

Literacy and Numeracy Testing for Initial Teacher Education (LANTITE) Policy

1. PURPOSE AND CONTEXT

One of the functions of the Victorian Institute of Teaching (VIT) is to recommend for the approval of the Minister, qualifications, criteria and standards for the registration of teachers in schools in Victoria.¹

In 2015, the Teacher Education Ministerial Advisory Group (TEMAG) agreed that from 1 July 2016 all initial teacher education students (ITE) should possess personal literacy and numeracy skills in the top 30 per cent of the adult population; and that the Literacy and Numeracy Test for Initial Teacher Education (LANTITE) would be used as a means to demonstrate that ITE students have achieved this standard.

The Australian Government Department of Education (DET) is responsible for implementation of the LANTITE and has contracted the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER) to develop and manage the test.

In Victoria, the Minister for Education has elected to implement LANTITE in the following ways:

From 1 July 2016, the Minister approved the LANTITE as a professional practice requirement pursuant to section 2.6.8(a)(iii) of the Act.

From 1 January 2019, the Minister approved the LANTITE as a qualification requirement pursuant to section s. 2.6.8(a)(i) of the Act.

This Policy outlines how VIT has, and will, implement these requirements to applications for registration as a teacher in Victoria.

2. SCOPE

This Policy applies to all of the following persons who may apply to VIT for registration as a teacher in Victoria:

- A person who may qualify for provisional registration on the basis that they satisfy all of the qualification requirements except the standard of professional practice required for full registration.²
- A person who may qualify for full registration based on an accredited pathway program such as the Teach For Australia and the University of Melbourne, Master of Teaching – Internship.
- A person who may qualify for full registration based on already being registered as an early childhood teacher.

This Policy does not apply to the following persons who may apply to VIT for registration as a teacher in Victoria:

- A person who has completed an accredited Victorian ITE program before 1 July 2016
- A person who has completed an accredited ITE program in an Australian state or territory (other than Victoria)
- A person who qualifies for registration based on equivalent ITE qualifications obtained overseas and recognised as an equivalent qualification by VIT

¹ *Education and Training Reform Act 2006*, s. 2.6.3(1)(c)

- A person who qualifies for registration as a teacher in Victoria due to the application of the *Mutual Recognition Act 1992 (Cth)* or the *Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition Act 1997 (Cth)*
- A person who may qualify for registration as an early childhood teacher and holds registration only as an early childhood teacher; or applies for registration only as an early childhood teacher

3. DEFINITIONS

TERM	DEFINITION
ACER	Australian Council for Educational Research – the provider contracted by the Australian Government Department of Education to develop and manage LANTITE
DET	Australian Government Department of Education
ITE	Initial teacher education
LANTITE	The literacy and numeracy test for initial teacher education students that has been used as a means to demonstrate that ITE students possess personal literacy and numeracy skills in the top 30 per cent of the adult population. In Victoria, a person is able to meet this requirement by satisfactorily completing one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • national literacy and numeracy for initial teacher education students test • 2015 August / September trial of the national literacy and numeracy test • NSW literacy and numeracy for classroom readiness test • ACT Canberra teacher recruitment assessment
LANTITE Condition	A condition imposed by VIT on the provisional registration of a teacher that requires the teacher to satisfactorily complete the LANTITE during the period of their provisional registration
The Act	<i>Education and Training Reform Act 2006</i>
VIT	The Victorian Institute of teaching as established by the <i>Victorian Institute of Teaching Act 2001 (Vic)</i> (now repealed) and continued in operation pursuant to the <i>Education and Training Reform Act 2006 (Vic)</i> .

4. GENERAL POLICY

A person is qualified to be registered as a teacher in Victoria if the person:

- Has obtained a qualification that is appropriate for entry to teaching approved by the Minister or obtained a qualification which is determined by VIT to be equivalent to an approved qualification³
- Produces evidence that the person satisfies the criteria approved by the Minister about suitability to be a teacher⁴
- Produces evidence that the person satisfies the criteria approved by the Minister about competence in speaking or communicating in the English language for the person to teach in a school⁵
- Produces evidence that the person has achieved the standards of professional practice required for registration that are approved by the Minister.⁶

² *Education and Training Reform Act 2006*, s. 2.6.10(1)

³ *Education and Training Reform Act 2006*, s. 2.6.8(a)(i)

⁴ *Education and Training Reform Act 2006*, s. 2.6.8(a)(ii)(A)

⁵ *Education and Training Reform Act 2006*, s. 2.6.8(a)(ii)(B)

⁶ *Education and Training Reform Act 2006*, s. 2.6.8(a)(iii)

VIT may register a person as a teacher if

- they meet all of the above qualifications
- there are no grounds under section 2.6.9(2) of the Act to refuse to grant registration to the person; and
- the person has provided an application that complies with section 2.6.7 of the Act.⁶

VIT will also provisionally register a teacher if they meet all of the requirements except that they have not achieved the standard of professional practice required for registration as a teacher.⁷

VIT may impose a condition, limitation or restriction on the registration of a teacher.⁹

5. SPECIFIC POLICY

5.1. COMPLETED A VICTORIAN ITE PROGRAM ON OR AFTER 1 JULY 2016 (WHERE LANTITE IS NOT AN ITE PROGRAM REQUIREMENT)

If a person completed an accredited Victorian ITE program on or after 1 July 2016 (and commenced the ITE program before 1 January 2017), and they graduated from the ITE program without satisfactorily completing LANTITE, they are required to satisfactorily complete the LANTITE as part of their registration requirements in Victoria.

