

MEDIA RELEASE

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Hattie welcomes funding to improve teacher education

The Chair of the Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership, Professor John Hattie, has welcomed today's announcement of additional funding for the Institute to implement reforms to teacher education.

'How we prepare our newest teachers is a critical test of how much we value and support the quality of teaching,' said Professor Hattie. 'We have an exciting challenge ahead of us to ensure that all graduate teachers are classroom ready – that they have the skills to make a difference to their students' learning.'

The government has provided \$16.9 million in additional funding over the next four years to implement the Australian Government's response to the *Action Now: Classroom Ready Teachers* report. This report charts a major reform agenda for initial teacher education in four key areas:

- Making sure all courses are rigorously assessed on the quality of their graduates
- Better school placements, where student teachers can learn what teaching strategies have most impact on students' learning
- More consistent and rigorous assessment of graduates, focussing on their performance in the classroom
- Building an evidence base so that all courses can learn from those who are doing this well.

'My driving force in implementing this reform is to make sure education courses only graduate teachers who will have a positive impact on students' lives and to promote the excellent programs that can achieve this. I want to put in place quality assurance processes that approve courses based on how their graduates perform', said Professor Hattie. 'I look forward to working with universities as well as schools and regulators to improve the way the profession prepares its new members.'

Further information:

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