STUDENT HANDBOOK

2020
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Please note: All information is correct at time of publishing. For the most up to date information go to northmetrotafe.wa.edu.au

* As part of our Disability Access and Inclusion Plan, this document is available in alternative formats upon request, including electronic format (USB, CD, emailed) hardcopy (standard and large print) audio format and on the North Metropolitan TAFE website.
Welcome to North Metropolitan TAFE

We hope you have a great learning experience with us.

We operate under the Australian Standards for Registered Training Organisations 2015 which means:

- We aim to be responsive to industry and learner needs.
- Our courses meet the requirements of Training Packages and Accredited Courses.
- Our operations are quality assured and we gather and monitor information about our performance (including feedback via complaints).
- We issue Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) certification.
- We offer accurate and accessible information about our courses and services to prospective and current students and clients.
- We want each and every student to be properly informed.
- We aim to deal with complaints fairly, efficiently and effectively.

Student Handbook 2020
While you are at North Metropolitan TAFE

North Metropolitan TAFE By-Laws and Student Code of Conduct

As a student at North Metropolitan TAFE (NMTAFE) you must follow NMTAFE’s By-laws and Student Code of Conduct. NMTAFE By-laws are available on our website at northmetrotafe.wa.edu.au/publications

Student Code of Conduct is available on our website at northmetrotafe.wa.edu.au/policies

The Student Code of Conduct outlines the standard of academic integrity and personal behaviour expected of all NMTAFE students. In general it is expected that as an NMTAFE student you will:

- Treat staff and fellow students courteously and with consideration at all times
- Be responsible for your study program
- Maintain a reasonable standard of grooming, including appropriate standards of hygiene and clothing
- Take reasonable care of NMTAFE property, equipment, and facilities

Behaviour contrary to the student code of conduct often also constitutes a breach of our By-laws. There are a number of sanctions (penalties) that can be imposed on people who breach the By-laws including fines, suspension, expulsion, exclusions and withholding results.

If you are unsure about what is the right thing to do in any circumstance, you are encouraged to ask advice from our staff.

Safety, health and security

The safety and health of our staff and students is important to North Metropolitan TAFE (NMTAFE). Students share a responsibility for the safety and health of themselves and others which is known as your ‘duty of care’.

This ‘duty of care’ requires that you:

- Make yourself aware of and comply with the relevant NMTAFE policies, procedures and instructions
- Take reasonable care of yourself and others in the learning environment by being aware of the effects of your actions
- Cooperate with NMTAFE staff so they are able to carry out their duties under the Occupational Health and Safety Act
- Report all known or observed hazards, incidents and injuries to an NMTAFE staff member or Security

Evacuations

All campuses have emergency procedures for managing situations that may require evacuation of a building, including evacuation alarm systems and fire suppression sprinkler systems. You should learn the evacuation procedure for your campus. Evacuation plans, assembly areas and instructions on evacuation routes are located on floor plans located near each class. If in doubt ask your lecturer.

Upon hearing the evacuation alarm, all students must stop what they are doing and follow the instructions given by the wardens, or any staff member who may be directing the response to an alarm.

If the alert siren sounds:

- Go to the nearest fire exit as directed. DO NOT RUN
- Only take your personal belongings
- Do not use lifts or telephones
- Advise a warden, staff member or lecturer of any injured persons as soon as possible
Any person with a mobility disability (e.g. person in a wheelchair) in a multi-story building should remain in a designated stair well (which are fire safe) with a volunteer helper, if possible. Emergency services personnel, or a trained staff member using an evacuation chair, will transport a person with a mobility disability from the building. Students should not attempt to bring wheelchairs downstairs or attempt to use the evacuation chairs unless trained.

When you get outside, go to the nominated assembly area and remain in class groups so the Lecturer can check the roll and account for all students.

Do not remove or use vehicles on campus grounds during evacuations until an all clear is given.

First aid
North Metropolitan TAFE (NMTAFE) maintains a network of staff who are registered and trained first aiders (all security guards have been trained in first aid). If you are in need of first aid, please speak to your lecturer, a staff member, or security and a first aider will be contacted.

Ambulance and insurance cover
In the event of a student requiring emergency medical treatment, NMTAFE has a duty of care to call an ambulance. As NMTAFE do not cover the cost of the ambulance or medical expenses, it is strongly recommended that all students obtain personal insurance and ambulance cover. Students are not covered for Personal Accident whilst on campus.

For more information about safety, Health and security while on campus or on formal college-organised work experience please refer to our website northmetrotafe.wa.edu.au/policies

Tertiary SmartRider
Full-time students are entitled to travel concessions on Transperth services. Application forms for the Tertiary SmartRider are available from Student Services. You will need to be enrolled and attending class as a full time student and a member of staff will need to sign and stamp the application form. Please note, SmartRider applications must be completed each semester as required by Transperth.

Student ID cards
Student ID cards are available at a cost of $10 from:
- Campus Libraries;
- Northbridge campus Bookshop

Student ID cards are optional however, they are required for accessing the scanning, photocopying and printing facilities and also borrowing items from the library. Student ID cards are also the easiest way to prove you are an enrolled student. In addition, ID cards must be presented with your SmartRider on Transperth services to prove you are entitled to travel concession.

Student parking
Student parking is only available at Balga, Clarkson, Kendrew, McLarty and Midland campuses.

Students will need to display a valid parking sticker on their vehicle or risk receiving an infringement. You can obtain a parking sticker by registering online through the student portal and then collecting and paying your permit fee at Student Services.

Please note, a parking permit sticker is issued on receipt of the prescribed fee. Prescribed fees are per sticker rather than per person and the fee is not refundable. For a student permit to be valid, there must be a matching online parking application for that student.

ACROD parking bays are available at every campus. Please ensure you are familiar with the parking policy for your campus which can be found on the website northmetrotafe.wa.edu.au/campuses
Fees, refunds and withdrawals

Fees and payment
Students must arrange payment of fees before course commencement to be considered enrolled.

Fees can be paid:
- In full by cash, EFTPOS and credit cards at Balga, Kendrew, Midland and Northbridge campuses
- In full by EFTPOS and credit cards at East Perth, Clarkson, McLarty, Leederville and Mt Lawley campuses
- By payment plan in fortnightly instalments – Direct Debit ONLY
- By VET Student Loan for approved Diploma and Advanced Diploma Courses
- By completion of an Invoice Authority Form if being paid by a Third Party or Employer

Please note if you have a debt from a previous semester you will not be able to enrol. Please contact Student Services to arrange payment of all outstanding fees.

Fees may include:
- Course fees – set by the State Government and are calculated on the category of enrolment
- Resource fees – covers materials purchased by North Metropolitan TAFE which will be consumed or transformed by students in the course instruction

An indicative list of course fees can be found on the website at northmetrotafe.wa.edu.au/indicative-fees

Please note in addition to fees students may need to purchase textbooks, uniforms and other course specific material. Information regarding additional fees is provided by the learning area at Orientation.

More information about fees and payment options can be found on the website at northmetrotafe.wa.edu.au/fees or by contacting Student Services on 1300 300 822.

Concession rates
Students may be entitled to concession rates if enrolled in a concession eligible course and hold, or are a dependent of a person who holds, any of the following:
- Current Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card;
- Current recipient of AUSTUDY, ABSTUDY or Youth Allowance;
- Current Repatriation Health Benefits Cards issued by the Department of Veteran’s Affairs; or
- Eligible secondary school aged person

Please note your concession card start date must be on or before the start date of the course.

You should apply for a concession card as early as possible. Please check The Department of Human Services Website for details regarding eligibility and applications humanservices.gov.au/customer/themes/students-and-trainees

Withdrawals
Students who decide to stop studying or to not commence their course must formally withdraw in writing.

This can be done by completing the Student Withdrawal form at Student Services or on our website at northmetrotafe.wa.edu.au/withdrawals

It is not sufficient to verbally inform someone at the College of your intention to withdraw. Students who do not formally withdraw in writing will owe the total fees for the units enrolled.

Refund policy
Please note: This policy does not apply to international students, commercial students or fee for service courses. International students must contact their International Advisor for assistance.
The categories below summarise the circumstances in which a refund or fee waiver will be granted. A full copy of North Metropolitan TAFE’s refund policy is available on the website at northmetrotafe.wa.edu.au/policies or by contacting Student Services on 1300 300 822.

1. **Full refund of fees**
A full refund of course and resource fees paid will be granted in the event of the following:
- A qualification or unit is cancelled or re-scheduled to a time unsuitable to the student; or
- A student is not given a place due to maximum number of places being reached.

2. **Partial refund of fees on withdrawal before the census date**
Students who formally withdraw from the unit on or before the census date (completion of 20% of the unit) will be eligible for a full refund of the unit course fee, and:
- full refund of the resource fee if the course is a Diploma or Advanced Diploma; or
- 50% of the resource fee if the course is a Certificate course

3. **Students transferring course enrolments**
If a student transfers from one course to another course within North Metropolitan TAFE within the first four weeks of semester, fees paid to date will be transferred to the new course. Fees will not be transferred to courses that commence in a different semester.

4. **Financial hardship/exceptional circumstances**
The Director Client Services may approve a fee waiver if students satisfy the criteria for severe financial hardship or exceptional circumstances for eligible courses. An exceptional circumstance is when one of the following events occur, which compromises the student’s ability to meet their essential living needs or those of their dependents:
- Student or family member has a sudden or unexpected health issue or disability;
- Death of a significant wage earner in the family;
- Relationship breakdown or domestic violence; or Natural Disaster.
Documentary evidence is required in all cases. Please speak with Student Services staff for further information.

5. **Personal circumstances beyond control**
The Director Client Services may approve a pro rata refund if students withdraw after the census date for reasons of personal circumstances that are beyond the control of students. For example, serious illness resulting in extended absence from classes and injury or disability that prevents the student from completing their program of study.
Documentary evidence is required in all cases. Please speak with Student Services staff for further information.

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**Your studies**

**Online systems**
During your studies you will be required to use a variety of online systems to access your coursework, timetables, results and information. Many courses require the submission of coursework through the online systems so a basic level of computer literacy is assumed. If you require support to access any of the online systems please refer to the information on our website, talk with your lecturer or campus Library staff.

**Student Email system – Office 365**
Before you can login to our online systems you will first need to login to your Office 365. Office 365 gives you the ability to download Microsoft Office programs including Word, Excel and PowerPoint. Students will also have access to 1TB of OneDrive data storage via their Office 365 subscription.

Course correspondence is generally communicated via your student email account and therefore you are expected to monitor your student email regularly.

If you are unable to access your Office 365 please contact your campus Library for assistance.

**Student Portal – Ci Anywhere**
Connects you to your information at NMTAFE such as:
- Contact details
- Enrolment details
- Financial summary
- Course progress and results
- Blackboard

**Blackboard**
Online learning portal which may form part of your course delivery.

More information about our online systems can be found on our website [northmetrotafe.wa.edu.au/currentstudents](http://northmetrotafe.wa.edu.au/currentstudents)

**Timetables**
Your timetable can be viewed in your Office 365 calendar, which will be populated once you are enrolled and registered into classes.

*Please note accessing your timetable through Office 365 may not be possible until up to 48 hours after your class registration/enrolment due to your account activation. If, 48 hours after you have been enrolled and registered into classes, you are still unable to access your timetable please contact Student Services for assistance.*
Information Technology (IT) services

Students are provided with the following IT services for learning and research purposes:

- Computer software and equipment
- Wireless network services
- Internet
- Email

Students are responsible for exercising good judgement regarding appropriate use of information, electronic devices and network resources in accordance with the NMTAFE policies (Information Services Acceptable Use Student Policy) and standards and local laws and regulations.

To ensure students are meeting their obligations, NMTAFE may:

- Monitor student accounts for illegal, inappropriate, restricted or objectionable material (while retaining and respecting student privacy)
- Terminate a student’s account and/or notify the authorities if a students use of the IT service break the law or has not complied with our policies

Detailed information about NMTAFE policies and disciplinary procedures for non-compliance can be found on our website northmetrotafe.wa.edu.au/policies

Library services

Enrolled students are eligible to borrow from any of our six campus libraries or utilise our online collection of database and streaming services.

Libraries are located at six of our campuses:

- Balga [9207 4218]
- Joondalup [9233 1005]
- Leederville [9202 4739]
- Midland [9374 6274]
- Mt Lawley [9427 3723]
- Northbridge [9427 1450]

Library staff can assist students with a range of services which may include:

- Systems access – computers, student email, student portal, Blackboard and campus wifi
- Accessing course resources (e.g. books, online resources)
- Research skills (e.g. search strategies, evaluation information)
- Writing skills (e.g. Essay writing, Report writing, paraphrasing)
- Referencing skills (to ensure you are not plagiarising)
- Study skills (e.g. reading effectively, time management, note taking, presentations)

For more information about the Library or their support services please contact us on library@nmtafe.wa.edu.au or refer to our website guides.dtwd.wa.gov.au/nmtafe-library
Plagiarism & copyright
Plagiarism refers to using another person's ideas, writing or inventions as your own and failing to acknowledge the source. All sources of information used in your assignments must be referenced correctly.

Copyright refers to only copying materials in accordance with the Copyright Act 1968 and complying with licences for the use of intellectual property, including software.

To ensure you are doing the right thing check the Library guides on:
- Plagiarism guides.dtwd.wa.gov.au/nmtafe-assignments/plagiarism
- Copyright guides.dtwd.wa.gov.au/nmtafe-assignments/copyright
- Referencing guides.dtwd.wa.gov.au/nmtafe-apa

Request for your Award Certificate/Diploma
Once you've successfully completed your studies, you are entitled to receive your Award Certificate/Diploma.

You will need to request your Award Certificate/Diploma by completing the online form on our website northmetrotafe.wa.edu.au/application-award

Once your results have been finalised your documents will be posted to your nominated address.

Please note we will not be able to issue any documents if you haven't provided your USI, a postal address or paid your fees.

If you are an apprentice or trainee you do not need to request your award. Upon successful completion of your off-the-job training the Apprenticeship Management Team (AMT) will contact your employer to see if early completion of your training contract is preferred. If so the AMT will generate the Training Contract Completion Agreement (TCCA) and send this out for sign-off by you and your employer. Once all parties have agreed that your contract is complete, you will receive your Trade Certification from the Apprenticeship Office and NMTAFE will issue your qualification.

For further information about applying for your Award Certificate / Diploma or to update your details please contact Student Services on 1300 300 822.

Student results
Students must access their results via the Student Portal. Results will not be given over the phone. If you require an official copy of your results before completing your course, you can request a copy via our website northmetrotafe.wa.edu.au/application-award

Please note: Students who enrol in assessable units or examinable subjects and do not complete assessment requirements will receive a RE-ENROL result.

Application for skills recognition
Throughout your life you will have gained skills and knowledge and these will have been obtained through formal training (such as attending a TAFE or university), non-formal training (for example, via a professional development program conducted by your work) or informal learning (such as on-the-job).

Skills recognition is a formal process whereby we assess your knowledge and skills to determine if we can grant advanced standing for any of the units of competency you are enrolling into or are currently enrolled in and these are recognised via:
- Credit Transfer
- Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) – fees apply
- Recognition of Current Competency (RCC) – fees apply

Details regarding each of these skills recognition options, including how to apply, are available on our website northmetrotafe.wa.edu.au/skills-recognition

Complaints and feedback
Student satisfaction is extremely important to us. Your feedback provides us with valuable information about your needs and expectations, and helps us to target areas for improvement.