This requirement has been in place since 1 July 2016. As such, it is expected that the majority of persons who apply for registration with VIT have satisfactorily completed the LANTITE requirement prior to making an application for registration with VIT.

5.1.1. APPLICATIONS FOR REGISTRATION AS A TEACHER MADE TO VIT BETWEEN 1 JULY 2016 AND 31 DECEMBER 2018

Between 1 July 2016 and 31 December 2018, the Minister approved LANTITE as a professional practice requirement pursuant to section 2.6.8(a)(iii) of the Act.

This means that any person who met all of the following criteria was eligible for provisional registration as a teacher:

- The person commenced in a Victorian ITE program prior to 1 January 2017 and completed the ITE program on or after 1 July 2016.
- The person made an application for registration as a teacher to VIT at any time on or before 31 December 2018.
- At the time the application was made (or at a subsequent time that was on or before 31 December 2018) the person met all of the requirements for registration except that they had not satisfactorily completed LANTITE.

If VIT determined that a person met this criteria, it granted provisional registration with a condition that the person satisfactorily complete LANTITE during the initial period of the provisional registration.

If the person satisfactorily completes the LANTITE and all of their other professional practice requirements during this period, the LANTITE condition will be met, and the person may make an application to move to (full) registration.

If the provisional registration granted in accordance with this section of the Policy expires on or after 1 January 2019 without the person satisfactorily completing the LANTITE, any subsequent application for registration as a teacher will be processed in accordance with section 5.1.2 of this Policy.

⁶ *Education and Training Reform Act 2006*, s. 2.6.9(1)

⁷ *Education and Training Reform Act 2006*, s. 2.6.10(1)

⁹ *Education and Training Reform Act 2006*, s. 2.6.9(3)

5.1.2. APPLICATIONS FOR REGISTRATION AS A TEACHER MADE TO VIT FROM 1 JANUARY 2019

From 1 January 2019, the Minister has approved LANTITE as a qualification requirement pursuant to section 2.6.8(a)(i) of the Act. This means that any person who applies for registration as a teacher with VIT and who has not satisfactorily completed LANTITE will not be qualified to be registered as a teacher.

5.2. COMMENCED A VICTORIAN ITE PROGRAM ON OR AFTER 1 JANUARY 2017

If a person commenced an accredited Victorian ITE program on or after 1 January 2017, the LANTITE forms part of the accredited Victorian ITE program. This means that the person is expected to satisfactorily complete LANTITE prior to graduation.

6. PROCESS

6.1. LANTITE TEST

The Australian Government Department of Education (DET) is responsible for implementation of the LANTITE and has contracted the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER) to develop, administer and deliver the test. The test is made up of two components, a literacy test and a numeracy test.

Current Australian Government policy states that all people may have an initial test attempt plus up to two additional attempts for each component of the test. The policy also states that a person may be granted a maximum of five test attempts for each test component if there are special or extenuating circumstances.

Before a person can sit the test a fourth time, they must seek the support of their ITE provider or VIT to request that ACER permit the person to sit the test for a fourth time. VIT will only support a person in these circumstances if they can demonstrate that they have:

- special or extenuating circumstances that affected their results and these circumstances have improved or resolved and are expected to have little or no impact on the person's next attempt
- undertaken appropriate remedial action to improve the person's personal literacy and numeracy skills
- sought medical or psychological advice and assistance (if relevant)

Before a person can sit the test for a fifth time, they must seek the support of their ITE provider or VIT to request permission from the Australian Government Department of Education and Training via an independent evaluation committee to sit the test for a fifth time. VIT will only support a person in these circumstances if they can demonstrate that they have:

- special or extenuating circumstances that affected their results and these circumstances have improved or resolved and are expected to have little or no impact on the person's next attempt
- undertaken appropriate remedial action to improve the person's personal literacy and numeracy skills
- sought medical or psychological advice and assistance (if relevant)
- academic performance in their ITE program that demonstrates that they are well suited to teaching and deserving of a fifth and final attempt

In all of these cases, the cost of satisfactorily completing the LANTITE is the personal responsibility of the person sitting the test.

More information about the administration of LANTITE can be found on the website of the Australian Government Department of Education at the following link:

<https://www.education.gov.au/literacy-and-numeracy-test-initial-teacher-education-students>

6.2. APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION WITH VIT

The VIT is responsible for granting registration to teach in Victorian schools.⁸

A person may make an application for registration as a teacher to VIT.⁹

The VIT will consider the application for registration in accordance with Part 2.6 of the Act and any relevant VIT policies such as this Literacy and Numeracy Test for Initial Teacher Education Policy.

If VIT is proposing to impose conditions, limitation or restrictions on the registration or renewal of registration in accordance with this Policy, VIT will first provide the person with an opportunity to make submissions to VIT.¹²

7. RELATED LEGISLATION AND POLICY

Legislation

Mutual Recognition Act 1992 (Cth)

Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition Act 1997 (Cth)

Education and Training Reform Act 2006

Policy

Australian Department of Education and Training, *Literacy and Numeracy Test for Initial teacher Education Students – Questions and Answers for Students*

Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership, *National Program Standards for the Accreditation of ITE Programs in Australia*

8. APPENDICES

APPENDIX	DOCUMENT NAME	DOCUMENT CODE
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		

⁸ *Education and Training Reform Act 2006*, s. 2.6.3(e)

⁹ *Education and Training Reform Act 2006*, s. 2.6.7(1) ¹²

Education and Training Reform Act 2006, s. 2.6.15