

Fact sheet

Meeting the APST at the Graduate Teacher level

Supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander learners

The [Australian Professional Standards for Teachers](#) (APST) are used by all registered teachers in Australia and underpin the requirements for the accreditation of [initial teacher education \(ITE\) programs](#).

The APST are designed to clarify the knowledge, practice and professional engagement required for all teachers and provide a common language for teachers, teacher educators, organisations, professional associations, and the general public.

APST at the Graduate Teacher level

All ITE programs must ensure that pre-service teachers (PSTs) meet the Graduate Teacher level of the APST, which is a theoretical knowledge and understanding of the Standards.

It's important that ITE providers support PSTs in meeting Standards 1.4 and 2.4, and promote understanding and respect, to provide the best possible education opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander learners.



APST 1.4 – Strategies for teaching Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students

This Standard requires PSTs to '*demonstrate broad knowledge and understanding of the impact of culture, cultural identity and linguistic background on the education of students from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander backgrounds*' at the graduate teacher level.



APST 2.4 – Understand and respect Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to promote reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians

This Standard requires PSTs to '*demonstrate broad knowledge of, understanding of and respect for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories, cultures and languages*' at the graduate teacher level.

Resources for ITE providers

The following resources can assist ITE providers to ensure their programs engage PSTs to meet Standards 1.4 and 2.4 at the Graduate Teacher level

- [Improving teaching in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander education: Australian Professional Standards for Teachers](#) – Australian Institute of Teaching and School Leadership (AITSL) research report
- [A unit outline and content for professional learning units to support teachers in meeting Focus Areas 1.4 and 2.4](#) – AITSL in partnership with Monash University, Edith Cowan University and Charles Sturt University

Resources for PSTs

The following resources can assist PSTs in understanding and unpacking Standards 1.4 and 2.4 at the Graduate Teacher level

- [Professional learning resources](#) to support teachers to develop skills and understanding
- [AITSL: Focus area in action 1.4](#) – Strategies for teaching Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students
- [AITSL: Focus area in action 2.4](#) – Understand and respect Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to promote reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians
- [Advice for beginning teachers working in remote settings](#)
- [Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander education resources.](#)



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