

Student Support

In relation to education, the Convention states that persons with disability should be guaranteed the right to inclusive education at all levels, regardless of age, without discrimination and on the basis of equal opportunity. Australia's commitment is also reflected in the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 and in the establishment of the Disability Standards for Education 2005 (the Standards) that clarify and elaborate on legal obligations associated with inclusive education. All education providers are required to be aware of and implement the Standards to enable students with disability receive an education equal to that of any other student. (United Nations Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities (2008).

Generally, people with a disability have lower levels of educational achievement than those without a disability. The subject completion rate is nearly 75% for people who reported a disability compared with 82% for all VET students. The proportion of people with a disability who completed an AQF qualification was also lower than for all VET students. The probability of completing VET studies for people with a disability is further affected by age, employment status and membership of other equity groups (Indigenous and non-English speaking backgrounds, for example). (Griffin, T., & Nechvoglod, L. (2008). Vocational education and training and people with a disability: A review of the research. *Occasional Paper, NCVET, Adelaide.*)

At National Food Institute (NFI) we have a diversity of students with learning needs and preferences. By catering to these student's requirements NFI finds that learning opportunities are enhanced for all students. NFI are explicit in their support for inclusive education through policy that recognize the need for interdisciplinary engagement and the provision of additional resourcing.

For Example:

Students with disability are seen as being under-represented in national and state testing and accountability measures. The reporting of educational outcomes is inconsistent and does not necessarily reflect the 'value' that the students may have gained from their schooling. Thus, the standard of accountability for students with disability may be substantially less than for other students.

Support is not just about the provision of equipment and additional services. The attitudes of staff and their abilities to provide support are also important and require that teachers are provided with professional development opportunities to gain these skills.

NFI has a policy, (*Access and Equity Policy*) which indicates what NFI will do to help students with LLN, learning and disabilities, but these also include access to computers and reading material, online resources as well as fully equipped classrooms with white boards, projectors and ancillary equipment. As well as access to the following support services:

Document:	NFI Student Support Policy	Effective date:	01/01/2018	Version:	1.0
RTO Name:	National Food Institute Pty Ltd RTO ID 3821			Page:	1 of 3
Approved	CEO		Ross Freeman		

Student Support Services Referral List

The following support services are available and accessible for all students studying with National Food Institute. We will provide students with contact details to refer any matters that require further follow up with relevant professionals.

Personal/Social issues

Some issues that may affect a student's social or personal life may require further intervention from professionals. Referral services that NFI may utilise include the following:

Referral Services Available	Website	Contact Phone
Lifeline	www.lifeline.org.au	13 11 14
Beyond Blue	www.beyondblue.org.au	1300 22 4636
Crisis Support	www.crisissupport.org.au	(03) 8371 2800

Academic issues

Students may have concerns with their attendance, academic performance or other related issues that are placing them at risk of not achieving the required competencies. Student progress is monitored and guidance and support provided where non-satisfactory results are identified.

Students are able to access the services provided by the student support manager to discuss any academic, or other related issues to studying with NFI. The student support manager will be able to provide advice and guidance, or referral to other professionals where required. These include the following:

Referral Services Available	Website	Contact Phone
Tutoring for Excellence	www.tutoringforexcellence.com.au	(03) 9017 4118
Advance Tutoring School	https://advancetutoringschool.com.au	(03) 9526 8158

Employer workplace training – workplace issues

Students may have questions/concerns regarding their place of employment. The following services can be utilised to provide additional support:

Referral Services Available	Website	Contact Phone
Worksafe	www.workhealth.vic.gov.au	1800 136 089
Fairwork Australia	www.fairwork.gov.au	1313 94

Medical Emergencies

Services Available	Website	Contact Phone
Emergency Services	http://www.triplezero.gov.au	000
Nurse on Call	http://www.healthdirect.org.au	1800 022 222
Poison Information Line	N/A	13 11 26