

2019 MLS CPD AUDIT FINAL REPORT OF AUDIT FINDINGS

The 2019 MLS Continuing Professional Development (CPD) audit was conducted by Walker Consulting in a timeframe equivalent to that of previous MLS audits, which spanned the Christmas 2019 and New Year 2020 holiday period.

The selected practitioners were advised eleven weeks in advance of their need to submit relevant information by not later than 15th January 2020.

On 18th December 2019 Walker Consulting sent reminder emails to 153 practitioners who had yet to respond. On 8th January 2020 Walker Consulting sent a final reminder email to 38 practitioners who had yet to respond.

Details of points claimed, and points validated for individual respondents are included in a separate spreadsheet presented to the NZIMLS CPD Coordinator.

A summary of comments arising from this data is as follows:

- A detailed audit advice letter that reiterated the need to present adequate supporting information was sent to practitioners selected for this 2019 audit, to establish a sound basis for comparison with previous and future audits.
- The standard of supporting information presented by the majority of MLS respondents was very high and was considerably better than that achieved by MLS respondents participating in previous audits conducted by Walker Consulting.
- The prompt (less than 24 hours from receipt) review of responses and the immediate provision of feedback was well received by respondents and resulted in the prompt receipt by Walker Consulting of second responses in those instances where this was necessary.
- The lack of adequate supporting material for claims made in category 10 was more frequent than in all previous audits.

NZIMLS MLS CPD Audit 1st January 2019 to 31st December 2019 Statistical Summary

Letters sent	260
Total responses received	249
Responses received by email	78 (31.3%)
Responses received in hard copy	171 (68.7%)
Responses OK first time	203 (81.5%)
Responses needing follow-up	46 (18.5%)
Total points claimed by all respondents:	28255
Total points validated for all respondents:	28230 (99.91% of points claimed)
Average points claimed per respondent:	113.474
Average points validated per respondent:	113.373

Table 1: Summary of reasons for not responding (11)

Letters returned unopened	1
Retired or No longer practising. (Exempt)	4
Maternity Leave. (Exempt)	4
Non-respondent	1
Incomplete response	1

Table 2: Summary of points validated.

Note: Details of the CPD points categories are as described on the NZIMLS website "Competence and Professional Development".

Category	Points Validated	% of validated points
1 Annual Competency Review	14940	52.92%
2 NZIMLS Classroom	983	3.48%
3 Research & Development of New Lab Methods	133	0.47%
4 IANZ Laboratory Audit	301	1.07%
5 Presentation - Oral	903	3.20%
6 Scientific Meeting Attendance	4666	16.53%
7 Employment Related Studies - PG Studies	450	1.59%
8 Scientific Paper Publication	120	0.43%
9 Presentations - Written	60	0.0021
10 Instrument Training/Workshop	893	3.16%
11 Self Assessment/Web Learning/Online Programmes	189	0.67%
12 Journal Articles	360	1.28%
13 Book Reviews	0	0.00%
14 Case Study/Seminars/In-house Lecture	1988	7.04%
15 NZIMLS Journal Based Questionnaire	2122	7.52%
16 Examiner/Moderator/University Course Moderator	0	0%
17 Professional Service	34	0.0012
18 Other	88	0.0031
	28230	100%

Final report presented in February 2020.

Walker Consulting