

Qualification for teacher registration - Qualifications policy

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PURPOSE AND CONTEXT

Section 2.6.8(a)(i) of the *Education and Training Reform Act 2006* (the Act) requires that in order to be registered as a teacher, a person must obtain a qualification that is appropriate for entry to teaching approved by the Minister or has obtained a qualification determined by the Victorian Institute of Teaching (VIT) to be equivalent to an approved qualification that is appropriate for entry to teaching.

SCOPE

This policy applies to applicants for provisional or (full) teacher or early childhood teacher registration and permission to teach (PTT).

This policy should be read in conjunction with Appendix 1 'Approved Qualifications and Packages' and Appendix 2 'Equivalency, Definitions and Application Requirements'.

STATEMENT OF POLICY

The following qualifications, or those found to be equivalent by VIT, articulate the requirements of the Act and conform with a nationally consistent approach to the registration of teachers.

1. **An approved four year** (full time or equivalent) **teaching qualification undertaken at a higher education institution which includes** an initial course of primary and/or secondary teacher education of at least one year's duration (full time or equivalent) inclusive of teaching methods and at least 45 days of supervised practice teaching.
OR
2. **Four years of** full time or equivalent **higher education study which includes** an approved initial primary and/or secondary teaching qualification of at least one year's duration (full time or equivalent) inclusive of teaching methods and at least 45 days of supervised practice teaching AND
 - a) the award of an approved academic degree or diploma of at least three years' duration OR
 - b) approved academic and/or teaching certificates, degrees or diplomas totalling at least three years of higher education study.**OR**
3. **An approved Certificate of Proficiency/Completion in a trade together with**
 - a) relevant industrial experience such that the period of apprenticeship and the industrial experience totals not less than eight years AND
 - b) an approved trade technician course or an approved equivalent program of post apprenticeship studies equivalent to one year of full-time study AND
 - c) an approved initial course of secondary teacher education of at least one year's duration (full-time or equivalent), which includes approved teaching methods and supervised practice teaching OR
 - d) where (b) is not included, an approved initial course of secondary teacher education of at least two years' duration (full time or equivalent), which includes approved teaching methods and supervised practice teaching.

OR

4. An approved Certificate of Technology or equivalent qualification together with

- a)** six years of relevant industrial experience AND
- b)** an approved trade technician course or approved studies equivalent to one year of fulltime study AND
- c)** an approved initial course of secondary teacher education of at least one year's duration (full time or equivalent), which includes approved teaching methods and supervised practice teaching OR
- d)** where (b) is not included, an approved initial course of secondary teacher education of at least two years' duration (full time or equivalent), which includes approved teaching methods and supervised practice teaching.

RELATED LEGISLATION, POLICY AND DOCUMENTS

- *Education and Training Reform Act (Vic) 2006*
- Qualification for Teacher Registration – English language competence policy
- LANTITE policy

APPENDICES

APPENDIX	DOCUMENT NAME
1	Approved qualifications and packages
2	Equivalency, definitions and application requirements

APPROVED QUALIFICATIONS AND PACKAGES

The following qualifications, or combinations of qualifications, are generally considered to meet the requirements of 'Qualifications for Teacher Registration'.

- an approved academic degree or equivalent diploma of at least three years' duration (full time or equivalent) together with an approved one-year (full time or equivalent) initial course of primary and/or secondary teacher education, such as a Graduate Diploma in Education (Primary and/or Secondary)
- an approved academic degree or equivalent diploma of at least three years' duration (full time or equivalent) together with an approved two-year (full time or equivalent) initial course of primary and/or secondary teacher education, such as a Bachelor/Master of Teaching (Primary and/or Secondary) (Postgraduate)
- an approved four-year (full time or equivalent) Bachelor of Primary Education or Bachelor of Secondary Education or equivalent qualifications
- an approved four-year (full time or equivalent) primary or secondary teaching double degree, such as a Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Teaching (Primary or Secondary) or equivalent qualifications
- a Certificate A issued by the Department of Education Victoria
- a two-year (full time or equivalent) post-Year 12 initial course of primary teacher education, such as the Trained Primary Teachers Certificate, together with a further two years (full time or equivalent) of approved higher education study, or equivalent qualifications.
- a three-year (full time or equivalent) post-Year 12 initial course of primary teacher education, such as the Trained Infant Teachers Certificate or Diploma of Teaching (Primary), together with a further year (full time or equivalent) of approved higher education study, or equivalent qualifications
- a three-year (full time or equivalent) post-Year 12 initial course of secondary teacher education, such as the Trained Secondary Teachers Certificate, together with a further year (full time or equivalent) of approved higher education study, or equivalent qualifications.
- an approved Certificate of Proficiency/Completion in a trade together with
 - i. relevant industrial experience such that the period of apprenticeship and the industrial experience totals not less than eight years; and
 - ii. an approved trade technician course or an approved equivalent program of post-apprenticeship studies equivalent to one year of full-time study; and
 - iii. an approved initial course of secondary teacher education of at least one year's duration (full time or equivalent), such as a Trained Trade Instructor's Certificate, Certificate of Technical Teaching or Certificate of Teaching (Technology), which includes approved teaching methods and supervised practice teaching in secondary school settings; or
 - iv. where (ii) above is not included, an approved initial course of secondary teacher education of at least two years' duration (full time or equivalent), such as a Diploma of Technical Teaching or Diploma of Teaching (Technology), which includes approved teaching methods and supervised practice teaching in secondary school settings.
- an approved Certificate of Technology or equivalent qualification together with
 - i. six years of relevant industrial experience; and
 - ii. an approved trade technician course or an approved equivalent studies equivalent to one year of full time study; and
 - iii. an approved initial course of secondary teacher education of at least one year's duration (full time or equivalent), such as a Trained Trade Instructor's Certificate, Certificate of Technical Teaching or Certificate of Teaching (Technology), which includes approved teaching methods and supervised practice teaching in secondary school settings; or
 - iv. where (ii) above is not included, an approved initial course of secondary teacher education of at least two years' duration (full time or equivalent), such as a Diploma of Technical Teaching or Diploma of Teaching (Technology), which includes approved teaching methods and supervised practice teaching in secondary school settings.

