

# Renewal of Certification

## POLICY

### Purpose and Measures

#### Purpose

This policy sets out the framework for the renewal of certification of eligible certified teachers in Queensland to support a consistent and robust renewal process.

Certification is granted for a five-year period, after which certified teachers must renew their certification.

The purpose of renewal of certification is to verify an applicant's ongoing performance at the Highly Accomplished or Lead career stage. It is an important quality assurance process designed to ensure that certified teachers in Queensland continue to have the abilities, experience, knowledge, and skills stated in the Australian Professional Standards for Teachers at the relevant career stage.

Renewal of certification is an important element of national teacher certification, which is an important element in a broader teacher quality strategy that develops, recognises, and supports expert practitioners and provides a career pathway and recognition.

As is the case with national certification, renewal of certification is a voluntary process.

#### Rationale

The Queensland College of Teachers (QCT) is the certifying authority for the Department of Education and employers represented by the Queensland Catholic Education Commission.

National certification and renewal of certification is recognised in all Australian States and Territories that apply the national framework for Highly Accomplished and Lead teacher certification.

Certification is portable, allowing teachers to maintain their certified status as they move between jurisdictions and sectors.

#### Performance Measures

- Stakeholder satisfaction with achievement against service level agreements

- Open, transparent and accountable processes
- Comparability of outcomes from national and state-based moderation and other quality assurance processes
- Number of cases overturned by internal or external review
- Cost-neutrality of the process to the QCT

### Scope

This policy applies to eligible certified teachers, employed by the Department of Education or an employer represented by the Queensland Catholic Education Commission, seeking to apply for renewal of their certification.

This policy is drawn from the Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership (AITSL) Guide to the Renewal of Certification of Highly Accomplished and Lead Teachers. Eligible certified teachers seeking renewal by the QCT should refer to this policy and the Guidelines for teachers applying for certification renewal by the Queensland College of Teachers in the first instance.

### Policy Statement

The QCT renews or refuses to renew an applicant's certification based on the applicant's demonstration that their abilities, experience, knowledge and skills match those stated in the professional standards at the relevant career stage.

The QCT will maintain a register of currently certified teachers, including the relevant dates for certification renewal.

Internal and external review processes are available for applicants dissatisfied with the QCT's decision on their renewal application.

Teachers with certification from another Australian certifying authority will have their certification status recognised by the QCT after confirmation by the issuing authority.

## Definitions

- **Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership (AITSL)** – AITSL was established by the Commonwealth Minister on behalf of the Ministerial Council on Education, Early Childhood Development and Youth Affairs (MCEECDYA) to provide national leadership for the Commonwealth and State and Territory governments in promoting excellence in the profession of teaching and school leadership.
- **Certification** – Certification is awarded by the QCT to teachers who provide evidence from multiple sources that is assessed as satisfying the professional knowledge, professional practice and professional engagement criteria at either the Highly Accomplished or Lead Teacher career stages described in the APST.
- **Certifying Authority (CA)** – is responsible for implementing and managing the national certification process in a particular jurisdiction.
- **Fully registered teacher** – Full registration is granted by the QCT when a teacher has met the Proficient career stage of the APST, and all other current registration requirements.
- **Highly Accomplished Teacher** – a teacher certified by a nationally recognised certifying authority against the Highly Accomplished career stage of the APST.
- **Lead Teacher** – a teacher certified by a nationally recognised certifying authority against the Lead career stage of the APST.

## Related Policies and Delegations

This policy is supported by the following documents:

- [Certification of Highly Accomplished and Lead Teachers \(2012\)](#)
- [Guide to the Certification of Highly Accomplished and Lead Teachers in Australia \(2017\)](#)

## Legislation

[Education \(Queensland College of Teachers\) Act 2005](#)

[Education \(Queensland College of Teachers\) Regulation 2016](#)

## Industrial Agreements

[The Department of Education and Training State School Teachers Certified Agreement \(2022\)](#)

[Catholic Employing Authorities Single Enterprise Collective Agreement – Religious Institute Schools of Queensland 2019–2023](#)

[Catholic Employing Authorities Single Enterprise Collective Agreement – Diocesan Schools of Queensland 2019–2023](#)

## Supporting Documents

- *Australian Professional Standards for Teachers* – <https://www.aitsl.edu.au/teach/standards>
- *Certification of Highly Accomplished and Lead Teachers in Australia* – <https://www.aitsl.edu.au/tools-resources/resource/certification-of-highly-accomplished-and-lead-teachers-in-australia>
- *Guide to the Certification of Highly Accomplished and Lead Teachers in Australia* – <https://www.aitsl.edu.au/tools-resources/resource/guide-to-the-certification-of-highly-accomplished-and-lead-teachers-in-australia>
- *Taking the Lead: national certification of Australia's best teachers* – <https://www.aitsl.edu.au/tools-resources/resource/taking-the-lead-national-certification-of-australia-s-best-teachers>
- *Agreement for the Implementation of the National Certification Assessor Training Program*
- *Certification of Highly Accomplished and Lead Teachers – Assessor Handbook*
- *Queensland College of Teachers* – <https://www.qct.edu.au/standards-and-conduct/certification>

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