

The Australian Council for Private Education and Training represents members who teach English language courses, vocational education and training and higher education degree programs each year to hundreds of thousands of Australian and international students.

The Council represents more than 1,100 members who offer education and training in Australia and overseas (right across the world).

Council members have been delivering educational opportunities for more than 20 years and have seen millions of students develop and learn new skills which have helped them in their career prospects.

The Council's Board of Directors (ACPET) has spent a great deal of time over the past twelve months tightening the Code of Ethics for ACPET membership and amending processes to ensure ACPET represents 'the best of the best' in the Australian education sector.

ACPET works closely with the Australian government to ensure the rules and regulations for education and training providers are strict and meet high quality standards. In November 2010 ACPET went to the Australian Supreme Court to refuse membership to an educational provider it had concerns about. The Court confirmed ACPET's ability to set its own high quality membership standards and ACPET is now ensuring strict compliance with these new standards across all of its members.

ACPET also runs Australia's largest Tuition Assurance Scheme, offering a financial safeguard to international students studying in Australia. It is a sad reality that sometimes for a range of reasons, business closures occur and these can be difficult for affected students. ACPET's scheme works closely with government to ensure students are supported in enrolling at another college to continue their studies with no financial disadvantage and the care and support they need. The follow-up emails and phone calls from students who have been affected by the small number of closures in Australia in the past point to the success of the scheme in quickly settling a student into another college and ensuring they receive the best education possible.

To ensure ACPET's scheme continues to work even better, new higher standards are also being introduced in this area. These allow ACPET to do even more detailed checking on the finances, educational expertise and ownership of its member colleges.

These changes which ACPET has introduced have the full support of the Australian government and we are working in partnership with them to ensure all students studying in Australia have a rewarding experience and work hard to get the educational qualifications they are aiming for.

ACPET represents the best of the private sector – when you're looking for an educational institution to partner with or a school to send your son or daughter to – make sure you look for a college with the ACPET logo – it's the sign of a quality institution.