

Letter Beauty Therapist

Email to Vocationaleducation.reform@education.govt.nz

Re: Feedback on Reform of Vocational Education

Hi,

I am a beauty therapist in a successful clinic. Until recently all graduates in our industry had to get an international qualification. HITO has just recently established apprenticeship training for our industry.

This is a great opportunity for people who are working in our industry to get a New Zealand qualification while they continue to work productively and earn money.

Training that is fully based in the workplace can be tailored specifically to the needs of the clients and the workplace.

The current institutes and polytechnics are not set up to provide training that is fully based in the workplace and I have concerns about how quickly a new institution would get up to speed on this. The new polytechnic may not be able to provide such individualised attention and support in the workplace as apprentices currently get.

I'm also concerned that splitting the role of arranging training and setting qualifications might mean poorer New Zealand qualifications in the future.

Overall, I support some change to the polytechs, but want to ensure that what is not working well is not fixed at the expense of what is working well.

My suggestion - Keep the ITOs working as they are until the new polytechnic has demonstrated its ability to take on apprentices that are working full time.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback.