



Using the Quality Framework: The Quality Improvement Cycle

The quality domains and corresponding standards and indicators need to be measured and reported to ensure ongoing quality improvements. This framework provides tools of support self-assessment, auditing, monitoring, to report and evaluate the quality of practice education from all stakeholders' perspectives. The quality improvement cycle is outlined in Figure 11



Figure 11: The Quality Improvement Cycle

National Interprofessional Placement Evaluation Tools

Three evaluation tools were developed to support the application of the interprofessional quality framework for practice education. The tools can be used to replace existing feedback forms. Together they provide a National systematic approach to evaluate Quality within the practice education system for HSCPs.

1. **The National Interprofessional Placement Evaluation Tool (NIPPET)**
 - Section 1: HEI Self-Evaluation Tool (Domain A – Standard 1, Domain B – Standard 2)
 - Section 2: Student Evaluation Tool (Domain C – Standard 3)
 - Section 3: Practice Educator Evaluation (Domain D – Standards 4 and 5)
 - Section 4: Service User Student Evaluation Tool (Domain D – Standard 6)
2. **National Interprofessional Practice Educator Development (NIPPED) – CPD Tool**
 - Section 5: Practice Educator Professional Development (Domain E – Standard 7)
3. **National Interprofessional Practice Education Capacity and Sustainability (NIPPECS) – Manager/Placement Provider Tool (Draft)**
 - Section 6: Manager of Placement Provider Services Evaluation Tool (Domain F – Standard 8)



Application and Implementation of the Quality Framework tools

Table 9 sets out who will assess each domain, who is responsible for auditing/monitoring, when the quality assessment should take place, who is responsible for reporting and evaluating, and what tools and resources are available to support each step.

Table 9. Application and Implementation of the Quality Framework for Practice Education

Domain	Responsible for Assessment	Responsibility to Audit	When	Responsibility to Report and Evaluate	Tools and resources
Domain A					
HEI or educational provider placement governance	HEI	HEI practice education coordinator	Annually	HEI annual practice education report	NIPPET – HEI
Domain B					
HEI and stakeholder collaborations	HEI	HEI practice education coordinator	Annually	HEI annual practice education report	NIPPET – HEI
Domain C					
Practice education learning environment	Practice educator and Student	HEI sends NIPPET student and practice educator and service user evaluation	After placement	HEI annual practice education report	NIPPET – Practice Educator. NIPPET student
Domain D					
HEI or educational provider supporting educating and empowering students for placement	Practice Educator	HEI sends NIPPET student and practice educator and service user evaluation	During and After placement	HEI annual practice education report	NIPPET – Practice Educator NIPPET student and NIPPET Service User
Domain E					
Professional development of educators/supervisors	Practice educator	Practice educators Practice education team Managers	Ongoing	Professional review meetings with managers CPD portfolios for regulatory bodies	NIPPED
Domain F					
Capacity building and sustainable practice education	Manager	Managers of services	Ongoing	HSCP managers ¹	NIPPECS

1 Further engagement and consultation required with managers regarding implementation



Standard 1: The Higher Education Institute (HEI) has policies and procedures in place that operationally manage the placement system.		Met to high standard	Met	Not Met	Not applicable
1.1	The HEI has an operational agreement with the organisation				
1.2	The HEI has a policy that includes (i) the minimum amount of years an educator must have to be an educator and (ii) registration status				
1.3	The HEI has a policy defining the procedure for the selection of sites and the management of unforeseen circumstances				
1.4	The HEI has materials that identify expectations of competency attainment for each placement level				
1.5	The HEI ensures that the students complete pre-placement preparation requirements				
1.6	The HEI has a policy or procedure procedures for allocation of placements that includes students' personal circumstances				
1.7	The HEI has a GDPR compliant system to manage placements documentation.				
1.8	The HEI structures placements into the programme with sufficient hours to accommodate student unforeseen absence				
1.9	The HEI has a calendar of training commensurate with placements				

Standard 2: The Higher Education Institute (HEI) has a responsibility to lead on ongoing quality improvements and developments in practice education		Met to high standard	Met	Not Met	Not applicable
2.1	The HEI collects feedback from students and educators and evidences responses to feedback				
2.2	The HEI and placement provider meet annually to review placement processes				