Information about Cycle 6 Academic Audit

An overview of Academic Audit
The University of Auckland will undergo Cycle 6 Academic Audit in 2021.

This is the sixth cycle of Academic Audit conducted by the Academic Quality Agency for New Zealand Universities which is responsible for external quality review of New Zealand universities. Cycle 6 is a whole-of-institution audit examining teaching, learning, support and outcomes for students. The University of Auckland will be the first institution to be audited in Cycle 6.

The Framework for Cycle 6 Audit covers the following areas:
- Leadership and management of teaching and learning and academic quality
- Student life-cycle, support and well-being
- Curriculum, assessment and delivery
- Teaching quality
- Supervision of postgraduate research students

In each of these areas the University is expected to discuss provision of all students. A short guide to the Audit Framework, with the guideline statements for each area, is available at: https://www.aqa.ac.nz/sites/all/files/Cycle%206%20Short%20Guide.pdf

Academic Audit is ‘enhancement-led’ which means the process builds on previous cycles and has a focus on continuous improvement. In Cycle 6 an ‘Enhancement Theme’ component has been adopted where the universities are engaged (separately) in work on a common theme important to the sector.

In Cycle 6 the Enhancement Theme is ‘Access, outcomes and opportunities for Maori students and for Pasifika students’. The University’s progress against Enhancement Theme objectives will be assessed during Cycle 6 Audit.

Panel visit and report
An external review panel with national and international membership will visit the University in 2021 and the resulting public report will contain recommendations, commendations, and affirmations of the enhancement initiatives made by the University. The University is expected to report on the implementation of its self-identified enhancement initiatives and the recommendations made by the Audit panel.

Preparing for Audit
From late 2019 and throughout 2020 the University will undertake a self-review exercise and compile a self-review portfolio covering the 30 Audit guideline statements. The University’s self-review portfolio will report on Enhancement Theme work and identify other strengths and areas for enhancement in learning and teaching.

The evidence used in the University’s self-review portfolio must be relevant and verifiable and demonstrate the ‘embeddedness’ (the systemic nature) of policy or processes across the University. Most evidence is expected to be pre-existing.
## Timeline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Audit Cycle 6</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>November / December 2019</strong></td>
<td>Self-review process begins.</td>
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<td><strong>September – November 2020</strong></td>
<td>Consultation and sign-off on self-review portfolio</td>
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<td><strong>March 2021</strong></td>
<td>Submission of self-review document</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Late June / early July 2021</strong></td>
<td>Audit Panel site visit (exact dates tbc)</td>
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<td><strong>October 2021</strong></td>
<td>Audit report received by University</td>
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## Key audit contacts

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