If you are unhappy with any aspect of the college's operations, services or facilities, speak to any of our staff. They will listen to you and try to resolve your issues immediately. At any stage, you are welcome to lodge a complaint by writing a letter or completing a feedback form. Feedback forms are available throughout the college or from our website northmetrotafe.wa.edu.au/feedback

Letters and feedback forms may be submitted directly to our staff or mailed, postage paid, to:
Reply paid
North Metropolitan TAFE,
Locked Bag 6, Northbridge WA 6865

You can expect an acknowledgement within two (2) working days from receipt of your complaint. Our target is to resolve all complaints within ten (10) working days. However, if the matter needs more investigation it may take longer. We will keep you informed of the progress of your complaint during this time.

All complaints will be treated confidentially and equitably.

Similarly, we would like to hear about particularly good experiences you may have at NMTAFE. Compliments may be lodged in the same way, in writing or online via the website.

Should you still not be satisfied, the Ombudsman WA is the appropriate party independent of NMTAFE who can review the process when a complaint is not resolved to the satisfaction of the person making the complaint.

Appeals
Students may appeal if they believe that an assessment decision or process was unfair or incorrect. Academic Appeals must be lodged within 20 working days of receiving your result. For more information see our website northmetrotafe.wa.edu.au/policies
Support services

Apprenticeship Management Team (AMT)
AMT provides specialised assistance to Apprentices, Trainees and their Employers. We can provide assistance with matters relating to commencements, training plans, apprentice travel, training contract extensions, variations, suspensions, terminations and completions.

For more information about AMT please contact us on 9233 1049 or amt@nmtafe.wa.edu.au or refer to our website northmetrotafe.wa.edu.au/apprenticeships

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders assistance
Koolark – Centre for Aboriginal students
Koolark means Home in the Noongar language. At Koolark we provide support for all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.

Support officers and Mentors may assist you with:
- Advice on courses and scholarships
- Mentoring and advocacy
- Tutoring support
- Pathway opportunities
- Referrals to external support agencies
- Study facilities and study groups
- Access to indigenous specific educational programs

For more information about Koolark please contact us on 9428 0340 or Koolark@nmtafe.wa.edu.au or refer to our website northmetrotafe.wa.edu.au/koolark

Disability Support
Support services for students with a diagnosed Disability, Mental Health Condition or Medical Condition to enable access and participation at North Metropolitan TAFE (NMTAFE).

Support depends on the individual needs of the student and how their disability may be impacting on their ability to access and participate at NMTAFE. Support services may include:
- Alternative formats for learning materials
- Adaptive technologies, software and specialised equipment
- Assessment alternatives and adjustments
- Study assistance, mentoring and advocacy
- Auslan interpreters

To access support the student must:
1. Contact and register with Disability Support by calling 9427 1314 or via email student.support@nmtafe.wa.edu.au
2. Meet with the Disability Support Coordinator to discuss your needs (the earlier you meet the better as some supports can take time to organise and implement)
3. Provide evidence of the functional impact of your disability (e.g. Medical documentation or assessment report)

NMTAFE is an adult learning environment and it is the responsibility of the student to inform the Disability Support team of their needs or if their support needs are not being met.

For more information about Disability Support please contact us on 9427 1314 or student.support@nmtafe.wa.edu.au or refer to our website northmetrotafe.wa.edu.au/student-services

Duty of care for minors
The learning and social environment at North Metropolitan TAFE is very different from secondary education. Parents, guardians and minors [students aged less than 18 years of age] may find a summary of the information below useful but are also encouraged to refer to the detailed information for parents and guardians on our website northmetrotafe.wa.edu.au/parents

North Metropolitan TAFE (NMTAFE) environment
NMTAFE is a vocationally oriented adult learning environment. It prepares students for employment in their career of choice and must out of necessity provide a mature age learning environment to responsibly prepare students for the workforce. At the same time students range in age from mid-teens to retirees and so for some students, the training experience provides a transition from a school environment to an adult employment-focused environment. The College must therefore operate as an adult environment and so all students are expected to act in a mature manner and manage their own behaviour so that it complies with the Student Code of Conduct northmetrotafe.wa.edu.au/policies

Induction, attendance and absences
Students will receive a course induction at which a program outline and timetable will be issued.

