

POLICY S9.2

GRADUATION AND AWARD CERTIFICATION

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Context

The Australasian College of Health and Wellness (ACHW) is a nationally accredited higher education provider and training institute offering qualifications ranging from Undergraduate Certificates to Bachelor degrees. ACHW issues graduates with appropriate qualifications and certification as required by the Higher Education Support Act 2003, the Australian Qualifications Framework, and the Higher Education Standards Framework 2021, and maintains processes to authenticate Award Certification and protect against fraud.

1.2 Purpose

This policy defines the principles and rules for the issuance of qualifications and certification such as Testamurs and the Academic Transcript as required under legislation.

1.3 Scope

This policy applies to all students, graduands, graduates, and staff of ACHW and Third-Party Partners (TTP).

1.4 Scope Exceptions

None.

2.0 RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Students, staff, graduands, and graduates of ACHW and TPP are responsible to comply with this policy.
2. The Registrar is responsible to maintain a Qualifications Register and a Statements Register.
3. The Registrar is responsible to ensure student result records are kept for thirty (30) years after the student ceases to be a student of ACHW or TPP.
4. ACHW staff and students are responsible for actioning and complying with the processes attributed to them in the Graduation and Award Certification Procedure.

3.0 POLICY

3.1 Principles

1. Through its national registration as a Higher Education Provider under the Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency Act 2011, ACHW is authorised to confer academic Award Certification to students who have attained the standards required for the Award as approved by ACHW Academic Board.
2. ACHW manages its Award Certification in accordance with the Australian Qualifications Framework, the Higher Education Support Act 2003 and the Higher Education Standards Framework 2021, specifically standard 1.5 Qualifications and Certificates and standard 6.2 Corporate Monitoring and Accountability.
3. Verification that a student has completed all the academic requirements of the Award is thoroughly conducted before a recommendation is made that the student be conferred with Award Certification.
4. A student who is enrolled in an accredited course of study and has successfully completed all the required units is entitled to receive the following Award Certification upon completion:
 - a Testamur; and
 - Academic Transcript
5. Students who have an outstanding financial debt to ACHW are not permitted to graduate until such debts have been paid.
6. A student who has successfully completed one or more subjects within an accredited course of study but does not meet the requirements of the full qualification is entitled to an Interim Academic Transcript.
7. Award Certification may be issued:
 - in person; or
 - by mail; or
 - by personal proxy with written permission from the student and the proxy's ID displayed upon collection.
8. Posthumous Award Certification may be conferred as follows:
 - to a graduand who has completed an Award but has died before conferral of the Award; or
 - to a student who, at the time of death, was enrolled in units which, if completed, would have fulfilled the requirements of the Award.

9. ACHW may revoke or require Award Certification to be returned in the following circumstances:
 - fraud or dishonesty (i.e., where it becomes evident that the Award Certification was inappropriately obtained); or
 - the Award Certification has been issued with error; or
 - the Award Certification has been presented for a nested qualification (e.g., a Graduate Certificate) prior to the granting of the higher qualification (e.g., a Graduate Diploma).
10. Graduates may request re-issuance of their Award Certification as outlined in the Graduation and Award Certification Procedure.
11. The course /qualification title on conferred Award Certification cannot be changed unless an administrative error has been made by ACHW.
12. Student result records are kept for 30 years after the student ceases to be a student.

3.2 Testamurs

1. To confirm authenticity and protect against fraud, the following is required in all issued Testamurs:
 - the legal name of the provider: The Australasian College of Health and Wellness Pty Ltd
 - ACHW's trading name: The Australasian College of Health and Wellness
 - ACHW's ABN: 16 139 036 721
 - ACHW's address and contact details including website.
 - the graduate's full name in the order of first name/s followed by the surname.
 - the qualification's title
 - date of issue
 - the ACHW logo (as corporate identifier)
 - the name and signature of the CEO
 - the Australian Qualifications Framework logo

3.3 Academic Transcript

1. To confirm authenticity and protect against fraud the following is required in all issued Academic Transcripts:
 - the legal name of the provider: The Australasian College of Health and Wellness Pty Ltd
 - ACHW's trading name: The Australasian College of Health and Wellness
 - ACHW's ABN: 16 139 036 721
 - ACHW's address
 - the student's full name in the order of first name/s followed the surname.
 - date of issue
 - the ACHW logo (as corporate identifier)
 - the name and signature of the CEO
 - a list of units undertaken including the unit code, the full name of the subject and official end date of the unit

3.4 Qualifications Register and Statements Register

1. In keeping with the principles of best practice and the requirements of the [AQF Qualifications Register Policy](#), the Registrar maintains a:
 - register of all qualifications the ACHW is authorised to issue; and a
 - register of all qualifications issued to graduates.
2. The Qualifications Register will include the following:
 - the name of the qualification
 - the student's full name
 - date of issue
 - the certificate or statement number
3. The Qualifications Register will be kept and maintained by the Registrar.
4. Similarly, the Registrar keeps a Statements Register of all statements issued (Interim Academic Transcript).

4.0 DEFINITIONS

- **Award Certification**- The certification that formalises an Award (qualification) conferred upon a student following the successful completion of an academic course. The student receives the Testamur and the Academic Transcript as Award Certification.
- **Conferral** - is the date on which an Award Certification is granted. This date appears on the student’s official parchment.
- **Conferred ‘in absentia’** - where Award Certification is conferred on a graduand at a graduation ceremony they do not attend.
- **Graduand** - a student who has qualified for an Award but who has not yet had the Award conferred.
- **Graduate** - a student who has had Award Certification conferred.
- **Academic Transcript** - a record of the grades the student achieved for the units within a course. Part of the Award Certification.
- **Testamur** - part of the Award Certification.

5.0 REFERENCES AND ASSOCIATED INFORMATION

- [AQF Qualifications Register Policy](#)
- Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF)
- Graduation and Award Certification Procedure
- Higher Education Standards Framework 2021
- Higher Education Support Act 2003
- Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency Act 2011

6.0 POLICY OWNERSHIP

Policy Owner	Registrar
Status	Reviewed on July 2021
Approval Authority	ACHW Corporate Board
Date of Approval	27 July 2021
Effective Date	18 August 2021
Implementation Owner	Registrar
Maintenance Owner	Senior Policy and Compliance Officer
Review Due	August 2024
Content Enquiries	Sertan Can - Registrar Email: scan@achw.edu.au

7.0 AMENDMENTS

Version	Amendment Approval (Date)	Amendment Made By (Position)	Amendment Details
S9.0	10 July 2017	Head of Compliance / Director ACHW	Initial document review after purchase of MHMHE
S9.1	10 March 2020	Academic Board	General review
S9.2	27 July 2021	Registrar	New template. Title changed. Policy and procedure separated. Posthumous Awards added. Definitions and References added.