



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

QILT backgrounder

What is the Quality Indicators for Learning and Teaching (QILT) initiative?

As part of the 2014-15 Budget, the Australian Government announced the Upholding Quality – Quality Indicators for Learning and Teaching (QILT) measure. This \$13.6 million investment over four years aims to improve quality and transparency in higher education by providing people with high quality, timely data. QILT is a robust suite of independently managed surveys that measure:

- overall satisfaction of current students
- overall satisfaction of recent graduates
- rates of students moving into full-time employment after graduation and
- the median salary received by recent graduates.

What are the features of the QILT website?

A major part of the initiative is the QILT website (www.QILT.edu.au), which enables people to compare and shortlist higher education institutions and study areas. The website is easy to use and is available on both desktops and mobile devices. With a few simple clicks, people can search for study areas and institutions of interest to them, and do side by side comparisons.

Where does the survey information come from that is published on the website?

There are three surveys:

- The Graduate Destination Survey refers to results from graduates surveyed in 2011, 2012 and 2013.
- The Course Experience Questionnaire refers to results from graduates surveyed in 2012 and 2013.
- The University Experience Survey refers to results from students surveyed in 2013 and 2014.

These results are updated annually and are across various years to improve the reliability of the information.

Who participates in the surveys?

Undergraduate students (both domestic and international) participate in the University Experience Survey and the Course Experience Questionnaire. Domestic students contribute to the Graduate Destination Survey.

What information is included in the surveys?

The QILT website makes it possible to compare a range of information, based on questions about the overall experience at university, the frequency of face-to-face discussions, access to computers, libraries and teaching facilities and the development of communication, problem solving and work ready skills. There is also information about how successful previous graduates have been at finding work and their salaries.

Does the website use recent data?

The QILT website already includes the results of thousands of surveys from past and present students, with more surveys being completed each year. The site will build in richness year by year as more and more results are added.

When will the website begin to provide information on non-university higher education institutions?

Some non-university higher education institutions are participating in surveys in 2015 on a trial basis. Once survey results for these institutions are robust and valid, they will be included on the website.

Why can't I find the university in my state?

Universities are currently listed by main campus location. In future releases of the website this may be expanded to list universities by all campus locations.

Does QILT provide access to the individual university websites?

Users can access each university website by clicking on the university logo found on QILT, to gain further information about their university of choice.

How will international students know that QILT exists?

The government has a "Study in Australia" website that is widely used by international students. A link to the QILT website will be published on this site. International students will be able to view results from thousands of surveys completed by students, including international students, across Australia.

Does the QILT website rank institutions?

No. The website allows end users to compare up to six institutions at a time across a range of performance indicators.

What involvement have universities had in the development of QILT?

Universities and non-university higher education institutions have been involved in the QILT initiative including the pilot. The sector believes the independence of the surveys used to provide the data and rigour of the data handling are very important to providing robust and reliable information to students. This will also reduce the reporting burden for institutions.

Who developed the QILT website?

The QILT website and initiative is administered by the Social Research Centre, which was contracted by the Australian Government Department of Education and Training.

The QILT Working Group has had an important role in overseeing QILT. The working group comprises representation from university executive staff, planning and management officials in universities, non-university higher education institutions, and business. It is chaired by Professor Ian O'Connor, Vice-Chancellor and President of Griffith University.

www.QILT.edu.au