

Early Childhood Bridging Program for QLD Registered Primary Teachers

Fact sheet V2



Early Childhood Bridging Program

As part of the Early Childhood Education and Care Workforce Action Plan 2010-2013 a customised Early Childhood Bridging Program has been developed to assist Queensland registered primary teachers to upgrade their qualifications so they can deliver programs across a variety of early childhood education and care settings. It is acknowledged that people with primary teaching qualifications have already gained many of the critical skills and knowledge necessary to work as a qualified educator under the Child Care Act 2002.

There is now a Memorandum of Understanding in place between the Office for Early Childhood Education and Care, Department of Education and Training, and the Queensland College of Teachers which recognises the skill set of Queensland registered primary teachers.

The Bridging Program is based on the current children's services qualifications in the CHCo8 Community Services Training package. This program can be undertaken externally and completed through self-paced and flexible study modes. Approximate duration is 6-9 months but is a guide only. Participants must allow up to 4 weeks turnaround for marking and return of assessments.

On completion of study participants gain a CHC30708 Certificate III in Children's Services and CHC50908 Diploma of Children's Services, which allows work as an Assistant or Group Leader in a licensed child care service in Queensland. They may also be eligible to deliver the kindergarten program under the Queensland Kindergarten Funding Scheme.

Who is eligible to enrol?

Teachers qualified in primary education are eligible to enrol in the Bridging Program if they:

- are currently registered with the Queensland College of Teachers
- completed their primary teaching qualification in or later than 1990 or
- graduated pre-1990 (would also need to complete a pre-requisite competency CHCIC511A Implement and promote inclusive policies and practices)

Documents required

JP certified copies of the following documents are required to verify eligibility to enrol:

- Qld College of Teacher Registration
- Primary Teaching Qualification(s)
- Marriage certificate or similar (if documents in more than one name)

Also required - First Aid Certificate which may be obtained during study.



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Qld Kindergarten Funding Scheme

How does the Early Childhood Bridging Program align with the Qld Government commitment to give children a flying start; helping develop literacy, numeracy and social skills in the year before prep.

Teachers qualified in primary education are eligible to apply to deliver a Kindergarten Program under the Qld Kindergarten Funding Scheme if they:

- have *full* registration with the Queensland College of Teachers and are enrolled in an approved two or three year early childhood qualification
e.g. Diploma of Children's Services (Early Childhood Education & Care)
- or
- have *provisional* registration with the Queensland College of Teachers and completed an approved two or three year early childhood qualification
e.g. Diploma of Children's Services (Early Childhood Education & Care)

Refer to <http://education.qld.gov.au/earlychildhood/> for more information about the Queensland Kindergarten Funding Scheme and the application process.

Tuition fees associated with the Early Childhood Bridging Program will be waived until 2014. Minimal resource costs do apply and are the responsibility of the participant.



Where do I get more information?

For any questions related to teacher registration please contact the Queensland College of Teachers (QCT) www.qct.edu.au

For further information on the Early Childhood Bridging Program, please contact freecall 1800 441 141 or your local TAFE institute.