

**COMPLAINTS AND APPEALS PROCEDURE**
**RELEVANT STANDARD(S):**

<b>Standards for Registered Training Organisations (RTOs) 2015</b>	<b>Chapter 3—Support and Progression</b> ▪ <i>Clause 6.1 – 6.6</i>
<b>National Code of Practice for Providers of Education and Training to Overseas Students 2018</b>	<b>Standard 10 Complaints and appeals:</b> ▪ <i>Clause 10.1 - 10.4</i>
	<b>Standard 7 Overseas student transfers</b> ▪ <i>Clause 7.5 – 7.6</i>

**Complaints and Appeals Procedure**

<b>PURPOSE</b>	This process serves as the guide and reference document for the Complaints and Appeals handling of Dynamite Studios Australia.  Changes to this procedure must only be made upon the approval of the Training Manager or CEO.
<b>ROLE UNDERTAKING TASK</b>	Admissions Team / Training Team
<b>DOCUMENT UPDATED</b>	23/03/2023

**Complaints Handling Procedure**

No.	Person/s Responsible	Steps to take
1	Complainant	(1) Prior to lodging a formal complaint, complainants are encouraged to attempt informal resolution with relevant individuals: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Privately between concerned parties</li> <li>b. With the help of a trainer/assessor or training manager</li> </ol> (2) Where a dispute cannot be resolved informally, lodge a formal complaint using the Complaints Lodgement Form. The Complaints Lodgement Form is available: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Via the website</li> <li>b. Student Handbook (appendix)</li> <li>c. Requested from any RTO staff (trainer / assessor / admin)</li> </ol> (3) Complete the <b>Complaints Lodgement Form</b>
2	Student Support Services	Receiving a complaint (1) Upon receiving the Complaints Lodgement Form response, reply to the complainant via email and acknowledge the receipt of the complaint, informing that the processing of the complaint will commence within 10 working days from the lodgement of the complaint

		<p>(2) Update the Complaints Register with relevant information</p> <p>(3) Forward the complaint to the relevant personnel</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. If the complaint is about another student, forward the complaint to the trainer/assessor</li> <li>b. If the complaint is about a trainer/assessor, forward the complaint to the Managing Director.</li> <li>c. If the complaint is about Dynamite Studios Australia, forward the complaint to the Managing Director.</li> </ol>
3	Person Responsible (Managing Director)	<p>Processing a formal complaint</p> <p>(1) Aim to resolve the complaint as quickly as possible and within 30 days from the time the action item was assigned or within the timeframe specified by the Consumer Protection Officer. Actions which may be taken may include but are not limited to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Discussing the facts of the complaint with the complainant.</li> <li>b. Where appropriate and applicable, discuss the complaint with the respondent giving details of the complaint and complainant, giving cause to procedural fairness.</li> <li>c. Where appropriate and applicable, encourage and facilitate the disputants to engage in mediation on an informal level.</li> <li>d. Interview all parties individually, including any witnesses</li> <li>e. Conduct interviews privately and confidentially</li> <li>f. Where applicable, report the outcome of the meeting with the respondent to the complainant.</li> <li>g. Seek preferred outcomes from each of the parties.</li> <li>h. Communicate with the student every time actions are taken and decisions once a complaint has been resolved.</li> <li>i. Where appropriate, facilitate a dispute resolution meeting with the parties involved</li> </ol> <p>(2) In the event that a student is dissatisfied with the result or conduct of the complaint handling or appeals process of Dynamite Studios Australia, advise the student within one week of concluding the internal review of the complaint of their right to an external complaints and appeals process. Inform the student that they have the option to engage a third party / external arbitrator for a review of the complaints process (i.e. Training Ombudsman, Office of Fair Trading, Magistrate / Tribunal etc.). The complainant may recommend any Independent third-party / external arbitrator to facilitate the review.</p> <p>(3) Once resolution is finalised, document the details in an email sent to both parties as soon as resolution is reached. Ensure that the complaint is added to the Complaints and Appeals Register by the Managing Director.</p>

