

POLICY

EQUIVALENT EXPERIENCE ACCEPTABLE FOR PROVISIONALLY REGISTERED TEACHERS TO MOVE TO FULL REGISTRATION

*Approved by the QCT Board – February 2008
Updated August 2010 to reflect amended legislation*

EQUIVALENT EXPERIENCE ACCEPTABLE FOR PROVISIONALLY REGISTERED TEACHERS

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1. PURPOSE

This policy outlines the process and requirements for the QCT to be satisfied about whether other experience is *the equivalent of successful completion of 1 year of teaching at a school* for purposes of provisionally registered teachers moving to full registration.

2. BACKGROUND

Legislation - *The Education (Queensland QCT of Teachers) Act 2005 (the Act)*

s22-24 Holders of provisional registration apply for full registration under the Education (Queensland QCT of Teachers) Act 2005 and are required to meet the professional practice requirements for full registration.

s8(1)(a)(i) applicants for full registration must have the experience prescribed under a Regulation.

Regulation (s6 (1)) prescribes that this **experience** is –

(a) *successful completion of 1 year of duties as a teacher; or*

(b) *other experience the College is satisfied is the equivalent of successful completion of 1 year of duties as a teacher at a school.*

Definitions: The legislation defines ‘**teacher**’ as:

a person who undertakes duties in a school that include any of the following:

- delivering an educational program
- assessing student participation in an educational program
- otherwise administering or providing consistent and substantial educational leadership to an educational program; or

a person who undertakes duties, other than in a school, for an educational program prescribed under a regulation, including any of the following:

- delivering an educational program
- assessing student participation in the program
- otherwise administering or providing consistent and substantial educational leadership to an educational program; and

does not include a teacher’s aide, a teacher’s assistant or a student teacher

The Regulation (s 14A) defines a prescribed educational program as an educational program that is based on a syllabus or a kindergarten guideline approved or accredited by the Queensland Studies Authority.

‘**School**’ is defined in the Act as a state or non-state school and ‘**prescribed school**’ is defined in s74 (1) as:

- a state or non-state school
- an institution or place or part of an institution that offers an educational program based on a syllabus approved or accredited by the Queensland Studies Authority (this does not include the home in cases where formal home schooling is delivered by the parent)

3. PREVIOUS POLICY

The QCT Board initially resolved to define ‘equivalent of successful completion of 1 year of teaching at a school’ as: a prescribed school in Queensland or a recognised school in another Australian state or territory or New Zealand (14 November 2006).

The transitional arrangements for implementation of this policy were subsequently set and amended to accept the established practices of the previous BTR until 30 June 2008.

4. EXPERIENCE IN 'PRESCRIBED SCHOOLS' may be seen as characterised by:

- delivering recognised curriculum – approved or accredited by the QSA
- long and short term planning and teaching to achieve specified student learning outcomes
- teaching groups of students - between the ages of approximately 5 and 18
- developing constructive and professional relationships with students
- assessing and reporting learning outcomes
- working in a regulated environment – may include requirement to employ registered/accredited teachers; reporting obligations;
- working under supervision and guidance of experienced colleagues and line managers
- structures for supervision and accountability
- provision of programs of induction and support for beginning teachers

5. CRITERIA

All elements (a-e) of the following criteria need to be met in considering 'equivalence of one year of successful teaching in a school':

a) Teaching Role

The provisionally registered teacher is responsible for planning, delivering and assessing an educational program that meets the criteria below.

b) The Educational Program meets all of the following criteria:

- programs are derived from a dedicated curriculum and endorsed or approved by a recognised authority¹
- programs are developmental, building on prior learning and preparing for subsequent learning
- program/s are delivered to both individuals and groups
- program occurs over reasonable period of time (eg semester) and is taught to the same group of students
- educational outcomes are specified in the program
- the age levels of students in the educational program cannot extend to those aged more than two years below those of school age (ie Prep minus 2 years)
- the educational program is conducted in regulated/accredited settings

(Note: ¹For this purpose, 'recognised authority' means the Queensland Studies Authority or the National Quality Council.)

c) Supervision

The provisionally registered teacher must be supervised by the Principal or other person responsible for the education program in the institution. The supervisor must be a fully registered teacher with at least five years of teaching experience.

d) Induction

There is evidence of support (induction) and regular supervision as required by the process for moving to full registration

e) The Educational institution meets the following conditions:

- The educational institution is in Queensland
- The educational institution operates in a regulated/accredited environment
- The educational institution provides details of teaching staff including registered teachers;
- The educational institution must enter an agreement with the QCT that requires them to report to the QCT investigations involving allegations of harm to students or termination of employment due to either incompetence or harm to children.

6. PROCESS FOR ASSESSING EQUIVALENT EXPERIENCE

- a) The provisionally registered teacher advises the QCT, using the relevant form, of their intention to use teaching experience in a setting other than a prescribed school in advance of commencing to work towards the experience necessary for gaining full registration.
- b) The educational institution makes a submission to the QCT, using the relevant form, providing information to demonstrate how the setting meets the criteria for equivalence to a school (unless previously assessed – see (e) below). (Where relevant, institutions may make separate submissions for different groups of teachers.)
- c) The QCT assesses the submission against the criteria and advises the teacher and institution accordingly.
- d) Where the curriculum component of the educational program of the institution has not been approved by QSA or the National Quality Council, QCT will commission QSA on a fee-for-service cost recovery basis to undertake the assessment for this purpose. Such costs will be reflected on the procedural forms.
- e) An institution assessed as meeting the criteria retains its status as an acceptable setting for purposes of gaining experience for moving to full registration for a period of two years unless acceptance is withdrawn earlier by the QCT, based on information that the institution no longer meets the criteria.