



Strengthening the initial teacher education accreditation system

About

The strengthening initial teacher education accreditation initiative is one of eight national policy initiatives in the [National School Reform Agreement](#), which support three reform directions:

- Supporting students, student learning and student achievement
- Supporting teaching, school leadership and school improvement
- Enhancing the national evidence base.

This national policy initiative aims to improve the quality, consistency and transparency of the accreditation of teacher education courses to support a high-quality teaching profession.

Through this initiative, Australian governments are working together to ensure that graduate teachers are classroom ready and can meet the requirements of the graduate career stage of the *Australian Professional Standards for Teachers*.

Delivery

The Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership (AITSL) is leading this initiative on behalf of Education Ministers.

Delivery of the elements of this initiative requires strong engagement with providers of initial teacher education and teacher regulatory authorities.

Project milestones

A range of national reforms were introduced in September 2018 to strengthen the initial teacher accreditation system. These reforms include

implementation of the final year *Teacher Performance Assessment*, the revised national *Accreditation of the initial teacher education (ITE) program in Australia: Standards and Procedures* and national quality assurance measures to ensure consistency and gather evidence of impact data.

In addition, in December 2019 AITSL implemented further reforms to address the Government's election commitment to strengthen ITE programs to increase the capacity of graduate primary school teachers to teach phonics.

AITSL reports progress bi-annually to Education Ministers, and while progress has been made, it had been slower than expected.

COVID-19 has impacted on AITSL's engagement with some stakeholders causing delays in implementation.

AITSL will provide a progress update to Education Ministers in mid-2021.

Consultation

AITSL continues to work closely with states and territories, teacher regulatory authorities and ITE providers to progress this work.

More information

- www.aitsl.edu.au/deliver-ite-programs/learn-about-ite-accreditation-reform/strengthening-ite
- www.dese.gov.au/quality-schools-package/national-school-reform-agreement