EQUIVALENCY, DEFINITIONS AND APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

EQUIVALENCY

The following determinations are intended to assist in interpreting equivalency to qualifications specified in 'Qualifications for Teacher Registration' and 'Approved Qualifications and Packages'.

1. VIT approves and accredits all initial primary and/or secondary teacher education courses offered in Victoria, and endorses a number of specialist education courses.
2. VIT accepts all
 - a) academic qualifications approved by relevant State and/or Commonwealth higher education authorities within in Australia
 - b) TAFE Diploma and Advanced Diploma qualifications approved by relevant State Further Education authorities within Australia
 - c) all vocational and professional qualifications approved by relevant State and/or Commonwealth government authorities and/or any State Further Education authority within Australia.
3. VIT accepts the following providing that they are determined by VIT to be equivalent to those offered in Victoria
 - a) all teaching qualifications approved by relevant State and/or Commonwealth higher education authorities elsewhere in Australia
 - b) other academic and teaching qualifications approved by the relevant higher education authorities in the countries where they are offered
 - c) all vocational and professional qualifications approved by relevant government authorities in the countries where they are offered.
4. Country Education Profiles published by the National Office on Overseas Skills Recognition and/or its successor organisation will be accepted by VIT as the authoritative reference source for equivalency determinations on overseas qualifications.

DEFINITIONS

TERM	DEFINITION
Academic	means non-education discipline studies or educational studies other than initial teacher education studies undertaken at a recognised higher education or further education institution
Approved	means approved by the Victorian Institute of Teaching, except where stated otherwise
Certificate A	means a certificate issued by the Department of Education Victoria to indicate four-year trained teacher status in accordance with Departmental regulations
Certificate of Proficiency/Completion	means trade training through an approved authority incorporating indentured employment (Apprenticeship), on-the-job-training and formal studies at an approved institution
Industrial Experience	means being engaged in an approved occupation of a non-teaching nature
Qualification	means an award granted by a higher education or further education institution or other recognised vocational or professional body on completion of an approved course of study or training, or both
Recognised	means recognised by the Victorian Registration and Qualifications Authority or an equivalent authority in another Australian state or territory

School	as defined under s.1.1.3 of the Act means a place at or from which education is provided to children of compulsory school age during normal school hours, but does not include a) a place at which registered home schooling takes place b) a university c) a TAFE institute d) an education service exempted by Ministerial Order e) any other body exempted by the regulations. School also refers to an equivalent institution in another Australian state or territory, or another country.
Supervised Practice Teaching (SPT)	means the required component of a course during which time a pre-service teacher is engaged in the teaching and learning process with students, either a) in a primary and/or secondary school setting under the supervision of a registered teacher or a person able to be registered as a teacher; or b) in a non-school setting under the supervision of an educator employed by that institution who will preferably be a registered teacher or a person able to be registered as a teacher. The supervised teaching practice must be formally assessed. While it is desirable for supervised practice teaching to take place in a variety of learning environments, the majority of the supervised practice teaching must occur in Australian primary and/or secondary school settings for Institute approved courses.
Teacher Education	means approved initial professional education studies, curriculum and teaching methodology studies appropriate to teaching in primary and/or secondary schools, and supervised practice teaching in primary and/or secondary school settings
Higher Education Study	means Post Year 12 study undertaken at a university, TAFE or other accredited post-secondary institution
Higher Education Institution	means a university, TAFE, or other accredited post-secondary institution which provides a course of higher education study
Year 12	means the final year of study in a Victorian secondary school, or equivalent level in another education system