

Applicants for HETAC Registration, or Validation of Programmes

Organisations applying for HETAC Registration **are not permitted** to indicate in any public forum that they have applied for Registration. HETAC does not have a candidate or applicant status.

In the document, *Procedure for assessment of applications for Registration as a HETAC Registered Provider*, the following is prescribed in Section 6:

Until Council has decided to grant Registration to an institution, no representation shall be made on the part of, or on behalf of, the institution regarding any aspect of the HETAC approval, accreditation or registration process. Applicants should carefully note that prior to Registration being granted the applicant shall not in any way represent or imply that HETAC recognises the applicant institution. This prohibition applies to advertising, press statements and responses to queries from current or prospective learners. HETAC may suspend or discontinue the application process if it becomes aware that such representations are being made. It should be noted that any such representation may constitute an offence under Section 47 of the Qualifications Act.

Section 47 of Qualifications (Education and Training) Act, 1999 states:

47.—A provider of a programme of education and training who—

- (a) falsely claims or represents that the Higher Education and Training Awards Council or the Further Education and Training Awards Council has validated the programme concerned or makes or recognises an award in respect of that programme, knowing or having reason to believe that the claim or representation is false, or
- (b) falsely claims or represents that the provider concerned is a recognised institution of the Higher Education and Training Awards Council, knowing or having reason to believe that the claim or representation is false, or
- (c) fails to furnish the information which the provider concerned is required to furnish under *section 45* or *46*, or
- (d) makes a false representation to a learner in relation to the matters referred to in *section 45* or *46*, knowing or having reason to believe that the representation is false, shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable—
 - (i) on summary conviction, to a fine not exceeding £1,500 or, at the discretion of the court, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months, or both, or
 - (ii) on conviction on indictment, to a fine not exceeding £50,000 or, at the discretion of the court, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 5 years, or both.