Attendance is recorded in every class. If a student is absent from an entire scheduled on campus class parents will be notified within three (3) working days of the absence. Please ensure any changes to your contact details are updated by contacting Student Services.

Supervision
NMTAFE does not provide direct supervision of students outside of classroom lectures. We strongly advise that you discuss the timetable with your child to ensure such things as transport to and from the college and activities between classes are constructively used.

Classroom and training environment
North Metropolitan TAFE is an adult learning environment with a focus on developing skills to the standard required in the workplace, so this means that:

a. Students are responsible for their own learning and are expected to manage their workload, seeking assistance from lecturers when needed.

b. Students may be required to complete assessment tasks/ assignments outside of their scheduled timetable. Students are responsible for submitting their work by the due date. Lecturers will not follow up outstanding assessments with students, rather the student will be marked as incompetent for that task.

c. Students may be required to work on projects with adult students and this may involve working and communicating with such students outside of normal class or study hours.

For more information about Duty of Care for minors please contact the Duty of Care Officer on 9427 1190 or DutyofCare@nmtafe.wa.edu.au
International Student Support

The International Office at North Metropolitan TAFE provides support relating to your study or personal issues. International Advisors will be able to assist you with:

- Advice on courses and pathways
- Your application for continuing enrolment
- Advice on change of course/units pathways
- Updating your contact details (i.e. address, email, mobile numbers)
- Monitoring your class attendance and progress and work with you through an Intervention Strategy in consultation with the lecturer if you are “at risk” of falling behind in your studies
- Overseas Student Health Care Information
- Transperth SmartRider information
- Advice on accessing counsellors/psychologists

For more information about International Student Support please contact us on: 9427 1873 or internationalstudy@nmtafe.wa.edu.au or refer to our website northmetrotafe.wa.edu.au/international.

Student Services

Student services staff are located at all our campuses and can assist you with:

- Enrolments
- Payment of fees, refunds and withdrawals
- Course information
- Feedback, Compliments and Complaints
- Tertiary SmartRider
- Student parking permit
- General information about our services and facilities

For further information about Student Services please contact us on 1300 300 822 or enquiry@nmtafe.wa.edu.au or refer to our website northmetrotafe.wa.edu.au/student-services.

Students are responsible for their own property, including any work they are completing as part of their course. If you leave personal items or partially completed work on campus or in classrooms, the college accepts no responsibility for them if they are lost or damaged.

Jobs and Skills Centres

Jobs and Skills Centres are one-stop shops for careers, training and employment advice and assistance. Services are free, and accessible to all members of the community.

North Metropolitan TAFE host three Jobs and Skills Centres at: Balga Campus; Joondalup Campus (Kendrew Crescent); and Perth Campus (Northbridge).

For more information about Jobs and Skills Centres please contact us on 13 64 64 or visit our website jobsandskills.wa.gov.au.

Mental health support

Students can access up to three [3] free counselling session with an external psychological counselling provider for non-urgent mental health support.

To access this service students must:

- Contact their Lecturer or Disability Support for a referral
- Sign a referral form to give permission for your name to be passed on to the counselling provider
- Contact the counselling provider to make an appointment
- If required, cancel their appointment with the counselling provider within 24 hours (otherwise you will be responsible for paying the cost of the appointment)

For urgent, severe or long term mental health support please speak with your doctor, go to hospital or ring a crisis care number:

- Emergency or Ambulance 000
- Mental Health Emergency Response Line 1300 555 788
- Lifeline 13 11 14
- Beyond Blue 1300 22 4636
- Family and Domestic Violence 1800 737 732
  - Crisis Care Helpline 1800 199 008
  - Men’s Domestic Violence Helpline 1800 007 599
  - Women’s Domestic Violence Helpline 1800 007 339
  - Sexual Assault Resource Centre 1800 199 888
- Suicide Call Back Service 1300 659 467