

Professional Engagement (for the Renewal of Registration) Policy

1. Purpose

This policy outlines the Professional Engagement requirements for renewal of registration with the Teacher Registration Board of Western Australia (TRBWA).

2. Scope

This policy applies to all applications for renewal of Full, Provisional and Limited registration.

Renewal of registration is an application made during a period of registration to renew registration in the same category.

To be eligible for renewal of registration a registered teacher must satisfy the professional engagement requirements detailed in this policy

The TRBWA may not grant registration unless it is satisfied that these requirements are met.

3. Background

Section 22(2)(c) of the *Teacher Registration Act 2012* (Act) details the requirements that must be satisfied before the Board may renew a teacher's registration:

22. Renewal of registration

(2) *The Board may renew the registration of a teacher if, on application to the Board, the Board is satisfied of the following —*

...

(c) *that the teacher has met such other requirements for the renewal of registration, if any, as are prescribed in respect of the relevant category of registration.*

Regulation 13 details the provisions which apply to applications received by the TRBWA after 6 December 2017 and in respect of the requirements for professional engagement, states:

(1) *For the purposes of section 22(2)(c) of the Act, the additional requirements for the renewal of registration set out in subregulations (2), (3) and (4) are prescribed.*

(2) *For the renewal of Full Registration, that the teacher has, since the registration was last granted or renewed —*

(a) **taught —**

(i) *for at least 100 full working days; or*

(ii) *for a period of time that would be equivalent in hours to at least 100 full working days.*

...

(3) *For the renewal of Provisional or Limited Registration that was last granted or renewed for 3 years, that the teacher has, since the registration was last granted or renewed —*

(a) **taught —**

(i) *for at least 60 full working days; or*

(ii) for a period of time that would be equivalent in hours to at least 60 full working days.

...

(4) For the renewal of Provisional or Limited Registration that was last granted or renewed for less than 3 years, that the teacher has, since the registration was last granted or renewed —

(a) taught for a period of time calculated on a pro rata basis for the period since the registration was last granted or renewed, at the rate of 20 full working days for each year;

...

4. Definition

Taught The definition of ‘taught’ follows the definition of teach pursuant to section 3 of the Act.

teach means to undertake duties in an educational venue that include —

- (a) the delivery of an educational programme designed to implement a prescribed curriculum and the assessment of student participation in such an educational programme; or
- (b) the administration of any such educational programme

Educational venue as defined in s 3 of the Act, means any of the following:

- (a) a school as defined in s 4 of the *School Education Act 1999*¹
- (b) a kindergarten registered under Part 5 of the *School Education Act 1999*²
- (c) a child care centre³
- (d) a detention centre⁴

¹ A school means a government school or a non-government school.

² A kindergarten pursuant to Part 5 of the *School Education Act 1999* is a community kindergarten.

³ Child care centre means a place where a child care service is provided as defined in s 4 of the *Child Care Services Act 2007* (CCS Act). The CCS Act, s 4, defines for the purposes of the CCS Act, a child care service as a service providing or intended to provide education and care on a regular basis to children under 13 years of age (or such other age as may be prescribed for the purposes of this section) that —

(a) is not an education and care service under the national child care law; and

(b) is prescribed for the purposes of the CCS Act as a type of service to which the CCS Act applies.

Pursuant to regulation 6(2) of the *Child Care Services (Child Care) Regulations 2006*, for the purposes of s 4(b) of the CCS Act, the services described in the *Education and Care Services National Regulations 2012* regulation 5(2)(c), (h) and (k) are prescribed as types of services to which the CCS Act applies. These are as follows:

(c) a service providing education and care to children primarily on an ad hoc or casual basis where —

(i) the service does not usually offer full-time or all day education and care to children on an ongoing basis; and
(ii) most of the children provided with education and care are preschool age or under;

(h) a service providing education and care primarily to children preschool age or under that transports its equipment and materials or staff to one or more locations on each occasion that the service is provided;

(k) a service providing education and care that receives financial assistance under the Budget Based Funding Program element of the Child Care Services Support Program and is not a service that receives the Child Care Benefit in relation to the provision of education and care.

⁴ Detention centre has the meaning given in s 3 of the *Young Offenders Act 1994*.

- e) any other place prescribed as an educational venue. As at 7 December 2012, places where centre-based services operate were prescribed as educational venues.⁵

5. Policy

5.1 What is meant by professional engagement?

It is generally expected that to maintain currency of practice, a teacher is currently or has been actively engaged in teaching for a reasonable period of time. It is therefore a requirement that for the renewal of registration a teacher must have taught in an educational venue for a minimum period of time.

The minimum period of time is prescribed for the purposes of teacher registration and the Board is afforded no discretion in relation to this requirement.

For the purposes of professional engagement requirements within the Act, 'taught' includes teaching undertaken in Australia and New Zealand.

5.2 Professional engagement requirement for the renewal of registration

As part of the application process for the renewal of teacher registration, a teacher is required to declare that they have met the requirements for professional engagement.

For applications for the renewal of teacher registration made on and after 7 December 2017, the professional engagement required (minimum days taught) to satisfy the registration renewal requirements is:

Category	Minimum number of professional engagement (days taught) required
Full Registration	100 full working days or a period of time that would be equivalent in hours
Limited or Provisional granted for 3 years	60 full working days or a period of time that would be equivalent in hours
Limited or Provisional granted for less than 3 years	Calculated on a pro rata basis for the period since the registration was last granted or renewed, to the date of application at the rate of 20 full working days for each year

5.3 Full working days

For those applicants who have worked on a part time, casual or relief basis, and who may not work for full days at a school, it is acceptable to demonstrate that the hours worked would be *equivalent* to the required number of full working days.

It is important to note that the professional engagement requirement in terms of time in teaching practice is not reduced for part time, casual and relief teachers. The requirement remains the

⁵ Pursuant to regulation 5 of the *Teacher Registration (General) Regulations 2012*, a place where a centre-based service, as defined in the *Education and Care Services National Regulations 2012 regulation 4(1)*, operates, is an educational venue. Centre based service means an education and care service other than a family day care service. For teacher registration, this essentially means long day care and regular occasional care.

same as for full time teachers and must be demonstrated in order to be eligible for renewal of registration.

A prospective applicant, who does not meet these requirements for renewal of registration, may consider applying for registration in the Non-Practising category.

5.4 Activity not considered professional engagement for the purposes of the renewal of teacher registration

The professional engagement requirement for renewal of registration is met by the number of days the registered teacher has taught in an educational venue.

In respect of ‘administration’ within part (b) of the definition of ‘teach’, professional engagement also includes those oversight, leadership and management activities, in respect of the development and/or implementation of educational programs undertaken by persons in leadership roles within the educational venue.

Activity, undertaken by registered teachers in education related roles based in settings other than educational venues, therefore, is not considered ‘teaching’ and does not count towards meeting the professional engagement requirement for the renewal of teacher registration. This includes but is not limited to the activities undertaken within roles such as:

- teacher educators in universities
- officers of employer/sector heads (Department of Education, Catholic Education Western Australia, the Association of Independent Schools of WA)
- TAFE and RTO lecturers/teachers
- education officers based in settings other than schools
- officers of education unions or professional associations
- tutors
- home school moderators.

6. Supporting information

- *Teacher Registration Act 2012*
- *Teacher Registration (General) Regulations 2012*

7. Change History

Approved	Version	Details	Approved By
16/5/2013	1	New Policy Issued	Board
14/03/2018	1.1	Removal of transitional details (prior to 7 December 2017) that no longer apply and clarifies activity not considered teaching.	Board
Next Review Date		30/06/2018	