MEDIA RELEASE

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IHEA Welcomes the Extension of Undergraduate Certificate in AQF to June 2025

Independent Higher Education Australia (IHEA) is delighted that the Australian, State and Territory government Education and Skills Ministers have agreed to extend availability of the Undergraduate Certificate as a qualification in the Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) until 30 June 2025.

"This is an excellent outcome for IHEA members who were instrumental in creation of the Undergraduate Certificate in early 2020 as part of IHEA COVID-19 stimulus response proposals," said IHEA CEO, Simon Finn.

"The recent IHEA State of the Sector analysis identified continuation of the Undergraduate Certificate as a top priority for independent providers to support the development of new courses targeted at student and industry demand.

"The decision to extend the Undergraduate Certificate means the Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency (TEQSA) will be able to accredit Undergraduate Certificate courses beyond 2021.

"It also means that students unable to complete their Undergraduate Certificates by the end of 2021 will be able to complete the qualification in 2022."

The announcement of continuation of the Undergraduate Certificate builds on last week's announcement of **extension of the FEE-HELP Loan Fee exemption** and **deferral of TEQSA full cost recovery** for 2022.

"IHEA thanks all members who have advocated for these higher education sector priorities, which will greatly assist sector recovery and growth in 2022."

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