

Terms of Reference for a National Review of Teacher Registration

The Minister for Education and Training has commissioned a national review of teacher registration to ensure processes are consistent and rigorous, with an emphasis on teacher quality.

Using an evidence-based approach the review will, through comprehensive consultation and research, advise on:

1. How the current national registration framework is operating, including consideration of all elements of the framework, in terms of implementation, consistency, best practice and challenges and barriers.
2. The extent to which the Australian Professional Standards for Teachers (Teacher Standards) are used to drive teacher quality in the implementation of the 2011 national framework, and how this could be further strengthened.
3. Recommended improvements to the arrangements for teacher registration in Australia, with a focus on:
 - I. The current arrangements under which registration operates
 - II. Any enhancements required to embed the Teacher Standards and strengthen teacher quality.
4. Options for implementation of the recommendations, taking into account legislative, regulatory, administrative and resourcing contexts.
5. Expected benefits and success measures of implementing the recommended reforms to teacher registration.

Scope

The scope of the review should **include** consideration of:

- the registration of early childhood teachers as part of a national approach to teacher registration, and how the Teacher Standards should be applied in this context.
- the registration of vocational education and training (VET) teachers in school settings and whether registration requirements create unnecessary barriers to the delivery of quality VET in schools.
- the transition of initial teacher education students into the profession as they are seeking registration and employment; and examine any impediments to pre-registration.
- the current function of regulatory authorities with regard to their legislated responsibility to ensure that registered teachers fulfil the fit and proper person requirement.

The scope of the review should **exclude** consideration of:

- the appropriateness of the domains, focus areas and careers stage descriptors of the Teacher Standards. These matters will be addressed in a review of the Teacher Standards which is due in 2018.

- consideration of the *Accreditation of Initial Teacher Education Programs in Australia: Standards and Procedures* (Standards and Procedures). The Standards and Procedures were revised and agreed by ministers in December 2015 following the recommendations of the recent Teacher Education Ministerial Advisory Group review.

Consultation

- The review panel, supported by the Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership Secretariat, will undertake comprehensive consultation with key stakeholders in the education sector.