

Extract from the Higher Education Qualifications Framework

Work Integrated Learning [p. 9]

Some qualifications will be designed to incorporate periods of required work that integrate with classroom study. Where Work Integrated Learning (WIL) is a structured part of a qualification the volume of learning allocated to WIL should be appropriate to the purpose of the qualification and to the cognitive demands of the learning outcome and assessment criteria contained in the appropriate level descriptors.

It is the responsibility of institutions, which offer programmes requiring WIL credits to place students into WIL programmes. Such programmes must be appropriately structured, properly supervised and assessed.

Purpose and characteristics [of the Higher Certificate, p. 19, emphasis added]

This is an entry-level higher education qualification. The qualification is primarily vocational, or industry oriented. The qualification also serves to provide students with the basic introductory knowledge, cognitive and conceptual tools and practical techniques for further higher education studies in their chosen field of study. The knowledge emphasises general principles and application. This qualification signifies that the student has attained a basic level of higher education knowledge and competence in a particular field or occupation and is capable of applying such knowledge and competence in an occupation or role in the workplace. The Higher Certificate **typically includes a simulated work experience or work integrated learning (WIL) component.**

Purpose and characteristics [of the Advanced Certificate, p. 20, emphasis added]

This qualification is primarily vocational, or industry oriented. The knowledge emphasises general principles and application or technology transfer. The qualification provides students with a sound knowledge base in a particular field or discipline and the ability to apply their knowledge and skills to particular career or professional contexts, while equipping them to undertake more specialised and intensive learning. Programmes leading to this qualification tend to have a strong vocational, professional or career focus and holders of this qualification are normally prepared to enter a specific niche in the labour market. Advanced Certificate programmes **typically include a simulated work experience or work integrated learning (WIL) component.**

Purpose and characteristics [of the Diploma, p. 21, emphasis added]

This qualification is primarily professional, vocational or industry specific. The knowledge emphasises general principles and application. The purpose of the Diploma is to develop graduates who can demonstrate focused knowledge and skills in a particular field. Typically they will have gained experience in applying such knowledge and skills in a workplace context. A depth and specialisation of knowledge, together with practical skills and experience in the workplace, enable successful students to enter a number of career paths and to apply their learning to particular employment contexts from the outset. Vocational diploma programmes **typically include a simulated work experience or work integrated learning (WIL) component.**