Where to access CIMS training

Multiple providers offer CIMS level 2 and 4 unit standard training. Below are links to the providers who are approved to deliver training to these levels.


Note that:

- You can filter Delivery options by location
- Not all providers listed will offer all specific courses. You can find out details through the contact addresses or websites provided or through accessing the External Quality Assurance Report.
- Although the listing shows providers according to their registered region, many providers deliver nationwide. Please contact the organisations directly to discuss your requirements.
- Most providers will tailor courses to suit your needs. Contact them and discuss your needs.
- Not all providers are equal. Reports on performance of each provider are accessible through the link provided (details below).
- Some providers may cater predominantly to particular sectors while others cater to broader audiences.

When searching for providers, pay particular attention to:

- The ‘External Quality Assurance’ section of specific providers. Download the ‘External Quality Assurance Report’ to learn more about the provider including what courses they deliver specifically, the size of their training establishment and how the provider rates comparatively in relation to achievement and value to learners; systems; teaching and learning; and self assessment.
- The ‘Provider Category’ rating: ‘1’ is the top-ranking category.

Some basic information on unit standards

- The New Zealand government operates a national education system that incorporates adult and on-the-job/workplace learning. This system is quality assured, sustainable and resourced to manage education in NZ. Training within this system sits on the New Zealand Qualifications Framework (NZQF).
- Qualifications or unit standards completed are recorded on each individual learner’s ‘Record of Learning’. This means that the achievements are transferable and nationally recognised.
- Unit standards are not a qualification. They are components of qualifications, i.e. the ‘building blocks’ that can make up a qualification.
- Unit standards are outcome standards—they provide the minimum standard that the learner must meet to be awarded completion of that unit standard. Unit standards are not courses.
- Unit standards are developed ‘for the sector, by the sector’. This means the standards specified are the standards that the sector has established its learners need to meet. The onus is therefore on the sector to ensure that the standards reflect the sector’s needs. As sector leaders in Incident Management, there is a collective responsibility to represent the sector and encourage sector ‘buy in’ to ensure that the standards are fit-for-purpose for our sector—essentially, if we aren’t part of the solution, we are part of the problem.
- Providers who currently deliver unit standard-based training at levels 2 and 4 on the NZQF, design their own courses and assessment to meet the unit standard requirements. Most of the providers who deliver CIMS unit standards have backgrounds in emergency management.
- Providers who deliver qualifications and unit standard-based training need to have consent to assess to assess unit standards. There are rigorous processes in place to become a registered training provider, attain consent to assess and to maintain these. NZQA oversees these processes.
- If content is not delivered by a provider with consent to assess, an assessment must be undertaken by a registered assessor.
- If CIMS unit standard course content is delivered, it must be assessed through the correct avenues and completion recorded on the learners’ Record of Learning with NZQA through credit reporting. Opting to deliver the content without ensuring standards for completion are awarded to the learner is ‘bucking the system’.

Useful links if you want to find out more.

- Understanding New Zealand Qualifications
- Background to the New Zealand Qualifications Framework
- Quality Assurance of education in New Zealand

If you have any questions or would like some help understanding any of this, please feel free to get in touch with the National Security Workforce Team at DPMC: NSW@dpmc.govt.nz