

Qualification for teacher registration - Suitability policy

Last updated 14 July 2021

PURPOSE AND CONTEXT

Sections 2.6.8(a)(ii)(A) and 2.6.12C(a)(ii)(A) of the *Education and Training Reform Act 2006*, require that in order to be registered as a teacher or early childhood teacher, a person must produce evidence that satisfies the criteria approved by the Minister about suitability to be a teacher. The following criteria articulate this requirement and align with the nationally consistent approach to the registration of teachers and early childhood teachers.

SCOPE

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

STATEMENT OF POLICY

1. An applicant for registration must provide consent authorising the Victorian Institute of Teaching (VIT) to undertake a Nationally Coordinated Criminal History Check (NCCHC).
2. An applicant for registration who has resided in any country other than Australia for a continuous period of 12 months or more during the 10 years prior to the date of the lodgement of the application, and who was 18 years or older when they resided in that country, must provide a criminal record check (CRC) from that country at the time of application for registration. The CRC document must be no more than 12 months old at the time of application and must cover the full period of residency in that country.
3. An applicant will not be required to provide the CRC if they have been granted permanent residency by the Department of Home Affairs in the intervening period.
4. If an applicant for registration cannot, at the time of application, provide an overseas CRC, they must provide a statutory declaration outlining
 - a) whether the applicant has been charged, convicted or found guilty of a criminal offence under the laws of the country(ies) in which they resided **AND**
 - b) that the applicant has contacted the authorities in the relevant country(ies) and requested an overseas police check and received no reply to the request for an overseas police check **OR**
 - c) that the applicant has contacted the authorities in the relevant country(ies) and requested an overseas police check and the authorities have refused to supply an overseas police check.

Note: Any NCCHC or overseas CRC is to be assessed against the relevant requirements as set out in sections 2.6.9, 2.6.12D and 2.6.14 of the Act.
5. An applicant for registration must be physically and mentally able to undertake the duties of a teacher.

RELATED LEGISLATION, POLICY AND DOCUMENTS

- *Education and Training Reform Act (Vic) 2006*