

MEDIA RELEASE

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Industry body terminates provider's membership

The Australian Council for Private Education and Training (ACPET) has terminated the membership of Phoenix Institute of Australia Pty Ltd.

The ACPET Constitution requires members to behave in a professional manner that promotes the good image of the private education and training sector and not engage in any activities that could be considered to bring the sector or the membership into disrepute.

In particular, it is imperative that members comply with ACPET's Code of Ethics.

"As a member organisation it is critical that all members are aware of the Code of Ethics and abide by them," said ACPET CEO Rod Camm.

The Code has been a long standing part of the membership requirements of ACPET. The Code includes the need to aim to be a high quality provider with quality outcomes. This means it is expected members aim to do a lot better than just meet the minimum standards as set down by regulators in all sectors and jurisdictions.

"Private education is a significant part of the Australian economy and it is imperative that its standing and integrity be maintained and enhanced."

Student choice and engagement are at the heart of the Council's Code of Ethics.

"These have been challenging times and a decision to terminate a member is not taken lightly. The Constitution requires that members be presented with the Board's concerns; be given the opportunity to present written submissions; and be accorded a hearing in order to present a case as to why their membership should not be terminated. In the event of an adverse decision, the Constitution provides that the sanctioned member has the right to appeal to an extraordinary general meeting of members," explained Mr. Camm.

"ACPET tightened its Code of Ethics just over 12 months ago. It requires a senior officer of every member organisation to sign a statement each year that they have read, and agree to abide by, the Code," added Mr Camm.

"Having accorded Phoenix Institute due process and Phoenix Institute having determined not to appeal to the membership, the Board of ACPET confirms its decision to terminate the membership of Phoenix Institute."

ENDS

For further information:

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