

# Teaching Performance Assessments in Schools

This fact sheet provides information on the role of teachers and school leaders in implementing Teaching Performance Assessments (TPAs) in schools.

TPAs are part of Program Standard 1.2 of the [Accreditation of Initial Teacher Education programs in Australia: Standards and Procedure](#)

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## What is a Teaching Performance Assessment?

A Teaching Performance Assessment is a tool used to assess the practical skills and knowledge of pre-service teachers.

Pre-service teachers collect evidence of practice to complete a Teaching Performance Assessment (TPA) in the final year of their initial teacher education (ITE) program. It is assessed by ITE providers and is a requirement for graduation.

During a TPA, a pre-service teacher gathers evidence and demonstrates their skills, knowledge and practices across the spectrum of teaching activities including planning, teaching, assessing and reflecting. All evidence of practice must be aligned to the Graduate Teacher Standards.

All TPAs must be assessed and endorsed by an AITSL convened expert advisory group as part of an ITE provider's accreditation requirement.

[Download the teaching performance assessment Program Standard 1.2 fact sheet for more information \(PDF\)](#)

## Who is responsible for a TPA?

Providers of ITE programs are responsible for administering TPAs. Successful completion of a TPA is a requirement for pre-service teachers to enter the teaching profession. As above, a TPA is also an ITE program accreditation requirement of AITSL's [Accreditation of Initial Teacher Education programs in Australia: Standards and Procedures \(2019\)](#) (Standards and Procedures).

To date, all ITE providers are implementing TPAs in their programs. You can read more about this on the dedicated [Teaching Performance Assessment](#) page.

## What does the implementation TPAs mean for schools?

The implementation of TPAs means a difference for schools in managing some aspects of the professional experience process.

There are 12 TPAs that have been endorsed, with ITE providers implementing different TPAs.

You should talk to your relevant ITE provider/s to find out the specific requirements of their TPA and the role your school has in supporting a pre-service teacher.

## What are the benefits for schools?

The requirement for each pre-service teacher to pass a TPA before graduating lifts the standard of graduates leaving ITE programs.

TPAs give principals and teachers reassurance and confidence that beginning teachers are well-equipped to manage a classroom and support student learning from day one in their first teaching role. Their development should be further supported by an effective induction into both the school and the profession.

As TPAs continue to be implemented and mature, we expect schools will see a more consistently high standard of graduates. You should also find that ITE providers are keen to follow up the performance and quality of their pre-service teachers and graduates.

