victorian institute
of teaching

Fact sheet
What is provisional registration?

Provisional registration is granted to graduate teachers, early career teachers who have completed their studies interstate or overseas, teachers who have been out of the profession for five or more years, and experienced teachers returning from overseas.

Provisional registration is crucial to the development of practice as a teacher, and provides the opportunity for teachers to be properly inducted into, or reintroduced to, the profession by working closely with more experienced colleagues.

There are two types of provisional registration

- provisionally registered teachers (PRTs) can teach in any Victorian primary or secondary school or specialist education provider
- provisionally registered early childhood teachers can teach in any Victorian early childhood education service, such as long day care centres, preschools and kindergartens.

PRTs have two years to move their practice from the Graduate to the Proficient teacher level of the Australian Professional Standards for Teachers (APST). This work is undertaken in collaboration with other experienced fully registered teachers who can provide the PRT with feedback and support in the development of their practice.

PRTs can apply for full registration when they can demonstrate that they have

- taught for at least 80 days in one or more Australian or New Zealand schools / early childhood (EC) services
- provided evidence of meeting the APST at the Proficient teacher level using VIT's Inquiry process.

Find out more about the ongoing obligations of provisional registration.

Amy Cook (registered teacher) with learners
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Why are PRTs required to move to full registration?

Teacher registration in Victoria, as in all states and territories across Australia, reflects a developmental continuum which includes the pre-service, induction and continuing professional learning phases of the teaching profession.

Achieving full registration is a demonstration that PRTs have moved their practice to the Proficient Teacher level and have demonstrated an understanding of their legal obligations as teachers.

This not only assures the profession that teaching standards are being achieved and maintained, but provides reassurance to the Victorian community that children and young people are in the hands of highly qualified and reputable professionals.

Why does provisional registration last for two years?

Under the *Education and Training Reform Act 2006*, provisional registration is initially granted for a period of two years. During this time PRTs are expected to move to full registration using VIT's Inquiry process in a supported environment with the assistance of an experienced, fully registered mentor.

If a PRT is unable to move to full registration during the initial grant, they can apply for a further grant of provisional registration. Each application for a further grant is assessed on its own merits. The *Education and Training Reform Act 2006* provides a 6-year limit in which a teacher can remain provisionally registered.

Provisional registration is not an ongoing form of registration. Until a teacher undertakes the Inquiry process, they have only met the APST at the Graduate level which, by definition, is a theoretical knowledge and understanding of the standards.	The VIT supports PRTs move to full registration. The majority of PRTs who move to full registration find that most of the work is simply an extension of what they are currently doing, as the artefacts of their teaching forms the evidence of meeting the standards.

How do PRTs connect and work with a mentor?

As part of the process for moving to full registration, PRTs are required to find a mentor to help guide them through VIT's Inquiry process. Most workplaces will appoint a mentor or have a process to connect with one as part of the PRT's induction. Advice for those working as a casual relief teacher (CRT) or in a small or remote early childhood setting can be found in the table below.

Connecting with a mentor - CRTs	Connecting with a mentor - ECTs
Create strong professional relationships with people in schools / EC services currently employed in	Create strong professional relationships with people in local primary schools / EC services
Understand the process and requirements of applying for full registration	Understand the process and requirements of applying for full registration
Seek the support of a school / EC service through the application for full registration	Seek the support of a mentor through one of the local primary schools / EC services
Become familiar with VIT's support materials for CRTs	Consult with the Department of Education and Training and use the mentor map
Participate in workplace professional learning and get involved in school / EC service events	Engage in early professional journey conversations

Tips for working with a mentor

- **establish trust** - regular communication and an understanding of what each other expects from the process are key parts of building trust

- **engage in professional conversations and observations** - learn from mentor feedback to become more adaptive and reflective

- **workplace panel** - discuss the composition and expectations of the workplace panel (e.g. can you include evidence from other settings?)

- **overcome challenges** - discuss elements of the APST that may be difficult to evidence and potential challenges in undertaking the process with a mentor from outside the workplace.

How do PRTs learn more about moving to full registration?

Each year VIT delivers PRT seminars that assist PRTs move from provisional to full registration, including seminars dedicated to CRTs.

The seminars cover

- requirements for gaining full VIT registration

- evidence-based processes using the Inquiry process

- professional obligations, including the Codes of Conduct and Ethics

- access to information and resources.

Find out more about attending a PRT seminar.

Teachers are not permitted to work in settings that do not fall within the scope of their registration type, unless they hold dual registration. For example, a provisionally registered early childhood teacher cannot undertake the duties of a teacher in a school. Visit the FAQs page to find out more.

Vinoth Kannan (registered teacher) with learners
McClelland College