

## ACADEMIC RECORDS

Employers should check a graduates academic record for details of the individual components that contribute towards the qualification achieved. The format of these records and the components will vary from institution to institution.

## EMPLOYER FEEDBACK

Employers are selecting polytechnic and institute of technology graduates to help with their business computing requirements. Each company has quite different needs but because of the comprehensive grounding provided in the business computing qualifications, the graduates are able to cope with their employers' diverse requirements.

### FEEDBACK FROM SOME EMPLOYERS IS AS FOLLOWS:

“As an employer of polytechnic graduates, this organisation has been extremely impressed with their technical ability and interpersonal skills. They very quickly came up to speed with our environment and have a very practical approach to the business issues we face. Clearly they were well prepared to become outstanding IT professionals.”

**Russell Bugden**

*Strategic Capability Development Manager  
Infinity Solutions*

“As a major recruiter of IT staff, I have been impressed by the quality of graduates who have come to work at Sealord. Because their education has covered not only technical skills but also communication, problem-solving and business-related topics, they are quickly able to be productive members of my team.”

**Andrew Dean**

*IS Manager  
Sealord Group Ltd*

“Our company has expanded significantly in recent times, and the Institute of Technology graduates we have taken on have had the skills and experience to quickly add value to our clients. We will continue to employ graduates of this calibre.”

**Katherine Corich**

*Managing Director  
SYSDOC Group*



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IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR EMPLOYERS  
NEEDING PEOPLE WITH COMPUTING SKILLS



INTRODUCTION

This booklet contains information for employers about computing and information technology qualifications offered by New Zealand polytechnics and institutes of technology.

These qualifications have been developed and continuously updated for over 15 years by NACCQ and are taught at a variety of government tertiary institutions throughout New Zealand. The qualifications are recognised and approved by the New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA).

Each institute has a local advisory committee to assist in maintaining links with the Information and Communications Technology (ICT) industry and to ensure that programme content remains relevant to the regional work environment.

These applied and practical qualifications are designed with a vocational focus to ensure that graduating students are work ready.

NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON COMPUTING QUALIFICATIONS (NACCQ)

NACCQ is an Association of New Zealand (APNZ) subject forum whose role is to foster computing education in New Zealand and to act as a national advisory body for ICT qualifications. It is made up of industry and provider representatives from throughout the country.

NACCQ developed the Certificate in Business Computing (CBC) programme in 1988 and has continued to develop and maintain ICT programmes for New Zealand polytechnics and institutes of technology.

These qualifications are approved by NZQA and are recognised and valued by employers throughout New Zealand. NACCQ quality assures the modules contained in each of its qualifications through a national moderation process that is designed to ensure national standards of assessment are maintained. A review of the content of the New Zealand Qualifications in Information and Communications Technology publication (www.naccq.ac.nz) is performed at least every two years to ensure programmes remain current.

NACCQ organises and runs a very successful annual ICT conference for academic staff and industry members from throughout New Zealand in July of each year.

For more information about the organisation, or if you would like to become involved with NACCQ, please access the web site (www.naccq.ac.nz) or contact the Executive Officer, NACCQ, PO Box 11-050, Hillcrest, Hamilton or email at Vivienne@naccq.ac.nz

THE QUALIFICATIONS

LOCAL EQUIVALENTS

Many polytechnics and institutes of technology have courses which are local equivalents and/or combinations of the qualifications described below. Please check the details of those qualifications with the institutions concerned.

NATIONAL CERTIFICATE IN COMPUTING LEVEL 2

This certificate gives an introduction to basic computer application packages. Normally, it would lead graduates to further study. The course is usually run full time for around twelve weeks.

NATIONAL CERTIFICATES IN COMPUTING LEVEL 3 AND 4

The certificate at this level provides students a solid introduction to the basic elements of current computer technology. Unless a graduate has other employment skills, it would normally lead on to further study in programmes such as the Diploma in ICT Level 5. The course is usually run full time for around eighteen weeks.

CERTIFICATE IN COMPUTING (CIC)

This certificate provides computer novices with sufficient skills in readiness for employment using computers. It can lead on to further tertiary study programmes such as the Diploma in ICT Level 5. The course is usually run one semester full time, approximately 18 weeks in duration.

DIPLOMA IN INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY LEVEL 5 (Previously known as CBC)

This diploma gives students a solid background in the practical computer skills associated with software, hardware, programming, business, data and personal communication.

Usually DipICT Level 5 is a full time course lasting one year. It can lead on to further study or graduates with other skills can often enter the workplace with this qualification.

DIPLOMA IN INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY LEVEL 6 (previously known as DipBC)

This diploma builds upon the base developed during the DipICT Level 5 year and further extends practical computing skills in a variety of areas selected by individual providers in consultation with their industry advisory committee. Contents may include networking, programming, databases, systems analysis and design, personal communication etc. Many graduates can enter the workplace with this qualification.

NATIONAL DIPLOMA IN BUSINESS COMPUTING

This diploma is the final year of what is usually a three year course beginning with DipICT Level 5. It consolidates all the learning done so far into high level, near degree equivalent study. Apart from a 420 hour personal project, providers can choose to specialise in areas of expertise such as data communication, personnel management, software development, database construction, system analysis and design etc. This course leads to careers in information systems at a variety of levels or a graduate can choose to continue their study at third year degree level.

INDUSTRY FOCUSED COMPUTING DEGREES

A variety of undergraduate degrees in computing, information technology and information systems are available at polytechnics and institutes of technology in New Zealand. Usually, the degrees require a minimum of three years full time study and are applied, practical qualifications.

