

A11: Equal Educational Opportunities Policy

1.0 Purpose

New Zealand School of Education defines Equal Educational Opportunity as a process of providing a learning environment for students which is free from barriers which cause or perpetuate inequity in respect to the education of any person or groups of persons.

2.0 Policy

- 2.1** NZSE is committed to the provision of Equal Educational Opportunities (EEoO) in all programmes for all person and opposes all forms of unfair discrimination.
- 2.2** NZSE recognises the value of diversity and in line with the Human Rights Act 1993, seeks to serve its community, and each student as an individual of dignity and worth, inclusive of their ethnicity and cultural background, values, political and religious beliefs, lifestyle, gender, sexual orientation, age, occupation, appearance, physical and intellectual ability, economic, marital and social status.
- 2.3** NZSE will work to identify and promptly remove the causes of unfair discrimination, direct and indirect.
- 2.4** NZSE encourages the greatest possible participation by our community. NZSE will give particular emphasis to eliminating barriers that cause under representation in areas such as people with disabilities and Māori and Pacific Islands people.
- 2.5** NZSE affirms and will give effect to the articles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi in its activities related to Equal Educational Opportunities through partnership with Māori.
- 2.6** NZSE will provide education programmes with curricula, which are gender inclusive, acknowledge and respect the bicultural and multi-cultural diversity and the varying life experiences of the student community, and use teaching and learning methods appropriate to the student group.
- 2.7** NZSE will provide a harassment-free learning environment which affords each student an equitable opportunity to achieve their educational goals, and which enhances self-esteem.
- 2.8** NZSE will promote education as a partnership between the students and all staff and encourage students to participate in the evaluation of their education programmes and their delivery.
- 2.9** NZSE will apply fair, appropriate and transparent admissions criteria which are free from discrimination based on the grounds of personal or group characteristics irrelevant to the applicant's potential to achieve the planned learning outcomes of a programme. Admission criteria will include a process for assessment of prior learning.
- 2.10** NZSE will ensure recruitment enrolment processes are student centred. Where there are more than sufficient applicants who meet all academic and other requirements for the programme than places available, NZSE will seek to fulfil its commitment to Equal Educational Opportunities, (EEoO).
- 2.11** NZSE will provide a physical environment and the resources required for students to pursue the stated learning outcomes, including the provision of support services to meet students specified learning needs.

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- 2.12** NZSE will ensure fair and equitable assessment processes appropriate to the stated learning outcomes of the programme.
- 2.1.1** NZSE will monitor student retention, completion and success and seek ways to improve these factors.
- 2.1.2** NZSE will report on the identification and elimination of barriers to student progress in accordance with any requirements under the Human Rights Commission Act and The Education Act, 1989.

4.0 Document Control

4.1 Monitoring and Evaluation

The Academic Board is responsible for monitoring and evaluating this policy.

Version	Type of Change	AB Reference	Approval Date	Effective from (Day/month/Year)
1	Development of Policy	Approved by AB	23 February 2016	23 February 2016

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