4	Student Support Services	<p>Closing a Complaint</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Upon receiving the 'Complaint Resolution' email, update the log in the Complaints and Appeals Register.</li> <li>(2) Where additional action items are required as a result of the complaint, implement action items and lodge the action items in the Continuous Improvement Register. Tag the action item as resulting from the Complaints and Appeals Process.</li> <li>(3) All fields <b>MUST</b> be completed. If additional information is required to fill out the Complaints and Appeals Register or the Continuous Improvement Register, follow-up with the Person Responsible (<b>Trainer/ Managing Director/Artistic Director</b>). See Continuous Improvement Policy for more details</li> <li>(4) Change status on the Complaints and Appeals Register as 'closed' and file the document with the student's records.</li> </ol>
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No.	Person/s Responsible	Steps to take
1	Appellant	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Prior to lodging a formal appeal, appellants are encouraged to attempt informal resolution with relevant individuals:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Privately between concerned parties</li> <li>b. With the help of trainer/assessor or training manager</li> </ol> </li> <li>(2) Where appeal cannot be resolved informally, lodge a formal Appeal using the Appeals Lodgement Form. The Appeals Lodgement Form is available by request from any RTO staff.</li> <li>(3) Complete the <b>Appeals Lodgement Form</b></li> </ol>
2	Student Support Services	<p>Receiving an appeal</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Upon receiving the Appeals Lodgement Form response, reply to the student via email and acknowledge the receipt of the complaint, informing that the processing of the complaint will commence within 10 working days from the lodgement of the complaint</li> <li>(2) Update the Complaints and Appeals Register with relevant information</li> </ol>

		<p>(3) Forward the appeal to the relevant personnel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. If the appeal is about the outcome of an assessment, forward the complaint to the trainer/assessor</li> <li>b. If the appeal is about the outcome of a complaint process, forward the complaint to the Artistic Director.</li> <li>c. If the appeal is about the other decisions made by the RTO, forward the complaint to the Managing Director.</li> </ul>
3	Person Responsible (Managing Director)	<p>Processing an appeal</p> <p>(1) Aim to resolve the appeal as quickly as possible and within 30 days from the time the action item was assigned or within the timeframe specified by the Consumer Protection Officer. Actions which may be taken may include but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Discussing the facts of the appeal with the appellant</li> <li>b. Reviewing all assessment documentation and process</li> <li>c. Conducting re-assessment</li> <li>d. Where appropriate and applicable, encourage and facilitate the disputants to engage in mediation on an informal level.</li> <li>e. Interview all parties individually, including any witnesses</li> <li>f. Conduct interviews privately and confidentially</li> <li>g. Where applicable, report the outcome of the meeting with the respondent to the complainant.</li> <li>h. Seek preferred outcomes from each of the parties.</li> <li>i. Communicate with the student every time actions are taken and decisions once a complaint has been resolved.</li> <li>j. Where appropriate, facilitate a dispute resolution meeting with parties involved</li> </ul> <p>(2) In the event that a student is dissatisfied with the result or conduct of the appeals process of the Dynamite Studios Australia, advise the student within one week of concluding the internal review of the complaint of their right to an external complaints and appeals process. Inform the student that they have the option to engage a third party / external arbitrator for a review of the complaints process (i.e. Training Ombudsman, Office of Fair Trading, Magistrate / Tribunal etc.). The complainant may recommend any Independent third party / external arbitrator to facilitate review.</p> <p>(3) Once resolution is finalised, document the details in an email sent to both parties as soon as resolution is reached. Send email with subject heading: 'Appeal Resolution'. Copy Admin in the email.</p>
4	Student Support Services	<p>Closing an appeal</p> <p>(1) Upon receiving the 'Appeal Resolution' email, update the log in the Complaints and Appeals Register.</p>

		<p>(2) Where additional action items are required as a result of the complaint, implement action items and lodge the action items in the Continuous Improvement Register. Tag the action item as resulting from the Complaints and Appeals Process.</p> <p>(3) All fields <b>MUST</b> be completed. If additional information is required to fill out the Complaints and Appeals Register or the Continuous Improvement Register, follow-up with the Person Responsible (<b>Trainer/ Managing Director/Artistic Director</b>). See Continuous Improvement Policy for more details</p> <p>(4) Change status on the Complaints and Appeals Register as 'closed' and file the document with the student's records.</p>
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**VERSION CONTROL**

Version Control Table					
Date	Summary of Modifications	Modified by	Version	Date of Implementation	Next Review Date
23/03/2023	Document creation	360RTO Solutions	v. 1.0	Date	Date

**RTO INFORMATION**

Document Name	CRICOS Complaints and Appeals Procedure v1.0
RTO/Company Name	Dynamite Studios Australia
RTO Code	40479
CRICOS Code	04174A
Manager	Training Manager