



Australian Professional Standards for Teachers

Teachers share a significant responsibility in preparing children and young people to lead successful and productive lives. The Australian Professional Standards for Teachers are a public statement of what constitutes quality teaching and sets out what Australia's teachers are expected to know and be able to do.

The **Australian Professional Standards for Teachers** or, as they are more commonly known the Teacher Standards, outline the specific skills, knowledge and practice required to be an effective teacher. The Teacher Standards reflect and build on national and international evidence that a teacher's effectiveness has a powerful impact on student outcomes.

Great teachers inspire and motivate students as they progress through their schooling and make decisions about their education, career, and life. In Australia, all teachers are required to meet the [Teacher Standards](#) at each stage of their career, to ensure that every student has an effective teacher.

Figure 1: Australian Teacher Standards



The Teacher Standards were developed through a combination of extensive research and expert knowledge.

In Australia, the Teacher Standards are used by the teacher regulatory authorities to underpin decisions about:

- the **content** and level of qualifications required for entry into the profession
- the **process** to become a fully registered member of the profession, and
- teachers' ongoing **proficiency** and continued registration.



In New South Wales (NSW) teacher registration is called teacher accreditation.

The Teacher Standards consist of seven Standards that advance through the different career stages, from Graduate to Lead. They provide a framework for regulation of teachers across Australia and enable teachers to steer their own professional growth. The Teacher Standards are grouped into three **domains of teaching**: professional knowledge, professional practice, and professional engagement.

Career stages

The career stages of graduate, proficient, highly accomplished and lead reflect the continuum of a teacher's developing professional expertise from undergraduate preparation through to being an exemplary classroom practitioner and a leader in the profession.



The **Graduate Standards** provide the foundation for the accreditation of initial teacher education programs. Graduates from accredited programs qualify for provisional registration or accreditation in each state and territory.



The **Proficient Standards** are the foundation for full registration and accreditation as a teacher. The Proficient Standards underpin processes for full registration and accreditation as a teacher in Australia.



The **Highly Accomplished Standards** states the levels of professional practice that demonstrate highly effective and skilled classroom practitioners who work both independently and collaboratively to enhance their own practice as well as that of their colleagues.



The **Lead Teacher Standards** represent the highest career stage and recognise lead teachers as exemplary professionals demonstrating leadership and commitment to excellence in all aspects of teaching.

Read more about career stages [here](#).



Resources: Australian Professional Standards for Teachers

[Australian Professional Standards for Teachers:](#) Learn more about each Teacher Standard relevant to your career level.

[Evidencing the Teacher Standards:](#) Watch a short video from nationally certified Highly Accomplished Teacher Meghan Smith with advice about how to evidence the Australian Professional Standards for Teachers.

[Moving from provisional to full teacher registration:](#) Find out more about the process of progressing from provisional to full registration.

