

Understanding Early Childhood Teacher registration obligations in Victoria

If you're planning to work as an early childhood teacher (ECT) in Victoria, it's important to understand your registration responsibilities.

Different laws and requirements apply to early childhood education and care services. Meeting one set of requirements does not always mean you can work as an ECT in Victoria.

National Quality Framework and VIT registration requirements

If you work in a kindergarten or education and care service, you may be covered by both

- National Quality Framework (NQF) staffing requirements, and
- Victorian teacher registration requirements.

Meeting staffing or qualification requirements under the NQF does not automatically mean you are authorised to undertake the duties of an ECT in Victoria.

Before you work as an ECT

To undertake the duties of an ECT in Victoria, you must generally

- hold current VIT early childhood teacher registration; or
- hold a valid exemption and temporary approval under Victorian legislation.

Before accepting a position as an ECT, make sure you have the appropriate registration, exemption or approval.

Being a "Suitably Qualified Person"

Under the NQF, an education and care service may use a suitably qualified person to meet staffing requirements.

However, being recognised as a suitably qualified person does not, on its own, authorise you to undertake the duties of an ECT in Victoria.

If you intend to work as an ECT, check your registration status with VIT before commencing employment.

Maintaining your registration

All registered early childhood teachers must



Moving from provisional to full registration

If you hold provisional registration, you will need to demonstrate your practice against the Australian Professional Standards for Teachers (APST) at the Proficient career stage.

Employers should support provisionally registered teachers through mentoring, professional learning and opportunities to gather evidence of practice.

Important to know

Holding an approved early childhood teaching qualification may help a service meet National Quality Framework staffing requirements.

However, compliance with National Quality Framework requirements does not automatically meet Victorian teacher registration requirements.

If you are undertaking the duties of an early childhood teacher in Victoria, you must ensure you hold the appropriate VIT registration, exemption or approval.

