Policy

Higher Education Progression, Exclusion and Graduation Policy

Approved by: Executive Director, Course Development and Quality

Approval date: 16 March 2026

Effective date: 26 March 2026

Next review due: 26 March 2029

Acknowledgement of Country

In the spirit of reconciliation, TAFE NSW acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the Traditional Custodians of Country throughout Australia and their connections to land, sea, and community. We pay our respect to Elders past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples today.

Section 1. Purpose

1.1 This policy prescribes the rules for student progression, exclusion due to unsatisfactory progress, course completion requirements, graduation eligibility, conferral of awards and certification documentation.

1.2 TAFE NSW Higher Education students must meet minimum academic standards for progression, course completion and eligibility to graduate.

Section 2. Scope

2.1 This policy applies to all students enrolled in TAFE NSW Higher Education programs and all TAFE NSW Higher Education academic staff.

Section 3. Policy requirements

3.1 TAFE NSW Higher Education students:

a. will be monitored to ensure satisfactory academic progress;
b. will be supported if identified as at academic risk;
c. may be excluded if they fail to maintain minimum academic standards; and
d. will be eligible to graduate upon satisfactory completion of course requirements.

3.2 This policy will be reviewed every three years to ensure it remains fit for purpose and satisfies legislative and compliance obligations.

3.3 This policy does not replace or modify any other responsibilities which may arise under other higher education provider policies or under statute or any other law.

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Section 4. Responsibilities

Position	Responsibility
Dean of Higher Education	The Dean of Higher Education has overall responsibility for the effective administration and implementation of this policy.
Course Coordinators	Course Coordinators have local responsibility for the effective administration and implementation of this policy.

Section 5. Governance information

Governance	Details
Legislation, regulations, and standards	This policy is governed by the Higher Education Standards Framework 2021 (Threshold Standards).
Related procedures	This policy governs the following procedures: • Higher Education Progression and Exclusion Procedure • Higher Education Degree Conferral and Graduation Procedure
Related policies	This policy is to be read together with: • Assessment Policy • Customer Complaints and Feedback Policy • Higher Education Tuition Fees, Payments, HELP, Refunds and Review Policy
Accountable Officer	Executive Director, Course Development and Quality
Responsible Officer	Senior Manager Higher Education
Content Manager number	PROJ26/32
Next review date	26 March 2029

Section 6. Definitions

Word	Definition

Policy

Section 7. Document history

No.	Effective	Approved by	Amendment
1	28 September 2010	TAFE NSW Higher Education Governing Council	Initial approval of policy statement.
2	5 November 2020	Head of Higher Education Standards	Policy statement updated into new Written Directions format. Minor content changes to reflect current versions of related procedures.
3	7 December 2023	Chief Product & Quality Officer	Reviewed and updated policy.
4	26 March 2026	Executive Director, Course Development and Quality	Policy review- alignment with revised TAFE operating model and conversion to latest policy template.