeWork NSW, (formerly WorkCover NSW) when a White Card is required, including for workplace learning. SafeWork NSW mandates face-to-face delivery of the White Card.
- Due to the risks identified by ASQA in their investigation into the online delivery of White Card training, schools **are not to promote** the use of “online White Card courses”.
- A White Card issued by another state or territory may be used by students where a White Card is required for a workplace learning activity so long as the school undertakes additional actions to meet its duty of care obligations. The school must have supporting evidence that the student has the requisite knowledge and skills to work safely and will not pose a risk to themselves or others. Completing the department's construction induction training workbook and having this workbook assessed by a teacher who holds the relevant unit of competency would be considered satisfactory evidence. Obtaining a White Card interstate should be very rare and is not to be encouraged.
- Where a student has a transcript from an RTO indicating that the student has successfully achieved *CPCCOHS1001A Work safely in the construction industry* (the former unit of competency) and wishes to have this unit recognised as part of a qualification delivered by one of the four Public Schools NSW RTOs, this transcript must be recognised throughout 2017 and the competency outcome recorded as 'Credit Transfer'.

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