

A photograph showing a female teacher with a colorful lanyard interacting with a group of young students in a classroom setting.

Provisional Registration

fact sheet

Welcome to provisional registration. This fact sheet contains important information about your registration in Queensland as a teacher.

A quality profession

Teaching is an exciting and rewarding profession where you can help transform students' lives through the delivery of quality education. The Australian Professional Standards for Teachers (APST)¹ help you understand and develop your teaching practice and expertise, to have maximum impact on all learners.

Provisional registration recognises your professional knowledge, practice and engagement are at the graduate level of the APST. This period of registration is intended to give you a supported introduction to the profession with professional learning and growth, through guided reflection on practice.

If you have prior teaching experience that is not recent or not in an Australian school, a period of provisional registration is intended to support your entry or re-entry to teaching in Queensland.

Why 'provisional'?

Provisional registration itself does not mean there are restrictions on your approval to teach. If you have conditions on your registration they would be stated on your certificate.

This period is part of a continuum of career-long teacher education. This continuum is generally made up of a preservice program, induction and continuing professional development, transition to full registration, renewal and for some, certification as a highly accomplished or lead teacher.

Continuing Professional Development (CPD)

There is not a set number of CPD hours you need to undertake to maintain provisional registration. You will need to meet any employer expectations and needs. In moving to full registration, they will expect you to participate in professional development activities to demonstrate your achievement of the APST at the proficient career stage.

Moving to full registration

You can apply to the Queensland College of Teachers (QCT) to move to full registration after:

- you have taught for 200 days in an acceptable setting in the preceding five years, and
- a Principal or other acceptable reviewer has adequate knowledge upon which to assess your practice against the APST at the proficient career stage and make a recommendation.

You will find resources to assist you in your myQCT account, including:

- applications and guidelines for moving to full registration
- web conference announcements and recordings
- what to do if you are teaching in settings other than Queensland schools.

How long will you hold provisional registration?

Your registration is subject to you paying the annual fee each year. You are granted provisional registration initially for two years. The first year was paid for as part of your application. You will receive notice when each annual fee is due.

Not every teacher may be ready to move to full registration during this initial period. Continued payment of your annual fee will extend your provisional registration.

Four years is the legislative limit you can hold provisional registration. If after four years you are not able to move to full registration, you can reapply for provisional registration. The QCT will send you information three months before your registration ends. The reapplication process is streamlined, provided you reapply before your registration ends.

Your journey to full registration can continue into your new period of provisional registration. Each teaching day will 'count' towards the 200 days required for up to five years.

¹ Australian Professional Standards for Teachers (APST) – Describe the professional knowledge, professional practice and professional engagement required of teachers. They comprise seven standards describing what teachers should know and be able to do. They are interconnected, interdependent and reflect the complex role of teaching.

The purpose of registration

In addition to requiring registered teachers to meet professional teaching standards, the QCT also requires teachers to meet standards of ethical conduct, especially in their dealings with children. The QCT can receive complaints and investigate information it receives about a teacher’s professional conduct or competence. The QCT can take disciplinary action against teachers who fail to uphold relevant standards.

To ensure that only approved teachers are teaching in Queensland schools, the QCT undertakes activities including audits, investigations and an annual census.

As in other fields where professionals must be registered – including medicine, law and nursing – teacher registration acknowledges the unique professional qualifications, knowledge, skills and ethical standards required to practise.

The QCT is the regulator of the teaching profession in Queensland and it is substantially self-funded: your annual fees for registration provide more than approval to teach. Your fees contribute to the safety of students, upholding education standards and the reputation of your profession.

Professional responsibilities of a provisionally registered teacher

The Code of Ethics for Teachers in Queensland is on the QCT website and can be accessed via myQCT. You are expected to understand and apply its key principles: integrity, dignity, responsibility, respect, justice and care. Teachers are encouraged to use the code, along with codes/policies established by schools and employers, to guide their professional conduct and behaviour.

Using myQCT you are required to notify the QCT when:

- You are charged or convicted of a criminal offence anywhere
- Your teaching status changes in another Australian state or territory
- You commence a new permanent teaching position in a Queensland school
- Your name changes
- Your address changes
- A qualification you relied upon to obtain registration is removed or varied.

The QCT is also notified of certain changes or events by others, including your employer, the Commissioner of Police, Blue Card Services and the Director of Public Prosecutions.

The QCT contacts you about maintaining your professional registration via emails, mail and SMS. Please ensure that your contact details remain up to date in your myQCT account.

Your registration

- is the **doorway** to the teaching profession
- promotes a sense of professional **belonging**
- upholds the **excellence** of our profession
- contributes to **child safety**
- enables **collaboration** with the teaching profession
- influences **leadership** of the teaching profession
- promotes **confidence** in the teaching profession
- contributes to **respect and promotion** of the profession.

Provisional registration

Provisional registration is granted based on an applicant meeting registration requirements at the time they apply.

The initial period of provisional registration is for two years.

Registration is maintained by paying the annual fee, with the first year included in the application fees. At the end of the second year, payment of the annual fee is taken as notice to extend provisional registration for another two years.

A provisionally registered teacher who does not transition to full registration by the end of four years must reapply for provisional registration.

