



# Select Committee on the Early Childhood Education and Care Sector in Victoria

**Hearing Date:** 11 March 2026

**Question[s] taken on notice**

**Directed to:** Victorian Registration and Qualifications Authority

**Received date:** 31 March 2026

## 1. **The CHAIR, p. 67**

### **Question Asked:**

During those meetings – sorry to interrupt – has it come up? We have been reading reports about early childhood educators obtaining fraudulent paid-for qualifications through some RTOs. Is that something that has come up in any of your meetings?

**Bree GAUCI:** I could not recall off the top of my head, but I know that the Commonwealth regulator is very alive to the risk of poor-quality or fraudulent qualifications being issued by RTOs.

**The CHAIR:** Do any of those RTOs reside here in Victoria?

**Bree GAUCI:** I would not be able to say. I cannot recall off the top of my head, because that is a matter for –

**The CHAIR:** Can you take that on notice?

**Bree GAUCI:** We can certainly take that on notice.

### **Response:**

This data is held by Australian Quality Skills Authority (ASQA). VRQA has requested the data and will provide to the Committee once available.

## 2. **Georgie CROZIER, p. 72**

### **Question Asked:**

do we know how many of those fraudulent or poor-quality trainees have been issued, or have you –

**Bree GAUCI:** I can take that on notice and find –

**Georgie CROZIER:** All right. Thank you.

**Stefanie VEAL:** We can take that on notice, but I would say, given the share, if you like, Ms Crozier, of the 14 RTOs that we have – as I explained, all of them are not-for-profit, with the exception of three. They are adult community education providers or they are other types of community providers that are charities and also registered schools – for example, Adass Israel or Foundation Learning, which also has a school. We have not seen the extent of the behaviour of ASQA providers in terms of issuing of fraudulent qualifications, as in the volume and the extent to which that occurs. However, we will take that question on notice and we can provide the committee with some information about that.

**Response:**

This data is held by Australian Quality Skills Authority (ASQA). VRQA has requested the data and will provide to the Committee once available.

**3. Sarah MANSFIELD, p. 73**

**Question Asked:**

Do you have any role in regulating the fees charged by RTOs?

**Stefanie VEAL:** I will have to take that question on notice.

**Response:**

To become registered and stay registered, VRQA RTOs must comply with the *Education and Training Reform Act 2006*, Australian Quality Training Framework (AQTF) Conditions and Standards and the VRQA Guidelines for VET Providers (the VET Guidelines). Both the AQTF and the VET Guidelines include requirements relating to information that must be provided to students about fees and conditions for collecting fees in advance.

Condition 5 – Financial Management under the [AQTF](#) requires an RTO to detail how it will provide fee information to students.

The RTO must identify how it will provide the following fee information to each student:

- The total amount of all fees including course fees, administration fees, materials fees and any other charges.
- Payment terms, including the timing and amount of fees to be paid and any non-refundable deposit/administration fee.
- The nature of the guarantee given by the RTO to complete the training and/or assessment once the student has commenced study in their chosen qualification or course.
- The fees and charges for additional services, including such items as issuance of a replacement qualification testamur and the options available to students who are deemed not yet competent on completion of training and assessment.
- The RTO's refund policy.

Where the RTO intends collecting student fees in advance it must ensure it complies with one of the following options:

- (Option 1) the RTO will be administered by a state, territory or Commonwealth government agency, or
- (Option 2) the RTO will hold current membership of an approved Tuition Assurance Scheme, or
- (Option 3) the RTO will not accept payment of more than \$1000 from each individual student prior to the commencement of the course. Following course commencement, the RTO may require payment of additional fees in advance from the student, but only such that at any given time, the total amount required to be paid which is attributable to tuition or other services yet to be delivered to the student does not exceed \$1,500, or
- (Option 4) the RTO will hold an unconditional financial guarantee from a bank operating in Australia for no less than the full amount of funds held by the RTO which are prepayments from students (or future students) for tuition to be provided by the RTO to those students, or
- (Option 5) the RTO will have alternative fee protection measures of equal rigour approved by the registering body.