

# Pre-assessment of Overseas Initial Teacher Education Qualifications Policy



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## Purpose and context

To become registered as a teacher in Victoria, a person must obtain a qualification that is appropriate for entry to teaching, or a qualification determined by the Victorian Institute of Teaching (VIT) to be equivalent to an accredited initial teacher education (ITE) qualification.

The qualification requirements for entry into the teaching profession are set out in section 2.6.8 of the *Education Training and Reform Act 2006 (Vic)*, outlined in VIT's Qualification for Teacher Registration Policy and conform with nationally agreed standards.

This policy outlines VIT's approach to pre-assessing overseas ITE qualifications packages to determine eligibility for teacher registration.

The following key principles are used to determine equivalency.

Principle 1	The qualification must be <b>recognised for entry to primary / secondary teaching</b> in the country of origin
Principle 2	The qualification must include a minimum of <b>one-year equivalent full time study load (EFTSL) of Initial Teacher Education (ITE)</b> including pedagogical studies
Principle 3	The qualification must include a minimum of <b>45 days of supervised teaching practice (STP)</b>
Principle 4	The qualification must prepare the applicant to <b>teach the curriculum in a primary / secondary school</b>
Principle 5	The applicant must have completed a minimum of <b>4 years of higher education</b> in a recognised higher education institute

## Scope

This policy applies to applicants for teacher registration who completed their ITE qualifications overseas.

This does not apply to individuals who are applying for teacher registration under [mutual recognition](#); [early childhood teacher](#) registration; or [permission to teach \(PTT\)](#).

This policy should be read in conjunction with all relevant policies and legislation to determine full eligibility for registration.

## Relevant legislation and policy

- [Education and Training Reform Act 2006 \(Vic\)](#)
- [Mutual Recognition Act 1992 \(Cth\)](#)
- [Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition Act 1997 \(Cth\)](#)
- [Qualifications for Teacher Registration Policy](#)
- [Initial Teacher Education \(ITE\) Policy](#)
- [Pathway Programs into ITE Policy](#)
- [English Language Competence \(ELC\) Policy](#)
- [Permission to Teach Policy](#)

## 1. Definitions

Term	Definition
Approved qualification	A qualification approved by VIT as meeting the requirements for entry into the teaching profession, except where stated otherwise.
Australian accredited Initial Teacher Education (ITE) program	An Australian ITE program accredited against AITSL's <a href="#">Accreditation of initial teacher education programs in Australia: Standards and Procedures</a> .
Australian-approved curriculum	The approved content to be covered in a classroom or educational setting, including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the Foundation to Year 10 Victorian / Australian Curriculum</li> <li>the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE)</li> <li>alternative curriculum frameworks that have been assessed by the Victorian Curriculum Assessment Authority (VCAA) / Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) as meeting the requirements of the Australian Curriculum</li> <li>any curriculum authorised by jurisdictional authorities</li> <li>the Victorian Early Years Learning and Development Framework (VEYLDF) / Early Years Learning Framework for Australia (EYLF).</li> </ul>
Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership (AITSL)	The body that provides national leadership for the Australian, state and territory governments in promoting excellence in the profession of teaching and school leadership.
Discipline studies	Studies related to the core subject areas with an Australian approved curriculum for primary and secondary schools.
Equivalent full-time student load (EFTSL)	A measure of the study load based on a student undertaking a course on a full-time basis over an academic year. For example, one EFTSL is equivalent to a full-time study load for one year.
Higher education provider	A university, TAFE or other accredited post-secondary institution that is registered by the Tertiary Quality and Standards Agency (TEQSA) or equivalent, which provides a course of higher education study.
Higher education qualification	A post year 12 study / Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) Levels 5 to 10, undertaken at a university, registered higher education provider or equivalent.
Historical qualification	An Australian ITE qualification undertaken prior to the introduction of National Accreditation in 2011.
Industrial experience	Work within a particular industry or sector.
Initial teacher education (ITE)	Accredited initial professional studies in education, inclusive of curriculum and pedagogical studies, general education studies and supervised teaching practice, appropriate to teaching in primary and / or secondary schools.

Term	Definition
Displine studies	Studies related to the core subject areas with an Australian approved curriculum for primary and secondary schools.
Qualification	An award granted by a university, higher education provider or other recognised vocational or professional body on completion of an approved course of study or training, or both.
Supervised teaching practice (STP)	The compulsory component of an ITE program during which time a pre-service teacher is on a professional experience placement (mostly in a school) and engaged in the teaching and learning process with school students under the supervision of a qualified teacher and higher education provider staff. The practice is then formally assessed by the ITE provider.

## 2. Pre-assessment of overseas ITE qualifications

- 2.1. Individuals who completed their ITE qualification(s) overseas must have their qualifications package pre-assessed by VIT as equivalent to an accredited ITE program before they can apply for teacher registration.<sup>1</sup>
- 2.2. The VIT will undertake an assessment and approval of all relevant overseas qualifications to determine equivalency to an accredited ITE program. An applicant's qualification(s) must include
  - a. completion of at least four years of higher education study which includes an ITE program of at least one year equivalent full time study load (EFTSL)
  - b. a minimum of 45 days of [supervised teaching practice](#) (STP) in a primary and / or secondary school setting; and
  - c. discipline studies appropriate to the primary and / secondary curriculum.
- 2.3. The pre-assessment must be completed via an individual's [MyVIT account](#), and be assessed as 'valid' in order for an individual to be eligible to apply for teacher registration.
- 2.4. The [cost of the pre-assessment](#) is borne by the applicant.
- 2.5. Further details regarding the pre-assessment of overseas qualifications can be found on [VIT's website](#).

## 3. Requests for review

- 3.1. The VIT does not have power under the *Education and Training Reform Act 2006 (Vic)* to approve applications that do not meet the requirements outlined in VIT's Qualification for teacher registration policy. Where an applicant does not meet the qualification requirements, VIT will inform them of the reason(s).
- 3.2. Applicants may request VIT to reconsider their qualifications against the requirements in the policy, if they believe they meet the required standard **and** can provide new or additional information in support of this position.
- 3.3. Requests must be made within 28 days of being informed that their qualifications do not meet the requirements for registration. Requests beyond this time will require a new application submission with associated fees.

<sup>1</sup> If an individual is unable to have their qualifications pre-assessed, VIT may assess these separately on a case-by-case basis.

## **Victorian Institute of Teaching**

717 Bourke Street, Docklands VIC 3008  
PO Box 531, Collins Street West VIC 8007

**t.** 1300 888 067

**e.** [vit@vit.vic.edu.au](mailto:vit@vit.vic.edu.au)

**w.** [vit.vic.edu.au](http://vit.vic.edu.au)