



**AUSTRALIAN DENTAL COUNCIL
REPORT OF AN EVALUATION OF
TAFE QUEENSLAND BRISBANE
BACHELOR OF DENTAL PROSTHETICS**

May 2015

SUMMARY REPORT

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Program provider	TAFE Queensland Brisbane
Program/qualification name	Bachelor of Dental Prosthetics
Program/qualification abbreviation	BDP
Program/qualification code	HED004
Head office address, including State	66 Ernest Street, South Brisbane QLD 4101
Campus	66 Ernest Street, South Brisbane QLD 4101
Program length	3 years
Registration division	Dental Prosthetist
Registration specialty	NA
Qualification type	HE
Australian Qualifications Framework Level	Level 7
Accreditation standards version	Version 1.2 December 2012
Date of site evaluation	N/A Paper based review only
Date of ADC decision	15 May 2015
Type of accreditation	Initial Accreditation
Accreditation start date	15 May 2015
Accreditation end date	31 December 2018

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Background

In December 2013, TAFE Queensland Brisbane (TQB) (formerly Southbank Institute of TAFE (SBIT)) advised the Australian Dental Council (ADC) of its intent to offer a newly developed Bachelor of Dental Prosthetics (BDP) program from 2015. This is the first bachelor level prosthetics program to seek accreditation from the ADC and only the second prosthetics program in the higher education sector. The program is also required to be accredited by the Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency (TEQSA) as TQB is not a self accrediting education provider.

Graduates of the three year, full time program will be eligible to apply to the Dental Board of Australia (DBA) to register as dental prosthetists.

TQB also offers the Advanced Diploma of Dental Prosthetics (ADDP) which was initially accredited by the ADC in 2013.

Overview of the Evaluation

The ADC visited TQB in 2013 as part of the initial accreditation of the ADDP program. During this visit the ADC reviewed the facilities, met with key staff and also observed ADDP students in clinic with patients and determined that the facilities were adequate for training dental prosthetists. As there is a significant overlap between the programs the ADC determined that a paper based review of the BDP program would be appropriate.

The Site Evaluation Team (SET) reviewed TQB's 42 page self-review against the Standards, attached appendices and additional information requested following the SET's teleconference of 13 June 2014. The SET also reviewed the 2013 accreditation report for the ADDP program and TEQSA's external examiner reports.

The SET interviewed a range of stakeholders via teleconference on 19 August 2014, including:

- Director, Industry Training Group
- Teachers and clinical demonstrators for the ADDP
- The Academic Dean

The initial draft report prepared by the SET highlighted some areas of concern regarding compliance with the Standards. Subsequent to the receipt of the report by the ADC/DC(NZ) Accreditation Committee in October 2014 a delegation from the Committee requested

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a meeting with senior staff at TQB to discuss those concerns. Subsequent to that meeting TQB formally requested that the program be withdrawn from the accreditation process in order for it to address the issues. A submission of further information was received from TQB in March 2015. A teleconference of the SET was held in April 2015 to review the further information and this report has been prepared based on that, and previous, submissions.

Key Findings

TAFE Queensland Brisbane has undertaken considerable work in late 2014 and early 2015 to put in place key elements of the program.

A course Co-ordinator and two academic staff have been recruited to develop the program and a clear timetable for that has been set out. A mapping of assessments against the ADC's Professional Attributes and Competencies for the newly qualified dental prosthetist has also been undertaken and assessment plans for clinical units developed.

Admissions, articulation and credit requirements have been finalised and the curriculum appears appropriate.

TQB has demonstrated an ongoing commitment to the development of the program with the setting aside of specific funding for course development until the end of 2017.

ADC Accreditation Decision

The ADC has determined that TAFE Queensland Brisbane's Bachelor of Dental Prosthetics program is accredited from 15 May 2015 until 31 December 2018, subject to the satisfactory completion of a monitoring visit to be undertaken no later than 30 June 2017.

The monitoring visit will review the development and roll out of the program and, in particular, focus on the program's compliance with the following Standards:

- 6 – Staff and staff development – in particular that the program retains an appropriate staff profile to deliver the program and that staff workload remains manageable
- 8 – The curriculum – in particular that appropriate material has been developed for the later years of the program

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12 – Student assessment and examination – in particular that assessment remains appropriate across all years of the program